

**GENERAL PROGRAMME
OUTLINE
FOR SECOND-CYCLE STUDIES
IN MARITIME AFFAIRS
LEADING TO THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE,
88 European Credits**

Approved by the Curriculum & Assessment Committee
16 September 2020

Valid from 16 September 2020

GENERAL PROGRAMME OUTLINE FOR SECOND-CYCLE STUDIES IN MARITIME AFFAIRS, 88 EUROPEAN CREDITS

This General Programme Outline equates directly to the document known as a “Programme Syllabus” within the Swedish system.

This General Programme Outline was confirmed by the Curriculum and Assessment Committee on 16 September 2020, to be valid from that date.

1. Purpose

WMU’s MSc programme emphasizes the practical application of expertise. It offers both an overview of the complex, inter-related maritime and ocean fields, as well as the opportunity to specialize. The programme is designed to respond directly to the real needs of the maritime industry, and to equip graduates with the skills needed today and in the future. It is academically challenging and professionally oriented, and is designed for ambitious, mid-career maritime professionals. It provides a particularly strong foundation for those intending to move into either a national or an international career in public administration of maritime affairs, private sector shipping business, ocean governance or academia. The programme is informed throughout by the research conducted by the members of the faculty.

2. Degree Awarded

The programme leads to the Degree of Master of Science in Maritime Affairs (88 or 60 credits) with a specialisation in one of seven areas: Maritime Education & Training; Maritime Energy Management; Maritime Law & Policy; Maritime Safety & Environmental Administration; Ocean Sustainability, Governance & Management; Port Management; Shipping Management & Logistics.

3. Entrance Requirements

3.1 General Entrance Requirements

The general entrance requirements for the standard MSc programme are:

- a Bachelor’s degree in a relevant discipline, or an equivalent university qualification, from a recognized university
- or
- the highest grade certificate of competency for unrestricted service as master mariner or chief engineer, or equivalent maritime qualifications
- and
- substantial, directly relevant professional experience
- competence in English language, demonstrated by an internationally recognised standard test
- IT competence

In addition to meeting the requirements for the standard programme, applicants for advanced standing to join the accelerated programme must demonstrate that they have already covered the content of the first term of the standard programme. The additional qualifications required are:

- a postgraduate qualification in an area directly relevant to the specialization which the student intends to follow
- senior level, directly relevant professional experience
- proficiency in English with a good score in the writing skills section of the test
- excellent IT skills

3.2 Specific Entrance Requirements

The seven specializations within the MSc have subject-specific entrance requirements which apply to both the standard and the accelerated programme.

- Maritime Education & Training: at least a first degree in the social sciences (such as educational sciences, psychology, sociology, management, law, human resource management, information systems) or the highest-level Certificate of Competency in maritime operations, or equivalent
- Maritime Energy Management: at least a first degree in an engineering discipline (in particular naval architecture, marine engineering, navigation sciences and mechanical engineering, or other engineering disciplines with work experience in the maritime field), or at least a first degree in subjects such as maritime economics, business, management or information sciences (with work experience in the maritime field) or the equivalent
- Maritime Law & Policy: at least a first degree in law, public administration, business, management, history, the humanities or the equivalent
- Maritime Safety & Environmental Administration: at least a first degree in naval architecture, navigation sciences, marine engineering, appropriate naval/coast guard qualification, engineering, safety science, occupational health & safety, environmental management, administration or public management, law, or the highest-level Certificate of Competency in maritime operations, or the equivalent
- Ocean Sustainability, Governance & Management: at least a first degree in maritime science, ocean studies, law, management, geography, or the equivalent
- Port Management: at least a first degree in economics, business, management, mathematics, statistics, logistics, industrial engineering or the equivalent
- Shipping Management & Logistics: at least a first degree in economics, business, management, mathematics, statistics, logistics or the equivalent

4. Extent

The Master of Science in Maritime Affairs degree is awarded after a student completes the requirements of the programme.

4.1 The Standard MSc

The standard, 14-month MSc consists of 80 degree-bearing credits plus 8 non-grade bearing credits and offers:

- 20 grade-bearing credits plus four pass/fail credits of Foundation Studies
- 40 credits plus 5 pass/fail credits of Specialization Studies

and

- a 20 credit dissertation.

4.2 The Accelerated MSc

The accelerated, 10-month MSc consists of 60 degree-bearing credits plus 4 non-grade bearing credits and offers:

- 40 credits plus 4 pass/fail credits of Specialization Studies

and

- a 20 credit dissertation.

5. Intended learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the programme the student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate an overview knowledge and understanding in Maritime Affairs, as well as specific knowledge in one of the following specialisations: Maritime Education & Training; Maritime Energy Management; Maritime Law & Policy; Maritime Safety & Environmental Protection; Ocean Sustainability, Governance & Management; Port Management; or Shipping Management & Logistics
- demonstrate insight into current research and development work as well as specialised methodological knowledge in the subject areas of the chosen specialisation
- exhibit deep knowledge and understanding of International Maritime Organization (IMO) conventions and regulations, and the United Nations sustainable development goals (UN SDGs).

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to integrate knowledge and analyse, assess and deal with complex maritime and ocean phenomena, issues and situations even with limited information
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues autonomously as well as to plan and undertake, using appropriate methods, advanced tasks within predetermined time frames
- communicate confidently and clearly in English in a professional context through speech and writing to report clearly and discuss conclusions and the knowledge and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different audiences
- develop expert leadership, problem-solving and critical analysis skills, while operating and interacting in an international and multi-cultural environment
- apply skills required for participation in research and development work, to contribute to the sustainable development of the maritime industry
- exhibit the possession of interdisciplinary maritime knowledge necessary to contribute to national and international capacity building and to fulfil their national and international responsibilities for effective maritime development.

Judgement and approach

- make assessments and evaluations within the fields of maritime and ocean affairs that are informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical issues and also to demonstrate awareness of ethical aspects of research and development work
- work effectively, both independently and in groups, to integrate complex knowledge from different aspects of the maritime and ocean fields
- make full use of a maritime network that spans the globe and crosses all areas of maritime activity while gaining insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used
- develop the ability to identify the personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for continuous learning.

Research

- carry out an independent maritime or ocean research project
- communicate the results of this independent work by successfully completing an MSc dissertation of 20 EC.

6. Programme Content and Structure

The standard MSc programme runs from each September until October/ November of the following year. The accelerated programme runs from January each year to October/November of the same year.

The University publishes an Academic Handbook each year for admission in the following year. The Handbook contains detailed information about the subjects that make up the Foundation Term (September to December each year; not followed by students enrolled on the accelerated programme); the Specialisation term (January to June of the following year); and dissertation research (January to October).

7. Evaluation of the Programme by Students

Master of Science students are asked to evaluate each part of the programme every year, in a process established by the Academic Council. These evaluations are completely anonymous, and are submitted to the Quality Assurance Committee, in order that recommendations may be made to the Doctoral Studies Committee, the Curriculum & Assessment Committee and Academic Council, as appropriate.