



Work Based Learning
at Middlesex University



Work Based Learning
at Middlesex University

What they're saying...

This exciting programme has received plaudits from individuals and corporate bodies across the maritime industry.

“During my MSc work-based learning studies programme I received excellent support and high quality tuition. The course is challenging, but at the same time infinitely helpful to my career and tailor-made to my profession. The programme’s understanding of my circumstances as a Merchant Navy Officer was tremendous.

I would highly recommend this course to any prospective student, particularly a seafarer looking to gain a high level academic qualification to complement his/her professional qualifications and experience. It’s certainly given me an edge in seeking shoreside employment.”

Thomas W Starr
Master Mariner MSc MNI MRIN

For more information, visit www.ifsma.org/mdx or www.ms-sc.org/mdx

The International Federation of Shipmasters’ Associations, 202 Lambeth Road, London SE1 7JY

email: hq@ifsma.org

Telephone: **+(44) 20 7261 0450**

Middlesex University is recognised as a Centre for Excellence in Work Based Learning by the UK Higher Education Funding Council and its widely recognised qualifications are transferable within and beyond the maritime sector.

Work-based learning

Masters Degrees for senior seafarers



for IFSMA members

“Turn your first-class certificate into a first-class degree – without the need to step ashore!”



Want to study for a Masters degree, but don't have a first degree?

Frustrated that your Class 1 Certificate of Competency and considerable operational experience has little academic equivalence?

Can't afford to take time off work to study?

Coming ashore, but not sure which area to specialise in? Here's a solution



The Marine Society College of the Sea and IFSMA, in partnership with Middlesex University, offers a work-based distance learning Masters degree programme for senior seafarers of any nationality. This ground-breaking programme doesn't require attendance at a college, can be completed in a minimum of eight months, is tailored to individual need, is fully tutor-supported and isn't dependent on access to the internet.

The programme is available to any Class 1 Certificate of Competency holder with a minimum of five years experience – no other qualification beyond this is required.

Recognizing seafarers' academic worth

This route to a Masters degree has been made available by Middlesex University recognising the worth of the Class 1 Certificate of Competency professional qualification – granting equivalence to 60 credits at the UK Higher Education level 4, and a further 20 credits at UK Higher Education level 3 if a seafarer holds an HND as part of his Class 1 Certificate of Competency (as most post-1988 UK-qualified seafarers do).

That's at least a third of the way to a Masters degree!

As it's delivered by distance learning, students don't need to attend a college and they can commence the course at a date convenient to them.

The course programme has two objectives: to improve the professional practice of the students and to enhance their analytical and evaluative skills.

A typical programme for a seafarer who's Class 1 Certificate of Competency also includes an HND comprises two semesters:

- **Semester 1.** Programme Planning. This provides an opportunity for the student to negotiate the title of their degree based on the chosen project and its associated required research. It also includes a review of a student's prior training and professional achievement.
- **Semester 2.** The Project. This is work based, and must generate significant new knowledge from data gathered in the work place. Data and conclusions are compared with academic and professional sources to identify means of individual and corporate performance improvement.

The degree

Successful completion of the programme bestows the award of an MSc or MA in Professional Practice ("project title") from Middlesex University. The words in the brackets will be aligned with the title of the project which may be in any area of professional maritime practice, enabling the student to draw on his/her experience as a seafarer.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this programme the student must have held a Class 1 Certificate of Competency for a minimum of five years. There's no need to have passed any specific level of any examination, but proficiency in the English language is a requirement.

Tutor support

Internet access isn't necessary: a fully featured DVD is made available to seafarers that contains the most salient information they might otherwise have gleaned elsewhere. Full tutor support is offered via email, fax, phone or post.

With underpinning practical support provided by The Marine Society, learners can be assured that the programme is seafarer-friendly and as such can be tailored to suit lifestyle constraints and external factors that may cause study interruptions.

Fees

This programme offers a truly outstanding opportunity for senior seafarers who wish to study for a higher degree.

It's the only degree of its type on offer from the UK that gives academic credit for a seafarers' professional achievement, and compared to other higher degree programmes, it's highly affordable.

For the current programme fee please refer to www.ms-sc.org/mdx or email education@ms-sc.org

IFSMA has been searching for just such a programme for some time and is pleased to recommend it to its membership.

