Group Award Specification for:

SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science

Group Award Code: GN21 47

SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science

Group Award Code: GN22 48

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Contents

1 Introduction

The use of the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science with its wide range of nautical subjects providing the academic requirements for Certificates of Competency has long been recognised.

The purpose of this document is to:

- assist centres to implement, deliver and manage the qualification
- provide a guide for new staff involved in offering the qualification
- inform course managers teaching staff, assessors, learners, employers and HEIs of the aims and purpose of the qualification
- provide details of the range of learners the qualification is suitable for and progression opportunities

The document also includes details on the graded units and their relationship to the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) safety examinations, administered by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). In order for this award to be used towards the issue of UK Certificate of Competence, centres must also be approved by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency as per MSN 1856 (annex G). This is a requirement under the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978 as amended.

Centres who would like to gain approval to offer this award as part of the underpinning knowledge for a UK CoC must contact the MCA prior to gaining SQA approval: exams@mcga.gov.uk.

2 Qualifications structure

Framework of the SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science

Summary of design principles — SQA Advanced Certificates will:

- be at SCQF level 7 and have 96 SCQF credit points (12 SQA Credits)
- have a minimum of 48 SCQF credits (6 SQA Credits) at level 7
- have one graded unit of 8 SCQF points at SCQF level 7
- have a mandatory section with a minimum of 48 SCQF credit points (6 SQA credits), including the graded unit

Framework of the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science

Summary of design principles — SQA Advanced Diplomas will:

- be at SCQF level 8 and have 240 SCQF credit points (30 SQA Credits)
- have a minimum of 64 SCQF credit points (8 SQA Credits) at level 8
- have one graded unit of 8 SCQF points at level 7, plus 16 SCQF credit points of graded units at level 8
- have a mandatory section with a minimum of 96 SCQF credit points, including the graded units

For a learner to achieve the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science they must achieve all the mandatory units of 240 SCQF credit points (30 SQA Credits). These mandatory units are also required for certification under STCW ’78 as amended.

2.1 Structure

SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science — Mandatory units

For a learner to achieve the SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science, they must achieve all of the mandatory units of 96 SCQF credit points (12 SQA Credits). These mandatory units are also required for certification under STCW ’78 as amended.

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA Credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
HW6P	47	Chartwork and Tides	2	16	7
HW6E	47	Navigational Mathematics and Science	1	8	7
HW6R	47	Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	1	8	7
HW6G	47	Bridge Watchkeeping	1	8	7
HW6H	47	Marine Cargo Operations	1.5	12	7
HW6J	47	Ship Stability: An Introduction	1.5	12	7
HW6K	47	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	1	8	7
HW6M	48	Celestial Navigation	2	16	8
HW6N	47	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1	1	8	7
		Total	12	96	

SQA Advanced Diploma Nautical Science

For a learner to achieve the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science they would require to attain all the mandatory units of 240 SCQF credit points (30 SQA credits). These mandatory units are also required for certification under STCW ’78 as amended.

4 code	2 code	Unit title	SQA Credit	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
HW6P	47	Chartwork and Tides	2	16	7
HW6E	47	Navigational Mathematics and Science	1	8	7
HW6R	47	Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	1	8	7
HW6G	47	Bridge Watchkeeping	1	8	7
HW6H	47	Marine Cargo Operations	1.5	12	7
HW6J	47	Ship Stability: An Introduction	1.5	12	7
HW6K	47	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	1	8	7
HW6M	48	Celestial Navigation	2	16	8
HW6N	47	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1	1	8	7
HW72	47	Marine Emergency Response and Communication	1	8	7
HW73	47	Marine Law and Management: An Introduction	1	8	7
HP6L	47	Information Technology: Applications Software 1	1	8	7
HW74	48	Marine Passage Planning	1.5	12	8
HW75	48	Management of Bridge Operations	1.5	12	8
HW76	48	Applied Marine Meteorology	1.5	12	8
HW77	48	Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application	1.5	12	8
HW7A	48	Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance	1	8	8
HW7C	48	Management of Vessel Operations	2	16	8
HW78	48	Shipmasters Law and Business	2	16	8
HW79	48	Shipboard Management	1	8	8
HW7E	48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2	1	8	8
HW7F	48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3	1	8	8
HW7J	48	Marine Engineering Systems	1	8	8
		Total	30	240	

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Units with Embedded Core Skills

Unit/Course code	Course/Unit name	Embedded Core Skills/Core Skill components
HW78 48	Shipmaster's Law and Business	PS: CT@6
HW77 48	Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application	PS: CT@6; NUM @6
HW6J 47	Ship Stability: An Introduction	PS: CT@6; NUM: UN@6; UGI@5
HW6E 47	Navigational Mathematics and Science	PS: CT@6; NUM: UN@6; UGI@5
HW6K 47	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	PS: CT@6; NUM: UGI@6
HW74 48	Marine Passage Planning	PS@6, NUM@6
HW73 47	Marine Law and Management: An Introduction	PS: CT@5
HW72 47	Marine Emergency Response and Communication	CT@6; NUM@6
HW7C 48	Management of Vessel Operations	PS: CT@6; P&O@6, NUM: UN@5
HW75 47	Management of Bridge Operations	PS: CT@6;
HW6P 47	Chartwork and Tides	PS: CT@6, NUM@6;
HW6M 48	Celestial Navigation	NUM@6; PS: CT@6
HW6G 47	Bridge Watchkeeping	CT@6;
HW76 48	Applied Marine Meteorology	PS: CT@ 6

3 Aims of the qualifications

The principal aim of these qualifications is to provide the underpinning knowledge for MCA Deck Certificate of Competency at Officer of the Watch and Chief Mate/Master levels.

SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science comprise an important component in the requirements for UK Officer Trainees' Certificates of Competency, to the extent that they are quoted in MSN 1856 from the MCA.

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science will ensure that the provision of seafarer training in the UK is standardised and allows for a diverse entry and exit profile within the industry.

It is expected that the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma will allow for easy progression to higher qualifications for those seafarers not enrolled on Officer Trainee training schemes, and in addition, those seafarers from overseas who wish to progress towards a first UK Certificate of competency and beyond.

3.1 General aims of the qualifications

The principal aim of the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma is to provide the approved education and training programme to gain merchant navy certificates of competency in the deck department.

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma have several general aims which can be summarised as follows:

- To develop the ability to analyse and plan tasks commonly encountered in the workplace.
- To develop approaches to problem solving and critical thinking.
- To develop an evaluative and reflective approach to work and studies.
- To develop the ability to work and communicate effectively with others.
- To develop the ability to plan and organise studies and research.
- To develop skills for employability and progression to higher qualifications.
- To enable the learner to consolidate knowledge and skills to enhance career progression.
- To enable the learner to develop skills to enhance their own personal development.
- To develop Core Skills which are capable of being transferred to any type of employment.

3.2 Specific aims of the SQA Advanced Certificate

SQA Advanced Certificate units, and two additional units *Marine Law and Management*: *An Introduction* and *Marine Emergency Response and Communication,* map all STCW mandatory requirements for regulation II/I CoC.

1 Contributes towards learners obtaining a Certificate of Competency as Deck Officer of the Watch issued by MCA. *
2 Prepares learners for the responsibility of keeping a watch at sea and in port.
3 Develops skills to enable learners to effectively navigate a vessel by traditional and modern means.
4 Develops skills to enable learners to operate a vessel in a safe and effective manner.
5 Develops skills to enable learners to work with others in a safe and effective manner.
6 Develops skills to deal with emergency situations.
7 Develops awareness of current maritime legislation.
8 Prepares learners for the MCA written and oral examinations at Officer of the Watch level.

*Two additional SQA Advanced Units, *Marine Emergency Response and Communication* and *Marine Law and Management*: *An Introduction* are also required for the Certificate of Competency along with the SQA Advanced Certificate.

3.3 Specific aims of the SQA Advanced Diploma

SQA Advanced Diploma units map all STCW mandatory requirements for Chief Mate/Master certificate of competency as per STCW regulation II/II.

9 Develops the skills required to manage and control the safe navigation of the vessel in all conditions.
10 Develops the skills required to manage and control vessel operations in compliance with current legislation.

11 Develops a sound understanding of shipboard management issues and techniques.
12 Develops a sound understanding of the ship Master's role with respect to the legal aspects of managing the navigation and operation of the vessel.
13 Develops an understanding of the vessels propulsion maintenance and engineering requirements.
14 Prepares learners for the MCA written and oral examinations at Chief Mate level.

3.4 Graded units

Graded units are a means of ensuring that learners have achieved the overall aims and objectives of the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma by assessing the integration of knowledge and skills.

There are three distinct graded units in the SQA Advanced Diploma, the first of which also features in the SQA Advanced Certificate.

Nautical Science Graded Units 1 and 3 assess that learners have been able to assimilate sufficient information across a range of units to operate a vessel safely with regards to the stability, navigation, cargo and requirements laid down by international law.

- Graded Unit 1 assesses the above at the level of operational responsibility as defined in STCW 78 as amended.
- Graded Unit 3 assesses the above at the level of management responsibility as defined in STCW 78 as amended.

Nautical Science Graded Unit 2 assesses that learners have been able to assimilate sufficient information form a range of units to navigate a vessel safely at the level of management responsibility as defined in STCW 78 as amended.

All graded units take the form of examinations under supervised conditions. Learners will have access to materials which have the approval by the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

The purpose of the graded units in the qualifications is to assess the learner's ability to integrate and apply the knowledge and/or skills in the individual units to demonstrate that they have achieved the principal aims of the qualifications.

For the SQA Advanced Certificate, one single-credit graded unit at SCQF 7 must be achieved. For the SQA Advanced Diploma, two single-credit graded units at SCQF level 8 in addition to the SCQF 7 graded unit is required.

Graded Unit 1 and Graded Unit 3 also benefit from including a practical ship loading problem which should be dealt with using information which would normally be found on board a merchant ship.

All graded units should make use of extracts of tabular data which are commonly found on board ships and which are now supplied as MCA approved extracts for use in all SQA Advanced Diploma/Certificate examinations within the UK.

The understanding required to interpret and use such tables is essential to safely operate any vessel. Additionally, the use of the extracts in graded and other units gives learners the opportunity to practise with them prior to MCA written examinations.

4 Recommended entry to the qualifications

Entry to this qualification is at the discretion of the centre. The following information on prior knowledge, skills, experience or qualifications that provide suitable preparation for this qualification has been provided as guidance only.

Learners would benefit from having attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- National Certificate in Shipping and Marine Operations (with deck subject options) (SCQF level 6) or equivalent.
- At least two Higher level (SCQF level 6) passes (grade C or above) of which one should be Mathematics or a physical science. Learners should also have National 5 English at SCQF level 5 or better.

Learners who pass the SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science will gain access to the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science. Learners who pass the SQA Advanced Certificate and also pass two additional units (*Marine Emergency Response and Communication* and *Marine Law and Management: An Introduction*) will meet the MCA's requirements.

In addition, mature entrants must have previously been awarded an STCW '78 as amended Officer of the Watch Unlimited Certificate of Competency by a national administration which is included in the list of countries who are eligible for Certificate of Equivalent Competency from MCA.

4.1 Core Skills entry profile

The Core Skills entry profile provides a summary of the associated assessment activities that exemplify why a level has been recommended for this qualification. The information would be used to identify if additional learning support needs to be put in place for learners whose Core Skills profile is below the recommended entry level or whether learners should be encouraged to do an alternative level or learning programme.

Core Skill	Recommended SCQF entry profile	Associated assessment level of activities
Communication	SCQF 4	Learners can produce one piece of writing of at least 300 words (or many related pieces) that conveys several pieces of information and/or a clearly stated opinion. If there are many pieces, one of these must contain no fewer than 200 words. Document(s) can be hand written or word processed.
Numeracy	SCQF 4	Use numerical skills, interpret data and situations involving probability to solve straightforward real-life problems involving money/time/ measurement. Use trigonometric functions to solve problems.

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)	SCQF 4	Describe the use of information and process and solve problems using Information and communication technology.
Problem Solving	SCQF 4	Learner can think critically and analyses a straightforward problem to identify the main factors that affect the problem; use the results to work out a sequential linear action plan to deal with the problem. Then able to evaluate how effective each stage of problem solving stage.
Working with Others	SCQF 4	Learner can use straightforward interpersonal skill; work with others to identify main roles within co-operative working activity, able to ask politely for information and support, look for ways to be helpful in providing support and information to others. Reflect on the measures used to judge how well the co-operation and contribution helped the team, ask for feedback on the role.

5 Additional benefits of the qualification in meeting employer needs

This qualification was designed to meet a specific purpose and what follows are details on how that purpose has been met through mapping the units to the aims of the qualification. Through meeting the aims, additional value has been achieved by linking the unit standards with those defined in national occupational standards and/or trade/professional body requirements. In addition, significant opportunities exist for learners to develop the more generic skill, known as Core Skills through doing this qualification.

5.1 Mapping of qualification aims to units

Unit No	Credit	Unit title	Aim													
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
HW6P 47	2.0	Chartwork and Tides	X		X			X		X						
HW6E 47	1.0	Navigational Mathematics and Science	X		X				X	X						
HW6R 47	1.0	Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	X	X	X			X	X	X						
HW6G 47	1.0	Bridge Watchkeeping	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
HW6H 47	1.5	Marine Cargo Operations	X	X		X	X	X	X	X						
HW6J 47	1.5	Ship Stability: An Introduction	X	X		X	X	X	X	X						
HW6K 47	1.0	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	X			X		X	X	X						
HW6M 48	2.0	Celestial Navigation	X		X			X		X						
HW6N 47	1.0	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1	X	X		X			X	X						
HW72 47	1.0	Marine Emergency Response and Communication	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
HW73 47	1.0	Marine Law and Management: An Introduction	X	X		X	X		X	X						
HP6L 47	1.0	Information Technology: Applications Software 1		X	X	X										
HW74 48	1.5	Marine Passage Planning									X		X	X	X	X
HW75 48	1.5	Management of Bridge Operations									X	X	X	X	X	X
HW76 48	1.5	Applied Marine Meteorology									X		X	X		X
HW77 48	1.5	Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application										X	X	X		X
HW7A 48	1.0	Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance										X		X	X	X
HW7C 48	2.0	Management of Vessel Operations										X	X	X		X
HW78 48	2.0	Shipmasters Law and Business									X	X	X	X	X	X
HW79 48	1.0	Shipboard Management										X	X	X		X
HW7E 48	1.0	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2									X		X	X		X
HW7F 48	1.0	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3										X	X			X
HW7J 48	1.0	Marine Engineering Systems													X	X

5.2 Mapping of National Occupational Standards (NOS) and MNTB training standards

Series A — Mapping units to national occupational standards

Standard	Title
A01	Contribute to the stability and watertight integrity of a vessel
A02	Ensure the stability and watertight integrity of a vessel
A11	Take personal emergency action on board a vessel
A12	Respond to emergencies on board a vessel
A13	Control the response to emergencies on board a vessel
A14	Direct the response to emergencies on board a vessel
A15	Take control of survival craft and rescue boats
A16	Provide medical services on board a vessel
A21	Maintain steelwork and deck equipment on board a vessel
A22	Organise the maintenance of the vessel's hull, fittings and equipment during operational activities
A31	Maintain personal health, safety and environmental standards on board a vessel
A32	Maintain safe, legal and effective working practices on board a vessel
A33	Ensure safe, legal and effective working practices on board a vessel
A34	Create, maintain and enhance productive working relationships on board a vessel
A35	Ensure compliance with the commercial obligations of a vessel

Series B — Mapping units to national occupational standards

Standard	Title
B01	Contribute to maintaining a navigational watch
B02	Maintain a navigational watch
B03	Plan a navigational voyage
B04	Control navigation and vessel-handling
B11	Initiate the response to navigation emergencies
B12	Direct the response to navigation emergencies
B13	Contribute to vessel operations
B14	Monitor and control vessel operations
B15	Plan and direct vessel operations
B21	Contribute to vessel mooring, anchoring and securing operations
B22	Control vessel mooring, anchoring and securing operations

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Unit No	NOS UNIT/ SQA Advanced Unit	A 01	A 02	A 11	A 12	A 13	A 14	A 15	A 16	A 21	A 22	A 31	A 32	A 33	A 34	A 35		B 01	B 02	B 03	B 04	B 11	B 12	B 13	B 14	B 15	B 21	B 22
HW6M 48	Celestial Navigation	X																	X	X								
HW6P 47	Chartwork and Tides																	X	X	X								
HW6E 47	Navigational Mathematics and Science																		X									
HW6R 47	Marine Meteorology: An Introduction																		X						X			
HW6G 47	Bridge Watchkeeping	X		X	X							X			X	X		X	X		X				X		X	
HW6H 47	Marine Cargo Operations	X		X	X					X		X			X	X									X		X	
HW6J 47	Ship Stability: An Introduction	X								X					X										X			
HW6K 47	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	X								X		X			X										X			
HW6N 47	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1																											
HW72 47	Marine Emergency Response and Communication																	X	X	X	X	X			X		X	
HW73 47	Marine Law and Management: An Introduction																		X		X				X		X	
HP6L 47	Information Technology: Applications Software 1		X								X					X							X					

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Unit No	NOS UNIT/ SQA Advanced Unit	A 01	A 02	A 11	A 12	A 13	A 14	A 15	A 16	A 21	A 22	A 31	A 32	A 33	A 34	A 35		B 01	B 02	B 03	B 04	B 11	B 12	B 13	B 14	B 15	B 21	B 22
HW74 48	Marine Passage Planning																		X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X
HW75 48	Management of Bridge Operations																	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HW76 48	Applied Marine Meteorology																		X	X			X					
HW77 48	Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application																						X	X	X			
HW7A 48	Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance																						X	X	X		X	X
HW7C 48	Management of Vessel Operations																						X	X	X	X	X	X
HW78 48	Shipmasters Law and Business																		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
HW79 48	Shipboard Management																				X		X	X	X	X	X	X
HW7E 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2																											
HW7F 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3																											
HW7J 48	Marine Engineering Systems																				X					X		

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

MNTB training standards for Deck Officer training covered in SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma

Standard	Standards of role profile, skills and behaviours
01	♦ Voyage planning; navigation; watchkeeping
02	♦ Manoeuvre and handle a vessel in a range of situations and circumstances and the effects of weather and sea state on it
03	♦ Cargo handling, stowage and securing operations
04	♦ Compliance with legislative requirements
05	♦ Safety and security of all onboard — planning for and dealing with emergency situations
06	♦ Maintain steelwork and deck equipment
07	♦ Monitor and control vessel operations
08	♦ Celestial, terrestrial and coastal navigation and the use of associated nautical charts and publications ♦ Modern bridge control equipment, its uses and limitations, including ECDIS, radar and automatic radar plotting aids, electronic position fixing and navigation systems, echo sounders, magnetic and gyro compasses
09	♦ Characteristics of weather systems and related reporting procedures and recording systems
10	♦ Watchkeeping requirements, including the International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea ♦ Bridge resource management
11	♦ Leadership and teamworking, including people management, training and related maritime conventions and legislation
12	♦ International Code of Signals and how to transmit and receive information by visual signalling
13	♦ Ensure safe, legal and effective working practices on board a vessel
14	♦ Ship construction and stability
15	♦ Ensure compliance with the commercial obligations of a vessel

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Unit no	Unit title	Standards reference														
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
HW6P 47	Chartwork and Tides	X	X		X				X		X					
HW6E 47	Navigational Mathematics and Science	X							X		X					
HW6R 47	Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	X						X		X						
HW6G 47	Bridge Watchkeeping	X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X	X			
HW6H 47	Marine Cargo Operations			X	X	X		X						X	X	X
HW6J 47	Ship Stability: An Introduction			X	X	X		X						X	X	X
HW6K 47	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction		X	X	X	X	X								X	
HW6M 48	Celestial Navigation	X						X	X		X					
HW6N 47	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1	X		X	X		X	X	X		X				X	
HW72 47	Marine Emergency Response and Communication		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X			
HW73 47	Marine Law and Management: An Introduction			X	X	X						X		X		X
HP6L 47	Information Technology: Applications Software 1	X							X							
HW74 48	Marine Passage Planning	X	X		X	X		X	X		X			X		
HW75 48	Management of Bridge Operations	X	X					X	X		X	X	X			
HW76 48	Applied Marine Meteorology	X	X					X		X						
HW77 48	Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application			X	X	X	X	X						X	X	X
HW7A 48	Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance			X	X	X	X								X	
HW7C 48	Management of Vessel Operations			X	X	X	X	X						X		X
HW78 48	Shipmasters Law and Business			X	X	X						X		X		X
HW79 48	Shipboard Management				X	X						X		X		X
HW7E 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2	X						X	X	X	X			X		
HW7F 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3			X	X			X				X		X	X	
HW7J 48	Marine Engineering Systems	X	X			X	X	X			X					X

Mapping of SQA Advanced Units to MCA (STCW) requirements

Unit code	Unit title	STCW competence
HW6P 47	Chartwork and Tides	♦ Demonstrate a knowledge of charts and publications carried aboard ship ♦ Demonstrate a knowledge and use of Mercator charts ♦ Demonstrate a knowledge of chart folio systems and their care ♦ Know the procedures for and make the necessary corrections to update charts and publications including ECDIS ♦ Know and use visual methods of position fixing using charted objects and compass errors by transit ♦ Know the general theory on the causes of tides and perform calculations involving times and heights of tides worldwide ♦ Know how to adjust the vessels course and speed to take account of the passage plan requirements
HW6E 47	Navigational Mathematics and Science	♦ Know navigational terms and use formulae to calculate DR and EP including great circle sailing ♦ Understand the information supplied by ships compasses ♦ Demonstrate a knowledge of the causes and nature of magnetic compass errors ♦ Know limitations of the gyro compass
HW6R 47	Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	♦ Know how to make accurate meteorological observations and use W.M.O. codes ♦ Non-instrumental meteorological observations ♦ Know the structure, and methods of heating and cooling of the troposphere ♦ Understand the forces producing winds ♦ Understand the processes of formation of cloud and precipitation, and the causes of reduced visibility ♦ Know the general circulation of the atmosphere and the main climatic zones over the oceans ♦ Identify on surface charts the main synoptic patterns and air masses, and describe the weather associated with each including local winds (Worldwide) ♦ Know the weather services available to shipping (Worldwide) ♦ Know principal ocean currents
HW6G 47	Bridge Watchkeeping	♦ Understand fundamental principles of passage planning ♦ Understand routeing instructions and guidelines ♦ Know the components of steering systems, and their function ♦ Know the various forms in which steering information is relayed to the helmsman ♦ Know and use regulations and systems for the safe movement of vessels ♦ Know bridge watchkeeping procedures ♦ Understand the procedures relating to communications with bridge and engine personnel

Unit code	Unit title	STCW competence
HW6G 47	Bridge Watchkeeping (cont)	♦ Understand the basic principles of and demonstrate ability to apply effective bridge watchkeeping and teamwork procedure ♦ Know action to take if ice or icing is observed or suspected ♦ Knowledge of the effects on manoeuvring, turning circles and stopping distances ♦ Know how to make the vessel manoeuvres ♦ Know how to conduct a deck watch alongside or at anchor
HW6H 47	Marine Cargo Operations	♦ Know the principles and safe working practices for the proper loading, stowage and carriage of dry, refrigerated, unitised, containerised, ro-ro and bulk cargoes ♦ Know and apply the principles and safe methods of arranging for the proper loading, stowage and carriage of oil, gas and chemical cargoes and related ballasting operations ♦ Know how to conduct a deck watch alongside or at anchor
HW6J 47	Ship Stability: An Introduction	♦ Understand and apply the principles of ship stability for box and ship shape vessels to routine situations ♦ Understand the causes of stress in a ship's structure
HW6K 47	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	♦ Identify the significant features of a ship's structure ♦ Understand the causes of stress in a ship's structure ♦ Identify salient features of a range of ship types
HW6M 48	Celestial Navigation	♦ Know the concept of the celestial sphere and use the nautical almanac ♦ Use instruments and apply corrections to obtain true altitude and UTC ♦ Obtain latitude by meridian altitude ♦ Obtain latitude by pole star observation ♦ Obtain the direction of a position line and a position through which it passes from celestial observations ♦ Obtain compass error from celestial observations ♦ Fix the vessel's position by means of celestial observations ♦ Select suitable stars for observation
HW6N 47	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1	Knowledge and skills from ♦ *Ship Stability: An Introduction* ♦ *Bridge Watch keeping* ♦ *Marine Cargo Operations* ♦ *Chart work and Tides* ♦ *Celestial Navigation* ♦ *Navigational Mathematics and Science* to enable the students to apply their acquired skills in each scenario

Unit code	Unit title	STCW competence
HW72 47	Marine Emergency Response and Communication	♦ Know the meaning and type of alarms fitted to bridge equipment, and know the action to take in the event of malfunction or failure of bridge equipment ♦ Know the contingency plans and action to take as OOW in the event of emergencies at sea or in port as applicable ♦ Recognise distress, urgency and safety signals ♦ Know the further action required to comply with contingency planning and master's instructions ♦ Know the general arrangements for search and rescue ♦ Know and use the sources of phrases and codes to aid communication ♦ Send and receive signals in the 'International Code of Signals'
HW73 47	Marine Law and Management: An Introduction	♦ Understand how the MARPOL Convention and current legislation provide knowledge of the precautions and procedures to be taken to prevent pollution of the marine environment ♦ Understand the relationship between law, codes and other forms of guidance ♦ Have an awareness of the law, codes, principles and procedures and other forms of guidance relating to international regulations ♦ Appreciate the requirements of records for commercial and legislative purposes ♦ Know that there are personal and corporate penalties, for unlawful Acts or Omissions and for breaches of company regulations ♦ Understand the fundamental principles of anti-pollution legislation ♦ Understand the principles of personnel management ♦ Understand the officer's managerial role and key responsibilities ♦ Know how to communicate effectively ♦ Understand the importance of creating a safety culture in the workplace ♦ Understand principles relating to the management of people ♦ Understand the principles of planning, directing and monitoring progress
HP6L 47	Information Technology: Applications Software 1	♦ Understand stability/stress diagrams and stress calculating equipment
HW74 48	Marine Passage Planning	♦ Know the principles of great circle sailing ♦ Obtain correct tidal information ♦ Know the principles of effective passage planning ♦ Select the appropriate charts and publications to appraise the proposed passage

Unit code	Unit title	STCW competence
HW74 48	Marine Passage Planning (cont)	♦ Appraise the intended passage, taking into account the influential factors ♦ Prepare and document the intended passage plan ♦ Make contingency plans for emergency situations in critical navigation areas ♦ Evaluate the completed passage plan prior to commencement of the passage ♦ Accurately evaluate, plot and record necessary alterations to the passage plan due to environmental conditions ♦ Determine position and the accuracy of resultant position fix by any means ♦ Determine the reliability of celestial and terrestrial fixes; random and systematic errors, resolution of cocked-hat ♦ Select position fixing methods from those available ♦ Emergency planning
HW75 48	Management of Bridge Operations	♦ Establish watch-keeping arrangements and procedures ♦ Bridge resource management ♦ Understand statutory and international requirements regarding navigation, navigational equipment and the qualifications and fitness of watchkeeping personnel ♦ Prepare and write standing and night orders outlining the duties and responsibilities of navigation watchkeepers ♦ Plan contingency actions ♦ Know the information which should be exchanged between the Master and Pilot in accordance with current guidance ♦ Understand the need to ensure the adequacy of an engineering watch ♦ Co-ordinate search and rescue operations ♦ Plan and prepare a search, know how to conduct a search ♦ Know how to conduct a rescue ♦ Know how to terminate SAR operations ♦ Planning for navigational and operational emergencies ♦ Know the contingency plans and action to take as Master in the event of emergencies at sea or in port as applicable ♦ Manoeuvre and handle the ship in all conditions ♦ Understand ship design features affecting the maneuverability, know other factors affecting manoeuvrability, compare manoeuvring data for a range of ship types

Unit code	Unit title	STCW competence
HW75 48	Management of Bridge Operations (cont)	♦ Know manoeuvring procedures when berthing and unberthing, in all conditions of wind, current and tidal stream, with and without tugs ♦ Understand emergency towing arrangements and procedures ♦ Understand procedures for refloating a vessel with and without assistance ♦ Understand the information supplied by ships compasses ♦ Demonstrate a knowledge of the operation and use of the gyro compass ♦ Understand the systems under the control of the master gyro and have a knowledge of the operation and care of the main types of gyro compass ♦ Emergency planning
HW76 48	Applied Marine Meteorology	♦ Analyse and identify the major features of surface and upper air charts establishing the factors that affect the development, decay and movement of surface pressure systems ♦ Know the weather conditions associated with the surface pressure systems ♦ Interpret and evaluate meteorological and climatological data, with the objective of forecasting the weather and sea conditions that may be encountered during a voyage ♦ Know the general surface water circulation of the oceans and adjoining seas and how the information is presented ♦ Know the main types of floating ice, their origins, distribution, movement and nomenclature ♦ Know the conditions that may cause ice accumulation on ships
HW77 48	Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application	♦ Control trim, stability and stress ♦ Factors affecting trim, stability and stress ♦ Understand the theories and factors affecting stability and trim ♦ Understand the factors affecting stability at verify and large angles of heel ♦ Know the effect of damage and flooding on stability including calculations on box shaped vessels ♦ Emergency planning ♦ Know the current national and IMO regulations concerning stability
HW7A 48	Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance	♦ Understand the structural requirements for vessels with respect to the handling and carriage of cargo ♦ Conditions for the assignment of loadline ♦ Load line terminology and definitions ♦ Assignment of special load lines ♦ Know the ship construction features and systems that may be used to limit damage ♦ Strengthening for ice ♦ The criteria specified in SOLAS fire protection

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Unit code	Unit title	STCW competence
HW7A 48	Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance	♦ Requirements and codes for the construction of specialised vessels ♦ Maintain the vessel ♦ Properties and protection of materials ♦ Understand the range and application of materials and processes ♦ Know the properties and safe use of maintenance equipment and materials ♦ Dry-docking and survey preparation ♦ Dry-docking procedures ♦ Survey preparation
HW7C 48	Management of Vessel Operations	♦ Understand stability/stress diagrams and stress calculating equipment ♦ Know the planning and operational procedures for the stowage and securing of dry cargoes, stores and equipment ♦ Know the planning and operational procedures for handling oil, liquid and gas cargoes ♦ Know the planning and operational procedures for passenger operations plan and ensure safe loading, stowage, securing, care during the voyage and unloading ♦ Emergency planning
HW78 48	Shipmasters Law and Business	♦ Monitor and control compliance with legislative requirements and measures to ensure safety of life at sea and the protection of the marine environment ♦ Responsibilities under international maritime law ♦ Understand agreements and conventions ♦ Maintain safety and security of the ship's crew and passengers and the operational condition of LSA, FFA and other safety systems ♦ Drills, maintenance and procedures ♦ Know the drills, and their organisation, required to comply with current national and international legislation ♦ Know the operational maintenance requirements of FFA, LSA and other safety systems ♦ ISM code, MLC, emergency planning ♦ Understand safety management and quality assurance legislation, codes and guidance ♦ Application of safety management systems ♦ UK and international legislation ♦ Understand the relationship between law, codes and other forms of guidance ♦ Understand the principles of UK and international legislation

Unit code	Unit title	STCW competence
HW78 48	Shipmasters Law and Business (cont)	♦ Understand and apply relevant international regulations, codes and standards concerning the safe handling, stowage, securing and transport of cargoes
HW79 48	Shipboard Management	♦ Organise and manage the crew ♦ Personnel and resource management ♦ Understand personnel management theory ♦ Understand application of management theory and skills ♦ Understand budgetary control appreciate the value of drills and other training to cope with emergencies
HW7J 48	Marine Engineering Systems	♦ Operate remote controls of propulsion plant and engineering systems and services ♦ Describe diesel plant ♦ Describe steam turbine plant ♦ Describe the function and operational limitations of the ship's machinery ♦ Understand marine engineering terms ♦ Understand the concepts of control systems ♦ Understand the need for and describe the function and operation of data loggers, displays and other sources of information ♦ Describe the principles of bridge control ♦ Understand the need to ensure the adequacy of an engineering watch ♦ Understand factors affecting fuel consumption ♦ Know the components of steering systems, and their function
HW7E 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2	Knowledge and skills from ♦ *Marine Passage Planning* ♦ *Management of Bridge Operations* ♦ *Applied Marine Meteorology* to enable the students to apply their acquired skills in each scenario involving actions required on the bridge of a ship
HW7F 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3	Knowledge and skills from ♦ *Ship Stability: Theory and Practice* ♦ *Management of Vessel Operations* ♦ *Shipmasters Law and Business* to enable the students to apply their acquired skills in each scenario involving ship stability, cargo and on-board management

5.3 Mapping of Core Skills development opportunities across the qualifications

S = Core Skills are signposted within the Unit
E = Core Skills or Core Skills component are embedded within the Unit and automatically certificated
CT = Critical thinking; P&O = Planning & Organisation; R&E = Review & Evaluation; WWO = Working with Others

Unit no	Unit name	Written Comms		Oral Comms	Using Graphical Info	Using Number	Using IT	Problem Solving – C T	Problem Solving – P & O	Problem Solving – R & E	WWO
		Read	Write								
HW6M 48	Celestial Navigation	5 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	
HW6P 47	Chartwork and Tides	5 S	5 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S			5 S
HW6E 47	Navigational Mathematics and Science					6 S		6 S			
HW6R 47	Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	5 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	5 S	5 S			5 S	
HW6G 47	Bridge Watchkeeping	5 S	5 S	6 S	5 S		5 S	5 S	5 S	5 S	5 S
HW6H 47	Marine Cargo Operations	5 S	5 S	5 S	4 S	4 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW6J 47	Ship Stability: An Introduction	5 S	5 S		6 S	6 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	
HW6K 47	Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	5 S		5 S	6 S		5 S			5 S	

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Unit no	Unit name	Written Comms		Oral Comms	Using Graphical Info	Using Number	Using IT	Problem Solving – C T	Problem Solving – P & O	Problem Solving – R & E	WWO
		Read	Write								
HW72 47	Marine Emergency Response and Communication	5 S	5 S	6 S	4 S	4 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW73 47	Marine Law and Management: An Introduction	5 S	5 S	6 S				5 S	5 S	5 S	6 S
HP6L 47	Information Technology: Applications 1						6 E				
HW74 48	Marine Passage Planning	6 S	6 S		6 S	6 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW75 48	Management of Bridge Operations	6 S	6 S		6 S	6 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW76 48	Applied Marine Meteorology	5 S	5 S		6 S		5 S	6 S		6 S	
HW77 48	Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application	6 S	6 S		6 S	6 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	
HW7A 48	Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance	5 S	6 S		5 S		5 S			5 S	
HW7C 48	Management of Vessel Operations	6 S	6 S		6 S		5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW78 48	Shipmasters Law and Business	6 S	6 S	6 S			5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW79 48	Shipboard Management	6 S	6 S	6 S			5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW7J 48	Marine Engineering Systems	5 S	6 S		5 S	5 S	5 S	5 S	5 S	5 S	5 S

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Unit no	Unit name	Written Comms		Oral Comms	Using Graphical Info	Using Number	Using IT	Problem Solving – C T	Problem Solving – P & O	Problem Solving – R & E	WWO
HW6N 47	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1	5 S	5 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	5 S
HW7E 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2	6 S	6 S		6 S	6 S	5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S
HW7F 48	Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3	6 S	6 S		6 S		5 S	6 S	6 S	6 S	6 S

Note: There are no Core Skills embedded in graded units.

5.4 Assessment strategy for the qualifications

An appropriate assessment strategy is in place for both the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science. This strategy had to reflect the needs of the award with regards to STCW and therefore MCA certification.

Unit	**Assessment**				
	Outcome 1	**Outcome 2**	**Outcome 3**	**Outcome 4**	**Outcome 5**
Celestial Navigation	Practical demonstration and questioning. Pass/Fail.	O2, 3 and 4 combined into an examination not exceeding three hours — 65% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.			
Chartwork and Tides	O1, 2, 3 and 4 combined examination and should not exceed 3 hours— 65% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Navigational Mathematics and Science	O1, 2 and 3 combined examination and should not exceed two hours — O1 — 65% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria; O2, 3 50%.				
Marine Meteorology: An Introduction	O1/2/3/4 combined examination and should not exceed two hours — 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Bridge Watchkeeping	O1, 2 and 3 — multi choice/short answer test — 65% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Marine Cargo Operations	O1/2/3 /4 combined examination and should not exceed three hours — 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Ship Stability: An Introduction	O1/2 two hour examination O3/4 — two hour examination — 60% Pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Naval Architecture: Ship Construction	O1, 2, and 3 combined examination and should not exceed three hours — 50% Pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Nautical Science: Graded Unit 1	As detailed in unit specification with grades A to C.				
Marine Emergency Response and Communication	O1/2 — short answer questions — 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria. Outcome 3 Standard Signals examination.				

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Unit	Assessment				
	Outcome 1	**Outcome 2**	**Outcome 3**	**Outcome 4**	**Outcome 5**
Marine Law and Management: An Introduction	O1/2/3 short answer questions — 50% pass mark required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Marine Passage Planning	O1/2/4 can be course work/assignment and O 3/5 2-hour exam: pass mark for both 65% required by MCA/ MNTB approvals criteria.				
Management of Bridge Operations	O1 65% pass mark required by MCA/ MNTB approvals criteria. O2/3 50% pass mark.				
Applied Marine Meteorology	O1/2/3/4 short answer questions, practical forecasting exercise — 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application	O1/2/3 — two and a half hour examination — 60% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria				
Marine Vessels: Structures and Maintenance	O1/2 and 3 — two-hour examination — 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria				
Management of Vessel Operations	O1 or 2 and 4 — Course work/cargo loading assignment or extended response questions — 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria. O 2 or 1 and 3 — two hour examination of short answer questions 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Shipmasters Law and Business	O1, 2 and 3 may be assessed by individual closed-book examinations or by short answer questions. 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria				
Shipboard Management	O1, 2 and 3 may be assessed by individual closed-book examinations or by short answer questions. 50% pass required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria				
Marine Engineering Systems	O1/2/3 can be assessed by shot answer questions — two hour or multiple-choice with explanation/definition/description choice questions one hour. 60% pass mark required by MCA/MNTB approvals criteria.				
Nautical Science: Graded Unit 2	As detailed in unit specification with grades A to C.				
Nautical Science: Graded Unit 3	As detailed in unit specification with grades A to C.				

6 Guidance on approaches to delivery and assessment

All tutors must ensure that they deliver this course using teaching methods that engage students in 'active learning' to encourage them to participate in the learning activities set. All SQA qualifications are designed to enable students to develop their knowledge and skills and then they are required to apply this new knowledge/skill to a new situation. Criterion-referenced assessments assume that all parties are fully informed of the criteria that students must achieve and the assessment conditions under which the students carry out the assessment activity.

To ensure that students are fully prepared it is essential that tutors provide as many opportunities as possible for students to be actively engaged throughout the learning process. Students should:

- be fully informed of the criteria they must achieve
- be offered a range of learning activities to research, analyse and apply new knowledge/skills to new situations
- be offered opportunities to experience the type of activity that they will be required to carry out as part of the summative assessment
- critically evaluate their personal contribution and to receive feedback from the tutor on how to enhance their understanding

Tutors should develop a learning, teaching and assessment plan for each unit within the course and provide activities that students should undertake.

Each unit should have a master folder containing the unit specification, teaching materials, the teaching and assessment plan along with assessment exemplars and re-assessments. The teaching materials and teaching plan should provide details of activities that students should undertake. Typically, they include activities such as small group/whole class discussion, group problem solving, eg analysing a case study and offering solutions based on the new learning.

For further information about different assessment activities — whether they be for formative or summative purposes, tutors may wish to complete the new online course: Produce SQA Advanced assessments for successful prior verification or read the SQA *Guide to Assessment*.

The following is a list of learning activities but it is not exhaustive:

- Lectures
- Tutorials
- Study packs
- Problem based scenarios
- Case studies
- Group/team work
- Online materials
- IT based teaching materials
- Projects
- Quizzes
- Research and presentation of findings to fellow students
- Role play
- Short response questions, multiple choice questions
- Create questions for other students (with answers), etc

Tutors should consider the nature of the assessment method as well as the assessment content when planning learning activities so that students are appropriately prepared. It is the tutor's responsibility to explain to students what is required of them and then to direct, encourage, co-ordinate and support them to complete the activity. It is also the tutor's responsibility to ensure the resources needed are available. Materials should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure they are still relevant.

Some activities could require students to work in pairs or small groups to discuss issues or to solve a given problem. Other activities could require the student to undertake some independent research outside the class and to bring their findings to the next lesson and present this to the class in a report or presentation format. Some units will require the student to undertake independent reading and students should be prepared to discuss key issues within the classroom as organised and led by the tutor.

In practical skills classes, students should be directed to use practice exercises to enable them to become proficient. Tutors may demonstrate the skill first and then coach the students individually when unsure. In terms of developing independent learners, in the case of information technology, students should be encouraged to independently use the online Help facilities within applications. It should be noted that even in practical classes, students should be encouraged to work in small groups and to support one another as part of the learning process — by explaining to another, a student should reformulate and communicate the learning point thus deepening their learning.

When undertaking group work, students should be encouraged/directed to work with different groups each time they attempt a new task so that they get to know and work with a wide range of individuals. The groups should be given clear task activities. Tutors should note the various roles assigned to the group members and they should set a time limit for the completion of the task.

At the end of each activity tutors should make time to receive feedback from each group so that they can assess knowledge and understanding and use the feedback session to repeat important key points and to clear up any misunderstandings. Tutors must also provide feedback to students on their performance in activities, etc.

Where centres have access to electronic resources such as virtual learning environments, blogs, wikis, etc — tutors/lecturers are encouraged to use these collaborative tools in the learning process.

Re-assessment

Formative assessment should be used throughout the delivery of units to reinforce learning, build learners' confidence and prepare them for summative assessment.

Re-assessment should operate in accordance with a centre's assessment policy and the professional judgement of the assessor. SQA advises that there should normally be at least one re-assessment opportunity.

Assessment instrument used for re-assessment must be substantially different from the assessment instruments used previously.

Please refer to SQA's *Guide to Assessment and Quality Assurance for Colleges of Further Education*, **www.sqa.org.uk**.

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Content and context

The SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma in Nautical Science are designed to allow learners to develop appropriate technical and practical skills, which will meet the requirements of employers, prepare learners for the level of responsibility on board ship and allow future progression to higher rank within the industry or to enter higher education.

It is not possible to quantify such technical and practice skills in exact detail. However, the best way to prepare learners to meet the changing technical and practical requirements of the modern maritime industry is to ensure learners have a solid foundation of theory and practice upon which they can build new knowledge, understanding and skills.

Transferable skills and Core Skills have been built into the awards to allow easy progression between SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma and then onto higher education. Information technology has been included into the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science in order to meet the requirements of ship owners.

Open learning

All nautical science units within these group awards could be delivered by open or distance learning. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure sufficiency and authenticity of learner evidence. Arrangements would have to be made to ensure that closed-book assessments were conducted under supervision.

Centres should be aware that if the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma are used to deliver the underpinning knowledge required for STCW ’78 as amended, leading to the award of a UK Certificate of Competency via open/distance learning, then their programmes may require further approval by the Maritime and Coast Guard agency.

6.1 Sequencing/integration of units

When centres are planning the delivery of the SQA Advanced Certificate or SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science, the following guidance is worthy of note:

SQA Advanced Certificate

Year 1

All units at SCQF level 7 should be delivered prior the units at SCQF level 8, preferably in year 1 of the SQA Advanced Diploma by centres wishing to gain MNTB approval. The exception to this is unit *Celestial Navigation*. This should be included in the group of units delivered in year 1 as it is a requirement for the award of an Officer of the Watch Certificate of Competency under STCW ’78 as amended.

It should also be noted that the unit *Navigational Mathematics and Science* should be delivered either before or in conjunction with the *Celestial Navigation* unit. *Navigational Mathematics* contains all the basic mathematical knowledge and concepts required for completion of *Celestial Navigation*. The contents of the units complement each other and a firm understanding of the navigational concepts in *Navigational Mathematics* should enable learners to pick up the theoretical concepts of *Celestial Navigation* much more quickly.

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

Prior to undertaking Graded Unit 1, it is recommended that learners have completed or are nearing completion of the following units:

- *Ship Stability: An Introduction*
- *Bridge Watchkeeping*
- *Marine Cargo Operations*
- *Chartwork and Tides*
- *Celestial Navigation*
- *Navigational Mathematics and Science*

SQA Advanced Diploma

Year 2

Centres are strongly recommended to deliver the following units in conjunction with one another. The content of all three are complementary to each other and each will have some common teaching strands, eg visibility/ice/severe weather and its effect on both passage planning and bridge manning and routines:

- *Applied Marine Meteorology*
- *Marine Passage Planning*
- *Management of Bridge Operations*

Likewise, the following units are complementary to each other and would benefit from being delivered in conjunction with one another.

- *Management of Vessel Operations*
- *Shipmasters Law and Business*
- *Ship Stability: Theory and Practical Application*

Prior to undertaking to Graded Unit 2, it is recommended that learners have completed or are nearing completion of the following units:

- *Marine Passage Planning*
- *Management of Bridge Operations*
- *Applied Marine Meteorology*

Prior to undertaking to Graded Unit 3, it is recommended that learners have completed or are nearing completion of the following units:

- *Ship Stability: Theory and Practice*
- *Management of Vessel Operations*
- *Shipmasters Law and Business*

Management of graded units

The timing of the delivery of graded units will vary from centre to centre and depending on the group taking the award will most likely be focused on the second half of the academic year towards the end of a phase.

It is recommended that learners study the key contributing SQA Advanced units prior to sitting the graded unit examinations.

However, it is in the best interest of learners to introduce the concept of graded units as early as possible. It is best practice and in the best interest of learners for course teams to take responsibility for the graded units and to introduce the relevance of the individual nautical science units to the graded units.

This should include keeping learners advised of where each Nautical Science unit lies in relation to the graded units, including the different knowledge and skills that the graded units integrate. Tutors can aid this by referring to and comparison with practical solutions to problems likely to be encountered whilst on a ship.

Dates for graded unit examinations should be set at the start of each course/phase and these dates should be clearly indicated to learners.

Support for learners

All tutors delivering on a course have a collective responsibility to ensure that all students are supported in a manner that meets their individual needs as they progress through the course.

Each individual tutor has a role to monitor an individual student's understanding and progress at unit level and feed comments to the course team. At individual unit level, tutors may wish to use a range of mechanisms to support students and to establish if students are progressing well on the course.

6.2 Recognition of prior learning

SQA recognises that learners gain knowledge and skills acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning contexts.

In some instances, a full group award may be achieved through the recognition of prior learning. However, it is unlikely that a learner would have the appropriate prior learning and experience to meet all the requirements of a full group award.

The recognition of prior learning may **not** be used as a method of assessing in the following types of units and assessments:

- SQA Advanced Graded Units
- Course and/or external assessments
- Other integrative assessment units (which may or not be graded)
- Certain types of assessment instruments where the standard may be compromised by not using the same assessment method outlined in the unit
- Where there is an existing requirement for a licence to practice
- Where there are specific health and safety requirements
- Where there are regulatory, professional or other statutory requirements
- Where otherwise specified in an assessment strategy

More information and guidance on the *Recognition of Prior Learning* (RPL) may be found on our website **www.sqa.org.uk**.

The following sub-sections outline how existing SQA unit(s) may contribute to this group award. Additionally, they also outline how this group award may be recognised for professional and articulation purposes.

6.2.1 Articulation and/or progression

Articulation arrangements exist between a number of Scottish, UK and international universities where SQA Advanced Certificates and Diplomas will be accepted as advanced entry to either the second or third year of a related degree programme. Depending on the specific degree programme, certain units may be required as part of the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma. The optional section of the framework is sufficiently broad to ensure that centres are able to comply with reasonable articulation requests. A high proportion of our candidates have articulated to degree programmes and successfully completed them.

Learners who achieve the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science may be eligible to apply for many marine related degree programmes offered by a variety of higher education institutions.

Learners who achieve the SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science as a means of gaining a UK MCA 'Officer of the Watch' Unlimited Certificate, will be eligible to progress to complete the full SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science at Chief Mate Unlimited level once they have gained the relevant industrial experience specified by the MCA.

Learners who wish to change career and work ashore may, depending on academic performance in the SQA Advanced Certificate, be allowed to proceed directly onto Part 2 of the SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science. These learners whilst eligible for Certification at OOW level would not be able to use SQA Advanced Diploma Part 2 as a route to Certification at Chief Mate level without first gaining the relevant industrial experience.

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science aim to equip learners with the skills to gain employment at both the operational and management level in the following vocational areas:

- Ship management
- Port and harbour operations
- Freight and transportation operations
- Marine insurance industry
- Ship broking and chartering
- The wider maritime safety industry, eg safety equipment manufacturers
- Meteorological services, pollution prevention services, etc

6.2.2 Professional recognition

SQA Advanced Certificates and Diplomas are recognised by many professional bodies. Candidates achieving an SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma may meet the professional body entry requirements. Candidates may also gain partial and full exemptions to professional body exams.

Centres wishing to use the SQA Advanced Certificate/Diploma in Nautical Science as a vehicle for delivering the underpinning knowledge required for MNTB approved cadet training programme for MCA certification should consider contacting the Merchant Navy training board when designing programmes as these will be subject to MNTB approval.

Learners who require an Officer of the Watch Certificate of Competency will require the following units over and above the SQA Advanced Certificate 96 SCQF credits:

- *Marine Emergency Response and Communication*
- *Marine Law and Management: An Introduction*

6.3 Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this group award. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the evidence requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at **www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment**.

6.4 Support materials

There are no ASPs available for this award.

6.5 Resource requirements

Many units within these group awards require a practical element to be delivered. Therefore, centres must have access to the following equipment:

- Appropriate training charts and materials for chart work
- Suitable desk space for chart work
- Sufficient number of computers with relevant software
- Ship loading computer software
- Staff delivering units in these group awards should have a minimum of an SQA Advanced Diploma in a subject appropriate to the unit being delivered or related industrial experience
- Appropriate teaching and learning resources for different learning styles, for example a well-stocked library of books, videos and journals
- Use of bridge and engine room simulators may enhance the students' learning experience

7 General information for centres

Equality and inclusion

The unit specifications making up this group award have been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners will be considered when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. Further advice can be found on our website **www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements**.

Internal and external verification

All assessments used within this/these qualification(s) should be internally verified, using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

All graded unit assessments may be prior verified by SQA before using as assessment instrument.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in SQA's *Guide to Assessment* **(www.sqa.org.uk/GuideToAssessment)**.

8 Glossary of terms

Embedded Core Skills: is where the assessment evidence for the unit also includes full evidence for complete Core Skill or Core Skill components. A learner successfully completing the unit will be automatically certificated for the Core Skill. (This depends on the unit having been successfully audited and validated for Core Skills certification.)

Finish date: The end of a group award's lapsing period is known as the finish date. After the finish date, the group award will no longer be live and the following applies:

- learners may not be entered for the group award
- the group award will continue to exist only as an archive record on SQA Connect

Graded unit: Graded units assess learners' ability to integrate what they have learned while working towards the units of the group award. Their purpose is to add value to the group award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage learners to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

Lapsing date: When a group award is entered its lapsing period, the following will apply:

- the group award will be deleted from the relevant catalogue
- the group award specification will remain until the qualification reaches its finish date at which point it will be removed from SQA's website and archived
- no new centres may be approved to offer the group award
- centres should only enter learners whom they expect to complete the group award during the defined lapsing period

SQA credit value: The credit value allocated to a unit gives an indication of the contribution the unit makes to an SQA group award. An SQA Credit value of 1 given to an SQA unit represents approximately 40 hours of programmed learning, teaching and assessment.

SCQF: The Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework (SCQF) provides the national common framework for describing all relevant programmes of learning and qualifications in Scotland. SCQF terminology is used throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF visit the SCQF website at **www.scqf.org.uk**.

SCQF credit points: SCQF credit points provide a means of describing and comparing the amount of learning that is required to complete a qualification at a given level of the Framework. One National Unit credit is equivalent to 6 SCQF credit points. One National Unit credit at Advanced Higher and one SQA Credit (irrespective of level) is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points.

SCQF levels: The level a qualification is assigned within the framework is an indication of how hard it is to achieve. The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. SQA Advanced Certificates and SQA Advanced Diplomas are available at SCQF levels 7 and 8 respectively. SQA Advanced Units will normally be at levels 6–9 and graded units will be at level 7 and 8. National Qualification Group Awards are available at SCQF levels 2–6 and will normally be made up of National Units which are available from SCQF levels 2–7.

Subject unit: Subject units contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.

Signposted Core Skills: refers to opportunities to develop Core Skills arise in learning and teaching but are not automatically certificated.

MCA: Maritime and Coastguard Agency is the UK Administration (Regulatory body) responsible to implement IMO regulations ratified by UK Government.

MNTB: Merchant Navy Training Board is the professional body which approves all cadet training programmes in the UK.

STCW: Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping which is the IMO code to standardise merchant navy certification internationally.

History of changes

It is anticipated that changes will take place during the life of the qualification and this section will record these changes. Centres are advised to check SQA Connect to confirm they are using the up to date qualification structure.

NOTE: Where a unit is revised by another unit:

- No new centres may be approved to offer the unit which has been revised.
- Centres should only enter learners for the unit which has been revised where they are expected to complete the unit before its finish date.

Version number	Description	Date
04	Updated Introduction section	22/06/23
03	Further clarification made to combining outcomes and examination length in the Assessment Strategy section	21/02/19
02	Amendments made to clarify Assessment Strategy for the qualification	12/10/18

Acknowledgement

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of SQA Advanced Qualifications.

Further information

Call SQA's Customer Contact Centre on 44 (0) 141 500 5030 or 0345 279 1000. Alternatively, complete our Centre Feedback Form.

9 General information for learners

This section will help you decide whether this is the qualification for you by explaining what the qualification is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the qualification and opportunities for further learning and employment.

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science are specifically designed to equip you to enter employment in the Merchant Navy in the capacity of a Deck Officer.

The SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma in Nautical Science have been designed as a component of a Merchant Navy Deck Officer training scheme. This five or more-phase training scheme consists of alternating college and sea phases. The duration of the training scheme is approximately three years. A minimum of 12 months of the training will take place at sea.

If you wish to go to sea you should be aware that you must meet the medical standards laid down by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. Please refer to MSN 1822 (correct at the time of writing this GA specification).

Entry to this qualification is at the discretion of the centre; however, you would benefit from having attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- National Certificate in Shipping and Marine Operations (with Deck subject options) (SCQF level 6)
- At least two Higher level (SCQF level 6) passes (grade C or above) of which one should be Mathematics or a physical science and National 5 English at SCQF level 5 or better.

Where non-UK qualifications are used to measure suitable entry level, then you would have equivalent qualifications to the above, including English language at the appropriate level.

Whilst the sea service articulated is an integral element of the certification to MCA Certificate of Competency, it does not form part of the SQA Advanced award. For MCA certification sea service is required.

They have also been designed to enable you to develop the skills required to gain employment within the wider UK maritime sector including shore based positions.

Both the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science aim to develop your practical, interpersonal and social skills which have been identified in our research as important requirements for a career in the maritime sector.

There are opportunities to develop Core Skills to SCQF level 6 within the units (except graded units as these are exams) of this group award. For details, please refer to mapping of core skills within section 5.

Assessments within this group award may include written/oral exams, coursework or portfolio evidence depending on assessment strategy of the centres delivering this qualification. Assessment guidelines are available within each unit specification which are freely available from SQA's website. Pass mark required for each unit to obtain MCA certificate of competency is given in section 5.4.

Centres delivering these qualifications for merchant navy certificate of competency must obtain approval from MCA and MNTB.

SQA Advanced Certificate and Diploma

The structure of the awards

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science are designed to equip you with the knowledge, understanding and skills to allow you to gain employment in the maritime sector, gaining professional qualifications en route or to progress to further studies or degree programmes.

The SQA Advanced Certificate in Nautical Science is made up of 12 SQA credits (96 SCQF points), all of which are mandatory. The award with two additional units of *Marine Law and Management*: *An Introduction* and *Marine Emergency Response and Communication* provides you with all the underpinning knowledge that is required for obtaining a Certificate of Competency at the operational level, ie at Officer of the Watch level.

The SQA Advanced Diploma is made up of 30 SQA credits (240 SCQF points). In addition to the topics covered in the SQA Advanced Certificate, the mandatory section also covers areas such as, passage planning, bridge and vessel operations, ship stability and structure and shipmasters' business and management skills. To achieve the award, you will need to complete the 30 mandatory SQA credits.

SQA Advanced Certificate includes a mandatory graded unit (Graded Unit 1) and Graded Units 2 and 3 are required to complete the SQA Advanced Diploma. These units are designed to assess your ability to retain and integrate the knowledge and skills gained in the award and to grade your achievement.

There are three grades:

A if you achieve 70% or over;
B if you achieve between 60% and 69% and
C if you achieve between 50% and 59%.

For both the SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma the assessment instrument for the graded unit takes the form of an examination.

Possible employment pathways

The SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma in Nautical Science aim to equip you with the skills to gain employment at both the operational and management level in the following vocational areas:

- Ship management
- Port and harbour operations
- Freight and transportation operations
- Marine insurance industry
- Ship broking and chartering
- The wider maritime safety industry, eg safety equipment manufacturers, meteorological services, pollution prevention services

Progression to university

The SQA Advanced Nautical Science awards offer you a wide range of articulation routes to higher education. Depending on the HE institution, learners with SQA Advanced Certificate and SQA Advanced Diploma awards can apply for entry to degree programmes.

You should approach individual centres regarding possible articulation options.