

# The Faculty of Maritime Sciences

## 1.1 Address

Hochschule Emden/Leer  
University of Applied Sciences Emden/Leer

Faculty of Maritime Sciences

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## 1.2 Academic Calendar

It is advisable to arrive at Leer a few weeks before the lectures start. You may register early and take part in a German language course. Furthermore, you will get accustomed to your life in Leer and meet other students.

Winter semester	September, 1 <sup>st</sup> – February, 28 <sup>th</sup>
Summer semester	March, 1 <sup>st</sup> – August 31 <sup>st</sup>

Lectures start on first Monday in March and on Monday following September, 20<sup>th</sup>, respectively. The lecturing periods are:

Winter semester	September, 20 <sup>th</sup> – January, 31 <sup>st</sup>
Summer semester	March, 1 <sup>st</sup> – July, 10 <sup>th</sup>

Final exams take place at the end of each lecturing period, usually within the last three weeks. The local examination committee will inform students at the beginning of each semester about the exam organisation.

Additional Holidays are around Christmas (2 weeks), Easter (2 days), May, 1<sup>st</sup> and October, 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## 1.3 General Description of the Faculty of Maritime Sciences at Leer

The University of Applied Sciences Emden/Leer is one of the legal successors of the Fachhochschule Oldenburg/Ostfriesland/Wilhelmshaven which was founded in 2000 by merging the three northwestern Universities of Applied Sciences at Emden and Leer, Oldenburg and Elsfleth as well as Wilhelmshaven. In 2009 this big university was split into two universities, one of them being our University of Applied Sciences.

A Maritime Institution at Leer was in fact founded in 1854 as a Maritime Academy and became part of the Ostfriesland University of Applied Sciences in 1973.

Today there are about 300 students studying at Leer in one of the two study courses listed below. The teaching staff consists of 10 professors and about 20 maritime lecturers.

The Faculty of Maritime Sciences at Leer offers the following study courses:

- Nautical Science and Maritime Transport (B.Sc.), with the certificate of competency for a Master Mariner according to STCW 2010 convention.
- Maritime Technology and Shipping Management (B.Sc.). with the branches of study "Ship and Environmental Engineering" or "Shipping Company Management and Logistics" or "Safety and Quality Management".
- Maritime Operations (M.Sc.), a joint master study programme between the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences and the University of Applied Sciences Emden/Leer.

The language of instruction in the Bachelor study programmes is usually German. There are, however, some modules presented in English regularly. The Master programme is entirely taught in English.

## **2. B.Sc. Nautical Science and Maritime Transport**

The objectives of this course are firstly to provide students with the qualifications necessary to find employment aboard ship as nautical officers or captains and, secondly, to provide students with the academic grade BSc. Besides the latter, graduates of the Faculty receive a certificate of competency, which allows them to sail as 3<sup>rd</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> officers on board merchant ships. After 2 or 3 years of experience as nautical officers, depending on the function actually carried out on board, the graduates are able to obtain their Master's licence from the German Maritime Administration without having to pass any further examinations. This illustrates the fact that, during their studies at the faculty, students acquire all the knowledge necessary for the shipmaster's profession as well as all competencies required to perform the function of an officer of the watch.

The STCW-Code defines and regulates the above-mentioned levels of knowledge and competence internationally. Utilising a quality management system, which is monitored and certified by the Germanischer Lloyd (GL), the department has to prove on a regular basis that the whole programme at least fulfils the requirements of the STCW-Code. Since the competencies defined by the STCW-Code are merely minimum standards, the learning objectives of most modules of the BSc programme go far beyond the STCW minimum requirements.

The operation of a merchant ship calls for a large variety of skills on the part of the nautical expert. They range from the capacity to efficiently utilise and maintain complex technical systems to the ability to lead people as well as the capability to cope with crisis situations, where there is no or only little external assistance available. Human failure in ship operation can lead to serious economic losses and have potentially catastrophic effects on the safety of crews, passengers, third parties and the marine environment. Therefore the job of ship's officer and master involves an exceptional degree of personal responsibility. To prepare its graduates for these high demands within the maritime industry the faculty puts a lot of effort into helping students to develop problem-solving, communication and team working skills. Proficiency in these skills also assists graduates who no longer wish to go to sea in obtaining well paid shore based employment (e.g. superintendent, surveyor, pilot).

Since the maritime industry is highly internationalised, it is an important objective of the Faculty of Maritime Studies to not only provide students with excellent English language skills but also to improve their intercultural awareness and their ability to gain access to foreign cultures. The Faculty tries to reach these objectives by offering lectures in English and by supporting students in completing part of their studies abroad. In this respect the Faculty features a European network of partner institutions (located e.g. in Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Latvia, Norway, Spain) for students to choose from. Students can also choose from a variety of overseas partner institutions of our university (e. g. Vancouver Island University in Canada, Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola in Lima, Peru etc.).

The following table provides an overview over the study course Nautical Science and Maritime Transport.

Curriculum Nautical Science and Maritime Transport  
(Examination Regulations 2021)

Semester 1		Sem. 2	Semester 3		Semester 4		Semester 5		Semester 6		Sem. 7	Semester 8	
Basics of Nautical Science: (Professional Practice / Maritime Project / Maritime Law)	8 / 10*	I N T E R N S H I P  1	Meteorology	4 / 5	Navigation 2 (I): Tech. Nav. 1 + Radar Technology #	4 / 5	Navigation 2 (II): Astron. Nav./ Techn. Nav. 2 + ECDIS #	8 / 10: 5/ 5	Radio- communi- cation #	4 / 5	I N T E R N S H I P  2	Ship Handling / Cargo Handling and Stowage (theory) ##	4 / 8
			Ship Theory	4 / 5	Watchkeeping #	4 / 5			Manoeuvring #	4 / 5			
Navigation 1 (Classical Navigation)	4 / 5		Operation of Propulsion and Engineering Systems	4 / 5	Human Resource Management	4 / 5	Dangerous Cargoes #	4 / 5	Emergency Management: Public Maritime Law/ Emergency Management #	8 / 10: 3/ 7		Ship Handling & Simulator (practical guidance) ##	4 / 5
Mathematics 1 (Linear Algebra)	4 / 5		Computer Science	4 / 5	Medical Care	4 / 5	Cargo Operation and Planning #	4 / 5					
Physics	4 / 5		Mathematics 2 (Analysis)	4 / 5	Maritime English	4 / 5	Profile (I): Compulsory Elective	4 / 5	Profile (II): Compulsory Elective	4 / 5		Profile (III): Compulsory Elective	4 / 5
English	4 / 5		Business Administration	4 / 5	N+ (Elsfleth)	4 / 5	N+ (Elsfleth/Leer) Maritime Law	4 / 5	N+ (Elsfleth) Simulator and Training Excursion 2	4 / 5		Bachelor Thesis	- / 12
					N+ (Leer) Private Commercial Law								
24 / 30		- / 30	24 / 30		24 / 30		24 / 30		24 / 30		- / 30	12 / 30	

\*The first figure represents the semester periods per week, the second one the credit points the students can gain.

# prerequisite: 3 months on board training prior to study semester at our faculty