

Higher National Certificate (HNC)/FdSc Operational Yacht Science



University

This programme is designed for those who aspire to be the future crew bosuns officers and captains of the superyacht sector. It is designed to run alongside relevant Royal Yachting Association (RYA) and Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) awards, to give deeper knowledge and understanding of the topics, and to give you more choice and an edge for your future career choices. It is run in partnership with UKSA in Cowes, Isle of Wight, as part of their Professional Yacht Cadetship.

The cadetship requires a minimum of three years commitment to training, with phases of study on the Isle of Wight as well as periods of working onboard superyachts around the world. You will be required to make a Professional Yacht Cadetship application to UKSA, followed by a two day selection in Cowes, Isle of Wight.

On successful completion of the one year HNC, you will gain direct entry onto the second year of the programme, allowing you to gain an FdSc Operational Yacht Science qualification.

This programme does not follow the traditional academic year as it is designed around the superyacht season. It is studied in intensive blocks of time at UKSA and supported through Moodle (our virtual learning platform). There are additional costs for this programme to cover the cost of the Cadetship. You may be able to get help with this, contact us for more information. Time spent working on board yachts in between phases of study at UKSA are fully paid periods of employment. Earning on average €2,000 a month (Deckhand).

Download FdSc Operational Yacht Science Specification at <https://www.cornwall.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/FdSc-Operational-Yacht-Science-Programme-Specification-2024-25.pdf>

Download HNC Operational Science Specification at <https://www.cornwall.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/HNC-Operational-Yacht-Science-Programme-Specification-2024-25.pdf>

BTEC Higher Nationals are internationally-recognised higher education qualifications at level 4 and 5 that are equivalent to the first and second years of a university degree, providing progression to both diversity and employment.



**Find out more and
apply online**



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Scan the QR Code for full course description, assessment and progression options from this course

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

48 UCAS points from AS and A-Levels (at least 32 points must be at A2-level) or relevant level 3 qualification, ie BTEC National Diploma / BTEC Extended Diploma - PPP Grades required (specific unit grades may be requested). Access to HE Diplomas in a relevant subject - 45 credits at level 3 (specific unit grades may be requested). Plus GCSEs at grade C/grade 4 or above in English Language, Science and Mathematics: alternatives at Level 2 may be considered. Mature applicants with relevant experience but without the stated qualifications will be considered individually and are encouraged to apply.



LOCATION & NEXT START DATE(S)

Falmouth Marine School - 30 August 2026



LEVEL
Level 4

DURATION
1 Year

ATTENDANCE
Full-time

FEES
Tuition Fees: £4433.00

Fees apply to adults and HE students only. Only the most common fees scenario is shown. Actual fees may vary depending on your personal situation. Please contact us for further information. Courses listed on this website are indicative of the subject, nature and level of study. The College reserves the right to alter specific qualifications titles, awarding bodies and levels of qualification, which can change in year. Any cost may also vary, based on personal funding eligibility. The Cornwall College Group reserves the right to withdraw any course listed at any time.



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Explore Our Courses & Apprenticeships

Join us for a campus tour, meet our dedicated team, and get all your questions answered. Scan the QR code to register for our next Open Event or Taster Day.



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