Nautical Science

CR 094 Level 7 Award

>> Progression to Level 8 Honours Degree

Application: CAO
Award Title: Bachelor of Science in Nautical Science
Duration: 3 and a half Years including seatime
Places: 36
Location: National Maritime College of Ireland, Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork.
CAO Points in 2014: Round 1: 310 / Final: 275

What is Nautical Science?
Nautical Science has three main elements: Navigation and ship handling, in other words, the conning and control of a ship; the safe operation of a ship, including the protection of life and the environment; Shipboard administration, and the handling, loading and care of cargoes which may be as diverse as petroleum products, general cargo, or thousands of new cars or passengers.

Minimum Entry Requirements
Leaving Certificate in 5 Subjects

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<th>English or Irish Grade</th>
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Note 1: The programme is normally available only to Irish citizens and EU citizens who are ordinarily resident in Ireland unless prior support is obtained from a recognised/approved Shipping Company.
Note 2: Applicants for this course must pass the approved medical fitness and eyesight tests as specified by the Maritime Safety Directorate of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and are recommended to attend a career advisory session. Offer of a place on the course will be subject to passing the Medical and Eyesight Tests at the time of offer.
Note 3: Applicants, other than those indicated in Note 1 above, will need to be sponsored and provide an IELTS score of 6.5, and also meet the medical requirements for a sea going career.
Note 4: Applicants should note that in order to qualify for an Officer of the Watch Certificate of Competency (CoC), the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has set additional criteria with respect to minimum pass marks, academic progression and students with dyslexia. Further details on these requirements are available on application to the Head of Department, Maritime Studies, NMCI.
Note 5: Applicants who are non-Irish citizens should ensure that they qualify for the issuance of a Seafarers Discharge Book in their home country.

Helpful Leaving Certificate Subjects
Mathematics, Physics, English, and Engineering.

Work Placement
There is a mandatory work placement of 12-15 months seatime in Year 2.

First Year at a Glance
- Navigation & Meteorology: an introduction to both celestial and terrestrial navigation, together with an understanding of meteorology, as it relates to the seafarer
- General Ship Knowledge: elements of ship construction, stability and cargo operations
- Applied Nautical Science: the application of science and physics as it relates to the marine environment
- Seamanship: the theory and practice of seamanship, having regard to safe working practices
- Introduction to Shipboard Safety: includes short-course elements relating to fire-fighting, sea survival, and first aid training
- Bridge Watchkeeping: an introduction to the theory and practice of keeping a safe navigational watch, having regard to the International Regulations for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea

Student Testimonial
“Had a great first year. Worked hard at my subjects, and enjoyed the short courses. Enjoyed also the sailing club and the events away. Made great new friends.”

Alice Harding
About the Course
This course is designed for those who wish to pursue a career as a Deck Officer aboard ship. It provides a comprehensive education in navigation and other ship board activities. Students who successfully complete Year 1 are expected to be placed in a commercial ship in Year 2, gaining fifteen months’ sea time for practical training experience, and to gain the necessary ‘seatime’ for the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport Certificate of Competency. In addition, they must complete a comprehensive workplace training programme including training records, journals and other documents associated with the training programme, as specified from time to time.

It should be noted that while every endeavour will be made to secure suitable sea training place ment, this is outside the control of CIT/NMCI and the College cannot accept responsibility for difficulties in securing such placement.

Further Studies
For details, see www.cit.ie and www.nmci.ie

Suitably qualified graduates are eligible to apply for entry to the one year add-on > Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nautical Science

Potential Areas of Employment
• Ship’s Officer (from Junior Ranks to Captain)
• Harbour Master/Pilot
• Marine Surveyor
• Maritime Studies Lecturer

Career Opportunities
Graduates first become Officer of the Watch on a vessel after graduating and passing relevant examinations. They can advance to Chief Mate or Ship’s Captain with further study, examinations, and sea time. Careers exist on all different type of ocean-going vessels: bulk carriers, oil tankers, container ships, cruise and ferry vessels. There are also careers on specialist vessels, such as seismic and exploration ships, pilot vessels, tugs and mega yachts.

Contact Information
Head of Department, Maritime Studies, National Maritime College of Ireland, Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork.
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E: admissions@nmci.ie
W: www.nmci.ie

Question Time
How successful is the College at securing work placement?
Very successful. Suitable qualified personnel with relevant qualifications are always in demand in the industry.

How do I go about getting a training berth to sponsor me while I am in College?
The College endeavours to place all students on vessels. To-date it has been successful.

Do I have to work for the training berth once I graduate?
The commitment from the sponsoring companies usually ends upon graduation. However, a significant number of graduates go on to work as an officer with their sponsors.

How much sea-going experience do I need before I can apply to sit for a Master’s Ticket?
A minimum of 36 months sea-service is required to progress to Ship’s Captain. With leave and further study requirements, this generally takes six to seven years to complete.

Module Information www.cit.ie/modules/cr094
CIT has developed a website which gives full details of all modules for all courses. The website also has information on recommended textbooks, average weekly workload, assessments and exams.

Graduate Profile
Sinéad Reen
Master Mariner

After Sinéad commenced the Nautical Science Degree course, she worked on ships as a Navigating Officer to gain experience before returning to CIT to obtain qualifications as First Mate.

Sinéad qualified as a Master Mariner when she successfully completed her Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport professional examinations. She has the proud distinction of being the first woman to be issued with a Certificate of Competency as Master Mariner in Ireland.

www.cit.ie/course/CR094