

Master's degree in Nautical Science and Maritime Transport Management

BARCELONA SCHOOL OF NAUTICAL STUDIES (FNB)

The **master's degree in Nautical Science and Maritime Transport Management** ([master's degree website](#)) provides high-level skills in the knowledge areas linked to nautical engineering and maritime transport: the structure and behaviour of ships at sea, maritime transport logistics and environmental management.

GENERAL DETAILS

Duration and start date

1.5 academic years, 90 ECTS credits. Starting September

Timetable and delivery

Afternoons. Blended learning

Fees and grants

Approximate fees for the master's degree, **excluding other costs** (does not include non-teaching academic fees and issuing of the degree certificate):

€1,592 (€4,050 for non-EU residents).

[More information about fees and payment options](#)

[More information about grants and loans](#)

Language of instruction

Check the language of instruction for each subject in the course guide in the curriculum.

Information on [language use in the classroom and students' language rights](#).

Location

[Barcelona School of Nautical Studies \(FNB\)](#)

Official degree

[Recorded in the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities](#)

ADMISSION

General requirements

[Academic requirements for admission to master's degrees](#)

New intake places

20

Pre-enrolment

Pre-enrolment period open.

Expected deadline: 01/07/2026.

[How to pre-enrol](#)

Enrolment

[How to enrol](#)

Legalisation of foreign documents

CURRICULUM

Subjects	ECTS credits	Type
FIRST SEMESTER		
Leadership and Management of Maritime Industries	5	Compulsory
Management of Integrated Systems: Safety, Environment and Quality	5	Compulsory
Maritime and Environmental Safety Management	5	Compulsory
Maritime Economics and Business	5	Compulsory
Project Management	5	Compulsory
Standards for Ship Inspection and Documentation	5	Compulsory
SECOND SEMESTER		
Auxiliary and Propulsion Systems	5	Compulsory
Bridge Procedures	5	Compulsory
Imdg and Stowage	5	Compulsory
Logistics and Management of Maritime and Intermodal Transport	5	Compulsory
Maritime Technical English for Information Science	5	Compulsory
Port Terminal Management	5	Compulsory
THIRD SEMESTER		
Advanced Ship Manoeuvring	5	Compulsory
Navigation Safety Management and Planning	5	Compulsory
Ship Dynamics	5	Compulsory
Master's Thesis	15	Project

PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Professional opportunities

Future society will require new and enhanced modes of maritime transport and more effective control systems. To support these improvements, sector-specific economic and administrative structures will be needed, which must promote the development of advanced technology solutions to ensure optimum loading and efficient control of ports and coastal areas. Nautical engineering is therefore a promising growth area that will require considerable material and human resources in the coming years, internationally, in Europe, and particularly in Spain. Merchant seamen are an integral part of these human resources and require solid basic training and a range of multidisciplinary skills. The master's degree in Nautical Engineering and Maritime Transport Management is designed to provide both the basic academic and technological training and the specialised knowledge that professionals in the sector will need, as well as offering the degree of learning flexibility that today's society demands. Students will receive training as engineers and seafarers, acquiring skills profiles that satisfy the demands of the national and international maritime transport markets.

These needs also reflect the growing importance of maritime transport and trade in an increasingly globalised world. This is an emerging sector with excellent employment prospects, which are expected to improve further in the short-to-medium term. The master's degree in Nautical Engineering and Maritime Transport therefore aims to train competent professionals in these areas, capable of excelling in their efforts to address current and future challenges and of driving the sector forward by establishing new professional profiles, creating new companies and generating employment.

A wide range of career paths is open to graduates. The main areas in which they will find employment are as follows:

Nautical engineering

- Merchant navy (graduates will have the qualifications for the rank of captain)
- Commercial shipping
- Inspection and classification
- Port terminals
- Insurance and maritime assessment

Transport, freight management and logistics (although graduates will be specialised in maritime activities, the skills and competencies acquired during the course are also applicable to onshore roles in this sector)

- Consignees and forwarding agents
- Transport companies
- Freight management and logistics
- Financial services
- Business management

Administration

- Maritime administration (public works offices, maritime authorities, maritime inspection offices, etc.)
- Maritime services (surveillance, search and rescue, customs and excise)
- Teaching and research
- Engineering projects
- Environmental protection and management projects
- Resource and maritime routing optimisation projects

Competencies

Generic competencies

Generic competencies are the skills that graduates acquire regardless of the specific course or field of study. The generic competencies established by the UPC are capacity for innovation and entrepreneurship, sustainability and social commitment, teamwork, proper use of information resources, knowledge of a foreign language (preferably English) and gender perspective.

Specific competences

On completing this master's degree, the students will

- Have developed the expertise required for navigation planning and management, taking into account factors such as safety, environmental protection, meteorological data and ocean conditions.
- Have the theoretical knowledge to coordinate search-and-rescue operations and salvage operations.
- Have the expertise to design and oversee the correct implementation of security plans and pollution prevention plans.
- Have acquired the knowledge to perform risk appraisals, damage assessments and accident analyses.
- Have learnt to design and implement security management systems.
- Have learnt the importance of emergency safety strategies and a general culture of on-board safety in emergency situations, including the activation of suitable response mechanisms.
- Have acquired the knowledge required to design maritime security policies for private companies and government agencies.
- Have acquired the expertise to design voyage plans, including course plotting and the accurate use of nautical charts and publications, identifying changes to existing information and informing the relevant authorities.
- Have learnt to perform a bridge watch (during navigation, while mooring and in port).
- Be able to write and use ship and cargo documentation in English.
- Have acquired expertise in environmental management and protection applicable to new marine developments in coastal areas.
- Have learnt to design and implement manoeuvring plans (for berthing, unberthing, mooring, canal and passage navigation, dry docking, etc.) for different types of ships.
- Have acquired the skills to handle and oversee the operation of auxiliary machinery falling within the remit of qualified nautical engineers.
- Be able to apply basic knowledge of marine motors and marine propulsion and carry out general performance and consumption calculations.
- Have learnt to calculate a ship's dynamic responses in different load conditions and different scenarios influenced by external factors and to implement the appropriate measures in each case.
- Have the knowledge to apply the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) code in all possible on-board

circumstances and to plan and implement calculations for the stowage of specific cargos.

- Have the expertise required to apply the IMDG code on different types of ships.
- Have acquired the knowledge to design contingency plans to ensure safe operation in the event of on-board malfunctions.
- Be capable of leading and managing projects and human teams in maritime activities, including on-board crew and maritime trade teams.
- Be able to organise and administer medical care at the level required for the advanced healthcare training qualification for qualified seamen awarded by the Spanish government.
- Be able to design and oversee the implementation of marketing plans for the maritime industries.
- Have acquired the skills required to work as inspection managers in the maritime administration and in classification societies.
- Have acquired the expertise to submit proposals for competitive public and private projects, knowledge of the main tools for financing and implementing projects, and the awareness to identify ideas that push the boundaries of current knowledge.

QUALITY ACCREDITATION

Check the degree's main quality indicators in the University Studies in Catalonia portal of the Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency. Find information on topics such as degree evaluation results, student satisfaction and graduate employment data.

[Further information](#)

ACADEMIC ORGANISATION

UPC school

[Barcelona School of Nautical Studies \(FNB\)](#)

Academic coordinator

[Àfrica Uyà](#)

Academic calendar

[General academic calendar for bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees courses](#)

Academic regulations

[Academic regulations for master's degree courses at the UPC](#)

MASTER'S DEGREE WEBSITE

May 2026. [UPC](#). Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya · BarcelonaTech