



Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) training program

<http://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/>

One of the major aims of the NAS is to advance education in nautical/maritime archaeology at all levels. The NAS has developed a structured training program that is available to both divers and non-divers. The training program includes a one-day introductory course and four progressively more advanced assessed levels. The structure of the program enables participants to progressively improve their theoretical knowledge and develop the practical skills needed for participation in the field of nautical/maritime archaeology.

Participants can proceed through the levels at their own pace and there is no obligation to progress from one level to another.

The five parts in the training program include:

1. Introduction (One day)
2. Part 1 (Two days)
3. Part 2 (Two or more days)
4. Part 3 (100 contact hours on different subjects)
5. Part 4 (Twelve weeks work on three different sites) and mini-dissertation for publication

NAS courses

The one day '*NAS Introduction to foreshore and underwater archaeology*' provides an opportunity for participants to be introduced to the scope of the subject, site types, basic techniques, importance of the resource, associated responsibilities and the contribution they can make to nautical/maritime archaeology by becoming involved in projects.

The NAS Part I course titled, the '*Certificate in foreshore & underwater archaeology*' has the following aims:

- provide a wide-ranging introduction to the key aspects of archaeology, and its application underwater;
- to strike an enjoyable balance between theory and practical;
- introduce some of the fundamental survey techniques in the practical pool session, perhaps showing that its not as easy as it looks;
- to explain the need for the protection of the underwater heritage.

The NAS Part II course titled, the '*Intermediate Certificate in foreshore & underwater archaeology*' involves doing a short field survey that will be assessed against a number of criteria. Participants may choose to do their survey as part of an existing project, or to initiate their own. The main aims of the Part II project report are to:

- demonstrate that the participant has understood the survey techniques introduced during NAS Part I;
- present the work in the form of a short report;
- enable others to be able to identify the location, understand and use the report as a basis for further research.

Advanced Archaeological Certificate - NAS Part III

Training Objective:- 'NAS Part III is designed to help develop a competent field-worker who has the knowledge and practical skills to be an asset to any project, particularly those dealing with underwater and maritime sites.'

Syllabus:-To achieve NAS Part III, students will need to complete a series of courses covering a sufficiently broad area of the syllabus. The syllabus consists of 8 core subject groups:-

- 1. Research and Information Technology**
- 2. Archaeological Science**
- 3. Survey**
- 4. Excavation**
- 5. Recording**
- 6. Conservation**
- 7. Ancient Technology**
- 8. Managing Archaeology**

In each of these groups there are a number of courses, eg. **Survey** contains: Archaeological Search Methods, Geophysics, Position Fixing, Advanced Diving; **Managing Archaeology** contains: Managing Archaeological Projects, Achieving Publication, Environmental Impact Assessment, Popular Publications for Archaeology. Courses can be tailored to suit participants/regions/interests. Check the NAS website for other courses:

<http://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/content/part-3>

NAS Part III Assessment Criteria:-

- Participants must accumulate 100 points in 6 out of the 8 core subject groups. Points are awarded on the basis of a full point for each practical contact hour and ½ point for a theoretical contact hour. The points allocation is set according to assessment of the course syllabus.
- A maximum of 28 points can be obtained in 1 core subject.

- A minimum of 8 points must be obtained for each of the 6 chosen subject groups.
- Experience cannot be considered retrospectively.

NAS Part 4: Diploma in foreshore and underwater archaeology

The final element and the highest grade of the NAS Program is the Part 4 Diploma. The primary objective is to provide a certification level for a field-worker capable of supervising a work program on an archaeological site or running their own project. This level of the Training Program does not involve further formal teaching, however advice and guidance will be provided by the NAS Office at any stage. To complete the Part 4 Diploma, participants must fulfil the following requirements:

- to have completed the NAS Introduction Course and Part 1, 2 and 3 Certificates in Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology.
- to have worked on at least three different archaeological sites for a minimum of twelve weeks (60 days) in total since completing the Introduction Course.
- to have completed a project report to publication standard.