



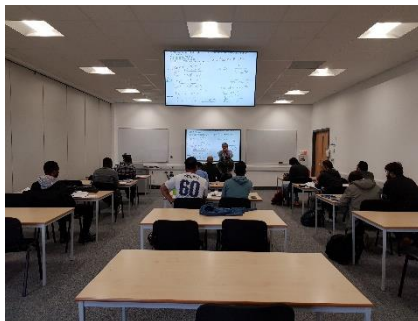
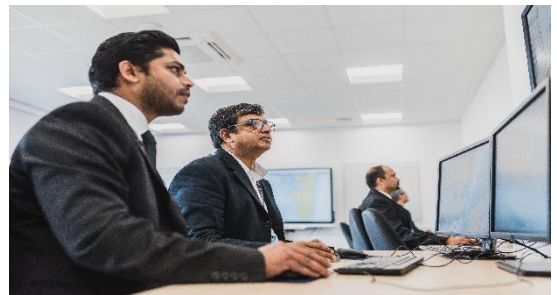
Information booklet for  
Officers in Charge of a Navigational  
Watch  
(OOW) unlimited,  
STCW Convention regulation II/1



## Why study at East Coast College?

As a student of the University of Suffolk, you will study this Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) award delivered at the renowned maritime teaching establishment catering to local and international students. Our highly experienced and knowledgeable team has a wealth of industry experience and they are dedicated to guide and support you to achieve your qualification.

We have invested £10.5 million into our new Energy Skills Centre, equipped with a state-of-the-art KONGSBERG K-SIM Navigation ship's bridge simulator, K-SIM dynamic positioning, K-Sim engine room simulator, latest Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS), Global Maritime Distress and Safety Systems (GMDSS) simulator, study spaces, IT rooms and more.



Explore the Energy Skills Centre in 3D by clicking [HERE](#)

Or

Copy and paste the following link into your browser.

[https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=WQCUUzBmMFF&fbclid=IwAR0\\_fA0Yl8nW62NOZKUGX5o9bO98TLyoE-67C4ViAOGZM3r66vvzKg7v\\_4c](https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=WQCUUzBmMFF&fbclid=IwAR0_fA0Yl8nW62NOZKUGX5o9bO98TLyoE-67C4ViAOGZM3r66vvzKg7v_4c)



## Course overview

The objective of this course is to develop your competency to the level required for you to carry out your duties as a Deck Officer in the Merchant Navy.

This experienced seafarer programme is a Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) leading to STCW II/1 Officers in charge of a Navigational Watch (OOW) Unlimited UK CoC Certification. This course is designed for experienced seafarers like Bosun and Able seafarer to join a ship as an officer of the watch.

## Entry requirements

The Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA) regulations require a candidate:

1. To be 19+ years of age
2. Hold a valid ENG1 (medical fitness certificate) or accepted equivalent.
3. 36 months' seagoing service in any acceptable deck capacity, Or
4. 48 months if you have been working as a General Purpose (GP) rating.

*"The qualifying Sea Service must include 6 months engaged in bridge watchkeeping duties"*

It is your responsibility to ensure that all entry requirements for the course and the issue of a Notice of Eligibility (NoE) by the MCA are met prior to attending the course.

For sea time assessment you may long onto the MCA's website [www.mcga.org.uk](http://www.mcga.org.uk)

For NoE application and guidance download [MSF 4274](#) from the MCA website

It is advised that you read the MCA [MSN 1856 \(M+F\) - Amendment 1](#) training and certification guidance (UK Requirements for Master and Deck Officers)

The college require that you:

1. Successfully complete an interview.
2. Pay the appropriate fees.

International students:

Applicants who do not have English as their first language will be required to demonstrate an approved level of proficiency in the use of the English language. The agreed minimum requirements for this course are: IELTS for UKVI (Academic) band 4.0, with no component below 4.0.

Upon successful completion of the interview and receipt of the deposit, University of Suffolk will issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) letter for the student to apply for a UK Student visa.

For more information about student Visa, please visit:

[www.uos.ac.uk/content/visas](http://www.uos.ac.uk/content/visas)

[www.gov.uk/student-Visa](http://www.gov.uk/student-Visa)



### Course structure:

The college operates with three intakes every year - September, January and May. Your course will start with 20 weeks of SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science tuition followed by Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science exams, SQA Exams and then short courses over a period of twelve months. The plan will take into consideration your VISA expiry date and any genuine special requests



### Course fees

£7,500 including VAT<sup>1</sup>.

### The following items are included in the course fee

The following items are included in the course fee:

- SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science
- Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Registration Fee
- MCA/SQA Written Navigation & Stability Safety Papers Examination Fee (1<sup>st</sup> attempt only)
- GMDSS General Operator's Certificate (GOC) and Examination Fee (1<sup>st</sup> attempt only)
- Efficient Deck Hand (EDH)
- Human Element Leadership and Management Operational Level (HELM O)
- Navigation Aids and Equipment Simulator Training at Operational Level (NAEST O)
- Signals exam

### Funds to show for UK visa:

Students are required to monitor visa rules as they change frequently and it is the responsibility of every student to be aware what the present rules are.

Keep yourself updated with the latest UK student visa rules by visiting the UK government website: [Study in the UK](#)

The funds to be shown for the UK visas after booking your seat will depend on from where you are applying and will include:

- Funds in your bank account to cover the course fee, plus £1,023 per month (for up to 9 months).
- You must have this money for at least 28 consecutive days. The end date of the 28-day period must be within 31 days of the date you apply for your visa
- Visa fees in addition to the funds in your bank
- Health insurance
- As currency fluctuates, you should keep 5% extra funds to account currency fluctuation charges

<sup>1</sup> Fees are subject to annual increment



- Please read the UKVI [guidance](#) on finances for student applications for more information about the money you need

## Accommodation, Food and Flight Tickets

### Accommodation:

College does not guarantee accommodation for overseas students. Students stay in rented houses as it works out to be much cheaper. On arrival in Lowestoft, you can directly move into the rented accommodation or alternatively stay in a bed and breakfast (budget hotel) for few days, check out a few houses and accordingly move into one of the available rented accommodations. A single room would house one student, a couple or two students at the maximum. On signing the contract with the landlord, you will have to pay one month of rent as a security deposit as well as the rent in advance for that month. Please ensure that you keep a copy of your contract safely with you. Ask the landlord for a copy of rent receipt as well for your safety. Most contracts come with a one month notice period which means that you will have to give one month's notice before vacating or else you may lose your deposit money.

### Food:

All food items that are available in your country are also available in Lowestoft, for example rice, wheat, dal, vegetables, chicken, mutton, fish, fruits, etc. Students staying in a house buy their groceries together and divide the cost amongst themselves.

### Flight tickets:

You do not need to have your flight tickets whilst applying for a UK student visa. Students usually book their flight tickets after having received their UK student visa. It is up to the individual if they wish to book a one-way ticket to the UK or a return ticket. Normally, a return ticket works out cheaper. Prices vary depending upon season and how far is your travel date from the date of booking.

## Total expenses in the UK for international students

Your total expenses in the UK includes tuition fees, exam fees, NoE, short courses, food and accommodation, flight tickets (to and from), visa charges, health insurance etc. The approximate living cost is as given below, but it will vary from person to person<sup>2</sup>:

- Accommodation rent: £400 – £650 per month in a furnished non-sharing room with all bills included
- Accommodation rent: £400 – £700 per month in a non-furnished two bedroom flat, bills are **NOT** included
- Food (home cooked): £70 / month / person
- Electricity and heating bills: £35 per month per person
- Internet: £30 per month

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<sup>2</sup> intended as guidance only

## How to reach Lowestoft from Heathrow Airport

You can board a bus at the National Express Coach station/bus stop at Heathrow terminals. You can buy the bus ticket at the bus stop and the fare is approximately £60 for a one-way trip. The journey duration from London Heathrow airport to Lowestoft is about five to six hours and there can be changes en-route if it is not a direct service. You can also use pre-booked taxi service which would cost around £150 to £200 and the journey can take three to four hours.

## Advanced Diploma Units and MCA required Pass marks:

Unit	Pass Mark
Chartwork and Tides	65%
Navigational Maths and Science	O1 65%, O2&3 50%
Marine Law and Management	50%
Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	50%
Ship Stability: An Introduction	60%
Bridge Watchkeeping	65%
Celestial Navigation	65%
Marine Cargo Operations	50%
Marine Emergency Response and Communications	50%
Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	50%
Nautical Science Graded Unit 1	50%

## Attendance

You are expected to maintain very high levels of attendance. A missed college day is a lost opportunity for you to learn. MCA requires students to maintain a classroom attendance rate of at least 80%.

## Assessment

For the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science, the assessment is college based. The MCA SQA written examinations are externally moderated and are hosted within the college.

## Learning and Teaching Methods

It is our aim to provide students with a range of learning environments and styles of teaching and learning which will suit the varied subject matter within the different modules and support the needs of students at all levels of the programme. Teaching and learning will take place in the context of lectures, practical, simulation and workshop activities, supported by a comprehensive programme of tutorial support. The Assessment Matters area of the My Course area on MySuffolk should be your first point of call for more detailed explanations and guides to the processes and regulations associated with assessment.



Delivery is supported by virtual learning platforms. Moodle is a college platform where all your course materials and notifications will be published. You will also have access to the University of Suffolk Brightspace platform. You will be able to access resources through the University library and support with assessment through the Assessment Matters pages. You will be issued with a login for both platforms early within the start of your programme.

## Admission Procedure

- Send enquiry via direct email, overseas agent, or telephone.
- Student Visa Compliance Coordinator will issue International Student Application Form with supporting course admissions evidence requirements and visa information.
- Complete application form, deposit payment and supporting evidence.
- We will acknowledge and process all the documents you have provided.
- Subject to submission of correct admissions documentation, confirmed receipt of cleared deposit funds and passing an interview, Student Visa Compliance Coordinator will send conditional offer letter for student/overseas agent detailing provisional acceptance terms and conditions, balance of course fees outstanding and documents required for submission to College prior to the issue of a Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS).
- On receipt of required documents including bank statement, current passport, evidence of timely Secure English Language Test (SELT), CAS will be generated.
- CAS statement will be scanned and emailed to student / overseas agent and hard copy sent by international recorded delivery.
- Student Visa Compliance Coordinator will maintain regular contact with student to check visa application progress and CAS status.
- For more details related sequence of fee payment refer course application form guidance note.

For further information, please contact the Admissions team:

Tel: +44 (0) 1502 525075

Email: [maritime@eastcoast.ac.uk](mailto:maritime@eastcoast.ac.uk)

East Coast College Website: [www.eastcoast.ac.uk](http://www.eastcoast.ac.uk)

University of Suffolk Website: [www.uos.ac.uk](http://www.uos.ac.uk)