

STCW II/2 Chief Mate/Master (HND Nautical Science & Exam Route)

This course is for candidates who hold a current STCW Officer of the Watch Certificate or old Class 4/Class 3 certificate (*without* a valid HND in Nautical Science)

This course enables candidates to achieve Chief Mate and Master certification by the SQA examination route. Candidates will take a blended learning Chief Mate and Master course of study with continuous assessment and end-of-course tests in all subjects, in addition to two written examinations in 'Navigation' and 'Ship Stability' conducted by the Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) on behalf of the UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA). Successful candidates are also awarded a Solent University HND in Nautical Science.

Course start dates (12 weeks of initial distance learning followed by a campus phase)

28 October 2024 (campus phase commences 20 January 2025)
06 January 2025 (campus phase commences 14 April 2025)
07 July 2025 (campus phase commences 29 September 2025)

Course fees

Course Tuition Fee

£8,315.00

To include: HND Registration fee, MCA oral preparation, SQA exam preparation, NAEST(M) & HELM (M)

Please note: SQA exam fees are payable separately (external fee) and not included in the above cost.

Course Pre-requisites

Sea service: Candidates must have completed 12 months' watchkeeping service while holding an OOW unlimited II/1 Certificate of Competency. To achieve Master (Unlimited) CoC candidates must have completed 36 months watchkeeping OOW unlimited II/1, Certificate of Competency. This period may be reduced to 24 months if at least 12 months of such seagoing service has been served as Chief Mate while holding a Chief Mate unlimited II/2 Certificate of Competency.

Candidates must already hold a valid NAEST(O) or ECDIS certificate that is recognized by the MCA (UK Maritime & Coastguard Agency) before starting the Chief Mate/Master course. Due to the schedule of the campus phase of the course, candidates will not have the opportunity to undertake NAEST(O)/ECDIS outside of the course.

Short courses

Candidates must also hold a valid STCW certificate in [Proficiency in Medical Care](#)

If not already held, this course is available to book outside of the main course if time permits.

In addition, a personal medical fitness certificate recognised by the MCA should be obtained before taking the oral exam.

Course duration

12 weeks of initial distance-learning phase followed by six months of campus phase (including term breaks). The programme includes HND tuition and associated assessments, **NAEST** and **HELM (Management Level)** courses, SQA examination preparation and oral preparation.

Course content

The course comprises 5 modules. In the campus phase of the course, candidates will receive tuition and assessment in HND (Nautical Science) in two of level 5 modules, the NAEST and HELM (Management Level) courses as well as preparation for the SQA examinations in 'Navigation' & 'Ship Stability', and orals examinations. Of the three remaining modules, two would be delivered as part of distance learning phase of the course, while one module is a blended-learning module (part distance and part completed on campus). The distance-learning phase (12 weeks - completed immediately before the campus phase) of the course would be supported extensively through online module pages and forums, where extensive course material and support would also be available to all students. Distance learning and blended learning modules will incorporate assignments to be submitted online, with examinations being held during the campus phase. **Note: It is imperative that the campus phase of the course follows immediately after the completion of distance learning phase.**

Distance learning phase - HND Level 5 modules in Cargo and Port Operations, Law & Management and part of Bridge and Engineering Systems module.

Campus phase Term 1 - HND Nautical Science Level 5 modules in Passage Planning and Advanced Ship Stability. Prep for SQA exams in Navigation and Ship Stability (undertaken at end of the first term).

Navigation Aids & Equipment Simulator Training (Management Level) course - NAEST(M)

Campus phase Term 2 - Remaining part of HND Nautical Science Level 5 module Bridge and Engineering Systems, as well as Preparation and MCA oral examination. SQA/HND revision sessions leading to a re-sit opportunity if required. Human Element, Leadership & Management (Management Level) course - HELM(M).

Funding

This course is eligible for funding from Student Finance England (for home students living in the UK), more information can be found at: <https://www.solent.ac.uk/finance/paying-your-fees> and <https://www.solent.ac.uk/finance/tuition-fees>

British seafarers are also encouraged to explore the Slater Scholarship: <https://www.marine-society.org/slater-scholarship>

For further information, please contact Admissions:

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