

Course guide

280613 - 280613 - Technical English for Maritime Navigation

Last modified: 27/05/2025

Unit in charge: Barcelona School of Nautical Studies

Teaching unit: 756 - THATC - Department of History and Theory of Architecture and Communication Techniques.

Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN NAUTICAL SCIENCE AND MARITIME TRANSPORT (Syllabus 2010). (Compulsory subject).

Academic year: 2025

ECTS Credits: 9.0

Languages: English

LECTURER

Coordinating lecturer: CLAUDIA BARAHONA FUENTES

Others: Primer quadrimestre:
CLAUDIA BARAHONA FUENTES - ERAS, GNTM

REQUIREMENTS

course 280608

DEGREE COMPETENCES TO WHICH THE SUBJECT CONTRIBUTES

Specific:

3. Knowledge of technical English shipping.

Transversal:

1. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.
2. EFFICIENT ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION - Level 1. Planning oral communication, answering questions properly and writing straightforward texts that are spelt correctly and are grammatically coherent.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

Acquire enough technical English competence in order to perform the following actions in this language:

- Read and understand maritime publications
- Understand relevant messages for the safety of the ship
- Communicate in written and oral form in the maritime field
- Develop adequate reasoning and critical thinking
- Learning to work cooperatively and autonomously

LEARNING OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBJECT

Understand maritime technical terminology.

Understand technical manuals and specifications in English. Look for and find information in English online resources.

Plan and deliver oral presentations, respond adequately to questions posed and write technical documents of an intermediate level.

On the other hand, one of the objectives of this subject is to provide the knowledge: Use the IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases and use English in written and oral form, competency required and defined in Section A-II/1 (Mandatory minimum requirements for certification of masters and chief mates on ships of 500 gross tonnage or more) of the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW) International Code.

This course will evaluate the following STCW competences: A-II/1-8. Use the IMO standard Marine Communication Phrases and use English in written and oral form, and its associated knowledge understanding and proficiency: Adequate knowledge of the English language to enable the officer to use charts and other nautical publications, to understand meteorological information and messages concerning ship's safety and operation, to communicate with other ships, coast stations and VTS centres and to perform the officer's duties also with a multilingual crew, including the ability to use and understand the IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases (IMO SMCP).

STUDY LOAD

Type	Hours	Percentage
Hours large group	45,0	20.00
Self study	135,0	60.00
Hours small group	45,0	20.00

Total learning time: 225 h

CONTENTS

(ENG) Maritime communications

Description:

Introduction to Maritime communications. GMDSS. VHF communication procedures. Priorities (Distress, Urgency, Safety and Routine messages). Search and rescue.

Adequate knowledge of the English language to enable the officer to understand messages concerning ship's safety and operation, to communicate with other ships, coast stations and VTS centres and to perform the officer's duties also with a multilingual crew, including the ability to use and understand the IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases (this knowledge is necessary in accordance with STCW Code). (STCW: A-II/1-8)

Related competencies :

CE6. Knowledge of technical English shipping.

03 TLG. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.

04 COE N1. EFFICIENT ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION - Level 1. Planning oral communication, answering questions properly and writing straightforward texts that are spelt correctly and are grammatically coherent.

Full-or-part-time: 38h 30m

Theory classes: 6h

Practical classes: 6h

Laboratory classes: 2h

Guided activities: 2h

Self study : 22h 30m

(ENG) Standard Marine Communication Phrases (SMCP)

Description:

Standard Marine Communication Phrases: Phrases for external and on board communications.

Adequate knowledge of the English language to enable the officer to understand messages concerning ship's safety and operation, to communicate with other ships, coast stations and VTS centres and to perform the officer's duties also with a multilingual crew, including the ability to use and understand the IMO Standard Marine Communication Phrases (this knowledge is necessary in accordance with STCW Code). (STCW: A-II/1-8)

Related competencies :

CE6. Knowledge of technical English shipping.

03 TLG. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.

04 COE N1. EFFICIENT ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION - Level 1. Planning oral communication, answering questions properly and writing straightforward texts that are spelt correctly and are grammatically coherent.

Full-or-part-time: 72h 30m

Theory classes: 10h

Practical classes: 10h

Laboratory classes: 2h

Guided activities: 5h 30m

Self study : 45h

(ENG) Navigation

Description:

Instruments and electronic aids for navigation. Anchoring, berthing, leaving berth and underway. Buoyage. Pilot reading.

Adequate knowledge of the English language to enable the officer to use charts and other nautical publications (this knowledge is necessary in accordance with STCW Code). (STCW: A-II/1-8)

Full-or-part-time: 38h 30m

Theory classes: 6h

Practical classes: 6h

Laboratory classes: 2h

Guided activities: 2h

Self study : 22h 30m

(ENG) Safety

Description:

The weather. Ship motions. Beaufort Windscale. Douglas Sea scale. Ice . Tides. Rules of the Road. Emergency response. Dangerous goods.

Adequate knowledge of the English language to enable the officer to understand meteorological information and messages concerning ship's safety (this knowledge is necessary in accordance with STCW Code). (STCW: A-II/1-8)

Related competencies :

CE6. Knowledge of technical English shipping.

03 TLG. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.

04 COE N1. EFFICIENT ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION - Level 1. Planning oral communication, answering questions properly and writing straightforward texts that are spelt correctly and are grammatically coherent.

Full-or-part-time: 38h 30m

Theory classes: 6h

Practical classes: 6h

Laboratory classes: 2h

Guided activities: 2h

Self study : 22h 30m

(ENG) Transport logistics and cargo-handling

Description:

Transport logistics.

Cargo gear. Containerisation. Bulk. Break bulk. Tankers. Heavy-lift cargo. Stowage and securing.

Related competencies :

CE6. Knowledge of technical English shipping.

03 TLG. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.

04 COE N1. EFFICIENT ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION - Level 1. Planning oral communication, answering questions properly and writing straightforward texts that are spelt correctly and are grammatically coherent.

Full-or-part-time: 37h

Theory classes: 5h 45m

Practical classes: 5h 45m

Laboratory classes: 2h

Guided activities: 1h

Self study : 22h 30m

GRADING SYSTEM

The final mark is the result of the following assessment activities:

$$N_{\text{final}} = 0,4 N_{\text{pf}} + 0,30 N_{\text{ac}} + 0,1 N_{\text{ti}} + 0,20 N_{\text{po}}$$

N_{final} : final mark

N_{pf} : final exam

N_{ac} : continuous assessment

N_{ti} : assignments and reports

N_{po} : oral presentations

The final exam consists of questions associated to the course learning objectives, concerning knowledge or comprehension, and of practical and applied tasks.

The continuous assessment consists of different brief activities and tests carried out during the course.

The assignments and reports can be individual or cooperative activities, which could be carried out inside the classroom or as homework.

The oral presentations can also be carried out individually or cooperatively.

The reassessment of the course will consist of a unique test including all the contents covered to acquire the corresponding learning objective.

EXAMINATION RULES.

If any of the classroom tasks or continuous assessment tasks is not carried out, the task will not be marked.

A student will receive the final mark of "Absent" if he/she does not carry out at least a 70% of the course assessment activities.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic:

- Workbook of technical English for maritime navigation. -: -, -.
- Van Kluijven, P.C. The International maritime language programme : an English course for students at maritime colleges and for on-board training. Alkmaar: Alk & Heijnen, 2003. ISBN 9789059610064.

Complementary:

- Barahona, C.; Arnó, E. English for academic purposes: learning English through the web [on line]. Barcelona: Edicions UPC, 2001 [Consultation: 26/06/2018]. Available on: <http://hdl.handle.net/2099.3/36428>. ISBN 8483014793.
- Blakey, T.N. English for maritime studies. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1983. ISBN 0080286364.
- Bombardó Solés, C.; Aguilar Pérez, M.; Barahona Fuentes, C. Technical writing : a guide for effective communication [on line]. Barcelona: Edicions UPC, 2007 [Consultation: 16/06/2012]. Available on: <http://hdl.handle.net/2099.3/36667>. ISBN 9788483019665.
- Brodie, Peter R. Dictionary of shipping terms. 3rd ed. London: Lloyd's of London Press, 1997. ISBN 1859781195.
- Díaz Pérez, J.M. Inglés náutico normalizado : un manual práctico para las comunicaciones marinas. Valencia: IGC Marge, 2005. ISBN 8486684323.
- López, E.; Spiegelberg, J.M.; Carrillo, F. Inglés técnico naval. 3a ed. corregida y ampliada. Cádiz: Servicio de Publicaciones Universidad de Cádiz, 2010. ISBN 8477865418.
- Frases normalizadas de la OMI para las comunicaciones marítimas. Londres: Organización Marítima Internacional, 2002. ISBN 9280135627.
- Weeks, F.F. [et al.]. Seaspeak training manual. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1988. ISBN 0080315550.
- Maritime English : IMO model course ; 3.17. [London]: International Maritime Organization, 2000. ISBN 9280150960.
- Weeks, F.F. Wavelength : how to use the IMCO Standard marine navigational vocabulary. Madrid: Alhambra, 1981. ISBN 8420507679.

RESOURCES

Hyperlink:

- MarEng Learning Tool. MarEng Learning Tool <http://mareng.utu.fi>