Higher Certificate in Science in Nautical Studies

This is a three year programme of studies which incorporates a considerable element of work placement on board ship at sea. Successful Learners, in addition to the academic qualification obtained, will also have met the Dept of Transport (DoT) written examination requirements towards the issue of a Certificate of Competency as Officer of the Watch which is the professional licence required by seagoing officers.

General

This course provides an opportunity to train for a career as a Seaman or as a Deck Officer in the Merchant Navy. Applicants wishing to train as a Seaman will exit the course after approx. 16 months having attained the Certificate in Seamanship, a minor award associated with the Higher Certificate. Holders of the Certificate in Seamanship will have met the DoT requirements for Efficient Deck Hand and Proficiency in Survival Craft certificates which will enable them to obtain employment at sea as a Category 2 Seaman. Successful Learners completing the full course will obtain a Higher Certificate in Science in Nautical Studies – level 6. Holders of the Higher Certificate will, subject to an oral examination at the Department of Transport, obtain a Certificate of Competency as Officer of the Watch (OOW) which will enable them to obtain employment as a Junior Deck Officer on board ship.

Course Programme

Semester 1

Learners will attend NMCI for approx. one month and complete two modules in preparation for going to sea. The Learner will be placed on board ship by the college and complete two work placement modules. This is basic seamanship training and the Learner will work alongside the ship's crew in the operation of the vessel.

Semester 2

Learners finish the work-placement module and return to college to complete 5 modules covering Creativity, Innovation and Teamwork, Shipboard Support Units, Navigation and Meteorology, General Ship Knowledge and Introduction to Coastal Navigation. Successful Learners will, subject to DoT seatime requirements, qualify for an EDH and a CPSC certificate.

Semester 3

Learners return to sea and complete another two work-placement modules at level 6. The learner will work alongside the ship's officers and will specialise on the cargo and ballast operations and the mooring and unmooring of the vessel.

Semester 4

The Learner returns to college in the NMCI and completes 4 modules at level 6 as follows;

Watchkeeping

Marine Radar

Marine Communications

Safety and Security

Semester 5

The Learner returns to sea and completes another 3 work placement modules. The Learner works alongside the ship's crew and understudies the Officers in Emergency Response Procedures, Shipboard Passage Planning and shipboard watchkeeping and the navigation of the vessel.

Semester 6

The Learner returns to college in NMCI and completes the final 6 modules at level 6 as follows;

Emergency Procedures and Collision Regulations.

Shipboard Operations

Ship Stability and Construction

Ocean Navigation

Meteorology

Advanced Coastal Navigation

Higher Certificate in Science in Nautical Studies

The Award

The table below shows the Academic and Professional Qualifications that successful Learners will obtain at the end of the programme;

Academic	Professional
Certificate in Seamanship - 45 level 6 ECTS credits	STCW 95 Personal Survival Techniques STCW 95 Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities STCW 95 Elementary First Aid STCW 95 Fire fighting and Fire Protection STCW 95 Navigation Watch Rating Certificate STCW 95 Certificate of Proficiency in Survival Craft DoT Efficient Deck Hand
Higher Certificate in Science in Nautical Studies –120 level 6 ECTS credits	STCW 95 GMDSS (GOC) STCW 95 Advanced Fire Fighting STCW 95 Medical First Aid STCW 95 NaRAS – O STCW 95 Tanker Familiarisation

Career Opportunities

Holders of the Certificate in Seamanship who meet the Department of Transport requirements for approved seatime will be qualified to seek employment as a Category 2 Seaman. Holders of the Higher Certificate who successfully complete the Department of Transport oral examination will be issued with a Certificate of Competency as Officer of the Watch on a vessel of more than 500 gross tonnage. The Officer of the Watch certificate qualifies the holder to serve as a junior Deck Officer on board a merchant vessel trading worldwide. At present there is a shortage of junior officers at sea.

Progression

Successful Learners on completion of the Higher Certificate will have obtained 120 ECTS credits at level 6. It is anticipated that in the near future a link will be available to the BSc in Nautical Science level 7 degree programme.

Professional progression

Holders of the OOW certificate may proceed to

1. Chief Mate/Master on vessels of 500 to 3000 gross tonnage
2. Chief Mate/Master on vessels of greater than 3000 gross tonnage

The most appropriate avenue is one of personal preference. However, option 2 gives the widest range of job opportunities and the possibility of a shore based job.

Entry Requirements

At present entry to this course is by direct application to the NMCI and not through the CAO. Please contact the Admissions Office at the National Maritime College of Ireland for detailed entry requirements. Applicants should be at least 17 years of age. The full 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. Applicants are normally expected to have reached the Leaving Certificate level of the Department of Education or equivalent standard. Applicants with at least 36 months approved seatime may apply for recognition of prior learning. Where work based learning is accepted the applicant may only be required to compete Semesters 4 and 6. Applicants for this course may be asked to attend a college interview. All applicants must pass the Seafarer Medical Examination standards required by the Department of Transport (arrangements for which will be notified to the applicants).

Please note this document may be subject to change.

Enquiries to

Admissions Office,
National Maritime College of Ireland,
Ringaskiddy,
Co. Cork
Ireland
Tel: +353 (0) 21 4970 643
Fax: +353 (0) 21 4970 696
E-mail: admissions@nmci.ie
Website: www.nmci.ie

NATIONAL MARITIME COLLEGE OF IRELAND

Coláiste Naisiúnta Mara na hÉireann
(a constituent college of Cork Institute of Technology in partnership with the Irish Naval Service and Focus Education)

APPLICATION FORM FOR ADMISSION TO THE

Higher Certificate in Science in Nautical Studies/Certificate in Seamanship

PART 1 – PERSONAL DETAILS

Surname: _____ **First Names**: _____
(as per Birth Certificate)

Title: _____ **Date of Birth**: _____ **Nationality**: _____
(Mr/Mrs/Miss etc.)

Address: _____

_____

_____

Home Telephone No.: _____ **Mobile No.**: _____

Address for Correspondence (*if different from above):*

_____

_____

_____

Please detail here any other information, which may be helpful to your application. Give full details of all relevant work experience obtained, particularly the duration and nature of the work. Additional information may be supplied on a separate sheet if necessary.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(See Overleaf)

PART 2 – EDUCATION DETAILS
EDUCATIONAL RECORD:
Second Level Schools Attended

Name of School(s)	Address	Years From:	To:

EXAMINATIONS TAKEN:
Junior Certificate or Equivalent

Subject	Year	Grade	Result	Subject	Year	Grade	Result

Leaving Certificate

Subject	Year	Grade	Result	Subject	Year	Grade	Result

I declare that the information given by me on this Application Form is true and accurate.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

This form, fully completed should be returned to the CIT Administration Office, National Maritime College of Ireland, Ringaskiddy, Co Cork on or before FRIDAY, 14 AUGUST 2009.

This application form does not infer or impose any legal obligations on Cork Institute of Technology to provide courses or other services to students. It does not constitute an offer to supply any course and it is not to be construed as imposing a legal obligation on the Institute to supply courses or subjects in respect of any course of study.

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