Programme Specification

NUS-AC-AD-2022-BL: Nautical Science (Blended Learning)

SQA Advanced Certificate awarded by Scottish Qualifications Authority (FHEQ Level 4)

SQA Advanced Diploma awarded by Scottish Qualifications Authority (FHEQ Level 5)

Programme Status: Approved | Version: 1

Introduction

This programme specification provides a summary of the main features of the Nautical Science (Blended Learning) programme and includes the learning outcomes that you as a student are expected to have achieved on successful completion of the programme.

Further detailed information related to this programme and the College can be found in the following resources:
- Programme Handbook
- B&FC Admissions Policy
- Work based and placement learning handbook (for foundation degrees)
- Student guide to assessment and feedback

When undertaken as part of a Degree Apprenticeship additional information is available in the following resources:
- The Programme Delivery Plan
- The End Point Assessment Guide
- B&FC Mentor Guide
- B&FC Apprenticeship Strategy

Key Programme Information

Programme Code	NUS-AC-AD-2022-BL
Programme Title	Nautical Science (Blended Learning)
Teaching Institution	Blackpool and The Fylde College
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) Accreditation	None
UCAS Code	
Language of Study	English
Version	1
Approval Status	Approved
Approval Date	23 March 2023
JACS Code	Other: Other
Programme Leader	Lucy Summerville

Programme Awards

Award	Award Type	Level	Awarding Body
SQA Advanced Certificate	Advanced Certificate	Level 4	Scottish Qualifications Authority
SQA Advanced Diploma	Advanced Diploma	Level 5	Scottish Qualifications Authority

Programme Overview

Blackpool and The Fylde College remains committed to provide a highly responsive curriculum that is employment and future-focused and will enable you to develop the essential knowledge and skills that will prepare you for future success in work and life.

The Advanced Certificate and Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science by Blended Learning is a structure of individual units arranged in sets. Once enrolled onto the first set of units from the Advanced Certificate or Advanced Diploma you will have a maximum of 2 years to complete the

Formative and Summative Assessments. You can enrol onto the next set of units at any time within the first 2 years providing you have successfully completed the first set of units. **We will support you at every stage of your learning, however if you do not submit work on a regular basis and complete Summative Assessments (exams) from the first set within the 2-year enrolment period, you will be unable to continue onto the remainder of the qualification.**

Blended Learning (Learning and Teaching)

Following enrolment onto a set of modules, your teaching and learning will be supported by learning materials which have been created by the dedicated Nautical Science Deck team. These resources can be used alongside onboard manuals, publications, drawings, and other procedures to the learning onboard your vessel. The resources also provide an outline of each module, a recommended reading list and provide details of the module syllabus and learning outcomes. Interactive resources are utilized on Canvas, our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) including, but not limited to: Marine Notices, PowerPoints, useful web links to industry publications, Excel spreadsheets, video tutorials, clinics, and e-books. You will submit work using Canvas, the College VLE, for both Formative and Summative assessments, where appropriate.

The Blended Learning Team will work with you to create an individual learning and assessment plan for the first set of modules to meet your requirements and commitments. To complete the underpinning knowledge for the AdC and AdD, students are required to work through the learning material and submit work for marking on a **regular basis**.

For each module there is a requirement to complete and pass the:

- Formative Assessments (FAs) – to check your understanding and for us to provide feedback, but does not count towards your final grade
- Pre-college tests (PCTs) – mock exams
- Summative Assessments (written exams or assignments, coursework, projects)

Once you have passed all the FAs for an individual unit, you must attempt an online pre-college test (PCT). This is an excellent tool and provides essential preparation for your Summative Assessment under time constrained conditions; additionally, the PCT provides you and college with an indication of whether you are ready for the Summative Assessment (exam) and how you may perform. We will only book your Summative Assessment once you have received 'Proceed to College' feedback on PCTs.

Approximately every 3 months (a term) there will be the opportunities to sit Summative Assessments (exams). We will publish available dates at the beginning of each term so you can plan your study in line with the Summative Assessments (exams) dates. The AdC and AdD also consist of additional papers termed as Graded Units. The Graded Units consist of examinations only and do not feature any delivery hours as taught / delivered modules, but rather rely on you to undertake independent learning. MCA SQA external examinations are **not** part of the Advanced Certificate/Diploma by Blended Learning.

To keep in line with regulatory requirements we will inform you if your course is subject to any change from the information provided in this document, during your application, or when you enrol.

What you need to do next

You should consider the following points about the course before deciding if Blended Learning is right for you.

1. I like the idea of being able to study at a time and place to suit me.
2. I understand that I must be prepared to dedicate a considerable amount of time to the course.

3. I understand that I will be self-studying but will have access to Blended Learning clinics and support via Microsoft Teams and can attend regular college clinics during term time.
4. I have access to a computer (Mac or PC) and the internet.
5. I understand that I will be required to scan and upload course work to gain the Advanced Diploma qualification.

What would happen next

1. You will receive an invite to set up a Student Portal.
2. To make an application you should complete and upload the Higher Education Sign up form along with a copy of your passport, CoC (all pages including limitations), discharge book and any STCW short course certificates to the Student Portal.
3. On receipt of all your required documentation and completed Higher Education Sign-Up form, we will review your application to ensure the programme is relevant to your current skills or experience.
4. Once all your documentation has been reviewed, if your application is successful, we will contact you by email to offer you a place on the course and begin the enrolment process.
5. We will arrange to call you to discuss the programme and find out how we can support you with your studies, this is an essential and important part of your application process and is also your chance to ask any questions you may have about studying at Blackpool & The Fylde College.
6. If your application is unsuccessful, we will also confirm this by email.

Admission Criteria

Advanced Certificate Direct Entry to Blended Learning

Admission criteria for direct Blended Learning AdC NS is experience onboard a vessel. You can complete the Advanced Certificate and continue to work while accruing the 36 months sea time required for Certificate of Competency purposes. Entry is at the discretion of the college. See MSN 1856, experienced seafarer route, para 11.4 Available at
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/msn-1856-mf-uk-requirements-for-master-and-deck-officers

IELTs is not a requirement for this course.

Advanced Diploma Direct Entry to Blended Learning

Admission criteria for direct Blended Learning AdD NS is an MCA approved unlimited Officer of the Watch (OOW) Certificate of Competency or level 4 NS qualification.

IELTs is not a requirement for this course.

Career Options and Progression Opportunities

Advanced Certificate Nautical Science

A career at sea does not always mean working on board a merchant vessel. On completion of this programme, you can either continue your study onto the Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science or switch to shore-based jobs. For instance, there are opportunities to undertake a shore-based job with a shipping company that manages and controls all aspects of their own ship's operations or on behalf of other ship-owners. In some cases, these roles may require individuals to have seagoing experience. Ship management roles might include Fleet Operations, Fleet Director (Commercial Director), Fleet Manager, Fleet Assistant Staff, Fleet Personnel, Personnel Manager (Human Resources Manager), Training Manager (Head of Training), Personnel Officer, Training Officer General Operations, Operations Manager (Safety Manager, Quality Manager), Safety Officer (Quality Officer) Marine Operations and Marine Superintendent.

Advanced Diploma Nautical Science

Successful completion of this programme will enable you to:

1. Progress towards you obtaining a UK Chief Mate Unlimited II/2 Certificate of Competency (CoC) of a merchant vessel.

2. Take responsibility for managing watches at sea and in port.

3. Effectively manage navigation of a vessel by traditional and modern means.

4. Manage a vessel in a safe and effective manner.

5. Lead others in a safe and effective manner.

6. Develop skills to lead in emergency situations.

7. Develop discipline and ensure compliance with current maritime legislation at senior officer level.

8. Prepare for the external MCA written and oral examinations at Chief Officer and Master Mariner Level.

You may wish to progress to the Maritime Operations Management (Nautical Science) - BSC Hons Degree with Bridging Module from HND/Adv Dip - Top up.

Programme Aims

General aims of the qualifications:

- To develop the ability to analyse and plan tasks commonly encountered in the workplace.
- To develop approaches to problem solving and critical thinking.
- To develop an evaluative and reflective approach to work and studies.
- To develop the ability to work and communicate effectively with others.
- To develop the ability to plan and organise studies and research.
- To develop skills for employability and progression to higher qualifications.
- To enable the learner to consolidate knowledge and skills to enhance career progression.
- To enable the learner to develop skills to enhance their own personal development.
- To develop Core Skills which are capable of being transferred to any type of employment.

Specific aims of the Advanced Certificate Nautical Science: Stages 1 - 4

- Contributes towards learners obtaining a Certificate of Competency as Deck Officer of the Watch issued by MCA*.
- Prepares learners for the responsibility of keeping a watch at sea and in port.
- Develops skills to enable learners to effectively navigate a vessel by traditional and modern means.
- Develops skills to enable learners to operate a vessel in a safe and effective manner.
- Develops skills to enable learners to work with others in a safe and effective manner.
- Develops skills to deal with emergency situations.
- Develops awareness of current maritime legislation.
- Prepares learners for the MCA written and oral examinations at Officer of the Watch level.
*(two additional Advanced Units, Marine Emergency Response and Communication and Marine Law and Management: An Introduction are also required for the Certificate of Competency along with the Advanced Certificate).

Specific aims of the Advanced Diploma Nautical Science: Stages 5 - 8

- Contributes towards learners obtaining a Certificate of Competency as Chief Mate issued by MCA.
- Develops the skills required to manage and control the safe navigation of the vessel in all conditions.
- Develops the skills required to manage and control vessel operations in compliance with current legislation.
- Develops a sound understanding of shipboard management issues and techniques.
- Develops a sound understanding of the ship Master's role with respect to the legal aspects of managing the navigation and operation of the vessel.
- Develops an understanding of the vessels propulsion maintenance and engineering requirements.
- Prepares learners for the MCA written and oral examinations at Chief Mate level.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Level 4

Upon successful completion of this level, students will be able to:

1. Apply core concepts and underpinning theoretical principles of navigation, ship stability and cargo operations demonstrating safety practices during shipboard operations.

2. Analyse the complexity of planning and conducting shipboard operations in different meteorological and navigational circumstances.

3. Analyse the effectiveness of management techniques in regard to the processes, procedures, and practices of shipboard safety management systems.

4. Plan and implement shipboard operations with due regard to national legislation and international standards related to safety of life at sea, safety of navigation and protection of marine environment.

5. Demonstrate the use of electronic safety navigation equipment and other IT systems and specialist industry software.

6. Analyse the international maritime business environment including commercial and legal sectors.

7. Critically analyse the importance of the human element for shipboard operations including cultural, linguistic, and ethical factors.

8. Communicate effectively in academic, professional, and shipboard environments.

9. Research and embed information from a variety of traditional and digital sources to support personal and professional development, lifelong learning, and achievement.

Level 5

Upon successful completion of this level, students will be able to:

10. Apply core concepts and principles of navigation, ship stability and management of bridge and vessel operations demonstrating judgement in the application of tools and techniques.

11. Critically evaluate the global context of maritime operations incorporating cultural, legal, ethical and environmental factors.

12. Plan, implement and appraise shipboard operations with due regard to industry legislation, regulatory frameworks and standards.

13. Analyse complex problems in order to identify appropriate methods to formulate mathematical models and solutions.

14. Develop and evaluate logical arguments, justifications and conclusions associated with complex issues identifying underlying assumptions and critical factors.

15. Critically analyse and evaluate processes, procedures and practices of effective shipboard management.

16. Reflect on the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems.

17. Appraise and interpret complex emergency scenarios in simulated environments and apply self-management, leadership and supervision skills.

18. Communicate in a variety of forms to a range of audiences.

19. Prepare and interpret complex loading, discharging and stress data by utilising IT systems and specialist industry software.

20. Research and embed information from a variety of traditional and digital sources to support personal and professional development, lifelong learning and achievement.

Programme Structure

Module	Level	Credits	%	Category	Description	Length/Word Count	Grading Method
Stage 1							
HW6K47: Naval Architecture: Ship Construction (Mandatory)	4	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
HW6R47: Marine Meteorology: An Introduction (Mandatory)	4	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
			-	Practical: Exercise	Practical/Assignment	30	Pass/Fail
HW7347: Marine Law and Management: An Introduction (Mandatory)	4	8	100%	Coursework: Assignment	Assignment	1200	Percentage Grade
Stage 2							
HW6E47: Navigational Mathematics and Science (Mandatory)	4	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
HW6G47: Bridge Watchkeeping (Mandatory)	4	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
HW7247: Marine Emergency Response and Communication (Mandatory)	4	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
			-	Practical: Practical Skills Assessment	Signal	90	Pass/Fail
Stage 3							
HW6M48: Celestial Navigation (Mandatory)	5	16	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
			-	Practical: Practical Skills Assessment	Practical	20	Pass/Fail
HW6P47: Chartwork and Tides (Mandatory)	4	16	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
Stage 4							
HW6H47: Marine Cargo Operations (Mandatory)	4	12	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Written exam	120	Percentage Grade
HW6J47: Ship Stability: An Introduction (Mandatory)	4	12	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
HW6N47: Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1 (Mandatory)	4	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	180	Percentage Grade
Stage 5							
HW7848: Shipmasters Law and Business (Mandatory)	5	16	100%	Coursework: Essay	Essay	3000	Percentage Grade
HW7948: Shipboard Management (Mandatory)	5	8	100%	Coursework: Report	n/a	120	Percentage Grade

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HW7J48: Marine Engineering Systems (Mandatory)	5	8	100%	Coursework: Report	n/a	2500	Percentage Grade
Stage 6							
HP6L47 BL: Information Technology: Applications Software 1 (BL) (Mandatory)	4	8	-	Coursework: Portfolio / e-Portfolio	Portfolio	2000	Pass/Fail
HW7648: Applied Marine Meteorology (Mandatory)	5	12	70%	Coursework: Report	n/a	2500	Percentage Grade
			30%	Practical: Presentation	n/a	15	Percentage Grade
HW7C48 BL: Management of Vessel Operations (BL) (Mandatory)	5	16	50%	Practical: Presentation	15 minute presentation, a 1500 report, and a exercise on loadicator equipment at college	15	Percentage Grade
			50%	Practical: Presentation	15 minute presentation and 1500 report	15	Percentage Grade
Stage 7							
HW7448 BL: Marine Passage Planning (BL) (Mandatory)	5	12	50%	Coursework: Project	Project	2000	Percentage Grade
			50%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	120	Percentage Grade
HW7548 BL: Management of Bridge Operations (BL) (Mandatory)	5	12	60%	Practical: Presentation	15 minute presentation and 1500 report	15	Percentage Grade
			40%	Practical: Presentation	15 minute presentation and 1500 report	15	Percentage Grade
HW7E48: Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2 (Mandatory)	5	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	180	Percentage Grade
Stage 8							
HW7748 BL: Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application (BL) (Mandatory)	5	12	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	180	Percentage Grade
HW7A48: Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance (Mandatory)	5	8	70%	Coursework: Report	n/a	2000	Percentage Grade
			30%	Practical: Presentation	n/a	15	Percentage Grade
HW7F48: Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3 (Mandatory)	5	8	100%	Written Exam: Formal Written Examination	Examination	180	Percentage Grade

Study Workload

This programme requires considerable commitment to time management, determination, work-life balance, and focus on the work in hand.

Programme Delivery: Learning and Teaching

Throughout your programme you will learn and be assessed in a range of ways to support the overall aims and outcomes of the programme in order to equip you with the appropriate skills for roles within the maritime industry. Employers will be looking for a range of skills and competencies, including innovation and initiative. They will be keen to employ strong communicators and team players. The programme is designed to promote the development of these qualities alongside core technical competencies and academic knowledge.

Units
Each unit has its own learning, teaching and assessment strategy to suit specific aspects of the curriculum. You will progress through the units via a range of learning and assessment styles, and the supportive structure of the programme allows you to build on knowledge developed in earlier units.

Resources
The resources to support you in your studies include books, e-books and journals, as well as the college's VLE, Canvas. Canvas provides an online platform for programme resources, allowing you to access materials 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

You will receive access to maritime specific documents and eBooks with membership to Witherby Connect and Regs4Ships. The Ocean Learning Platform is used to provide access to a library of videos designed for training industry professionals.

Blended Learning lecturers are at hand to support your learning. Sessions can be scheduled with subject experts and Higher Education Learning Mentors (HELMs) to assist with your learning journey. Following enrolment to a set of units, learning and teaching will be supported by learning materials which have been created by the dedicated Nautical Science Deck team. These resources provide an outline of each unit, a recommended reading list and provide details of the unit's syllabus and learning outcomes. You will submit work through Canvas and receive feedback which will aid your revision when preparing for assessments.

Programme Delivery: Assessment

Formative Assessment will take place as your work through the unit material provided by the blended learning team. It will take the form of self-checking questions and multiple-choice questions and Formative Assessments, which will measure your progress and knowledge and identify areas of weakness for you to focus on further revision or research. Once you have completed a Learning Outcome, you will undertake a Formative Assessment, which you will submit online via Canvas (the VLE). You will be required to successfully pass these assessments before being able to undertake a Pre-College Test. Pre-College Tests will measure your knowledge and understanding of the Learning Outcomes and will take the form of an online closed book examination, the timings of which will mirror each unit's Summative Assessment. You will receive extensive feedback on your PCT submission and be required to pass before you will be entered for the Summative Assessment at Fleetwood Nautical Campus. Summative Assessments at college are time constrained and closed book, however you will also undertake some coursework exercises such as project work, essays and assignments. You do not need to attend college for coursework and or assignments, but you must adhere to the submission time frame. Examinations are conducted by B&FC directly under invigilated conditions conforming to MCA written exam conditions. Summative Assessments also consist of additional papers termed as Graded Unit papers. The Graded Units consist of examinations only and do not feature any delivery hours as taught / delivered units, but rather rely on you to undertake independent learning.

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Programme Delivery: Work Based and Placement Learning

While there is no specific unit dedicated to Work Based Learning or Placement, experience onboard ships is essential for obtaining OOW and Chief Mate CoC.

Programme Delivery: Graduate Skill Development

The programme helps you to develop;

A commitment to lifelong learning and career development

The AdC/D Nautical Science supports lifelong learning through learning mobility which aims to attain new competences and knowledge as identified by the International Convention on Standard of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) certification for Officer of the Watch and Chief Mate/ Master on board vessels.

Collaborative teamwork and leadership skills

During the undertaking of the Marine Law and Management unit, Bridge Watchkeeping unit and Electronic Navigations Systems short course, you will be expected to work towards common goals and partake in leadership roles as required.

Personal and intellectual autonomy

We support your development of independence in academic and practical skills on the programme, most prominent in the assignments and projects where you will be responsible for managing your work.

Ethical, social, and professional understanding

Mapping of the programme content to the requirements of the Advanced programme set by Merchant Navy Training Board (MNTB) ensures that the units' delivery and assessment considers legal, social, and ethical issues to enhance learners' professional development.

Global citizenship

To build your global skills and competency, the programme was developed liaising with international maritime companies like Princess Cruises, BP, Chiltern Maritime, Shell, and V ships. The department also has close links with Kuwait Shipping Companies. The programme is delivered by faculty, from the Nautical Science department who have different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. By bringing faculty together from different academic backgrounds, students explore global markets in marine industry, marine laws, and marine technological developments globally.

Study Costs: Equipment Requirements

You are expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g., pens, pencils, notebooks, etc. Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile. Candidates will need calculators as specified by the rubric of individual module and as permitted by the College. The College approved models are Casio FX-70, Casio FX- 85GT Plus and Casio FX 115 MS. These may be purchased from any appropriate retailer. You will require access to a computer or laptop with internet access. Learning Resources are provided on-site and free for students to use within normal college working hours.

Study Costs: Additional Costs

There are no additional costs involved.

To enhance your professional development and guarantee support in social and labour context it is recommended that you join Nautilus International as a seagoing officer at your own cost.

Related Courses

You can enrol at Fleetwood Nautical Campus for all the required ancillary technical and safety training short courses for Certificate of Competency as per MSN 1856.

Personal Survival Techniques

Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting

Elementary First Aid

Personal Safety and Social Responsibility

Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats

Advanced Fire Fighting

Medical First Aid

Medical Care

NAEST (operational)

NAEST (management)

Efficient Deck Hand (EDH)

HELM (operational)

HELM (management)

GMDSS (GOC)

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