



Category "A" Hydrographic Survey Programme

Advance your career with AMC's Category "A" Hydrographic Survey Programme. Designed for senior professionals, this intensive course develops high-level expertise in hydrographic data acquisition, processing, and analysis in line with IHO S-5A standards. Participants gain hands-on experience with industry specific survey equipment and software, through the application of theoretical knowledge and critical thinking in all aspects of modern/current/accepted hydrographic survey practice. Delivered by leading academic and industry experts, the program blends rigorous theory with real-world application to prepare graduates for leadership roles in the hydrographic survey sector.



Course Date:

11/01/2027 – 17/12/2027

Applied Mathematics Foundation commences 6 July 2026*

**enrol by 28 June 2026 to be eligible for the 2027 CAT-A intake.*



Course Location:

Australian Maritime College, Newnham, Tasmania



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www.amcsearch.com.au

Duration

The course is 48 weeks in length, comprising four theory modules, two intensive practical periods of three and four weeks respectively, and a final 5.5 week Complex Multidisciplinary Field Project.

Attendance Options

The course may be attended either face-to-face or via remote learning, with compulsory practical periods for all students, conducted at AMC in Launceston, Tasmania. If a course does not meet the minimum numbers of students required to commence, any enrolled students will automatically be moved to the following year.

Students who undertake the AMC Category "A" Hydrographic Survey Programme part-time, have a maximum of 6 years to complete the course.

Entry Requirements

There are 3 main entry methods onto the course. Participants must meet only 1 of the following requirements to gain entry onto the Category "A" Hydrographic survey programme.

1. Certified Professional Hydrographic Surveyor (CPHS) Level 2 accreditation, via the Australasian Hydrographic Surveyors Certification Panel (AHSCP) or IBSC recognised equivalent certified scheme; or
2. A bachelor's degree, from a STEM discipline (Australian Quality Framework level 7);
 - a. Participants may be required to submit tertiary transcripts to AMC admissions team who will evaluate subjects undertaken with a certification to ensure it aligns with course requirements. The team will be responsible for approving an individual's application to the course.
 - b. Examples of appropriate bachelor's degrees include those with a math or physics major, oceanography, engineering, surveying, GIS/Geomatics; or
3. Completion of a Category "B" accredited hydrographic survey course and at least two years of recent hydrographic survey experience*.

For those applying internationally, the minimum requirement for the English language is level 6 of the IELTS or equivalent.

Note: These entry requirements are non-negotiable and are to be completed by the course participants at their own cost prior to applying for a place on this programme.

** The terms "recent", sea-time and practical hydrographic surveying are as outlined on page 4 of the AHSCP Guidelines. Link to the guideline can be found [here](#). Practical surveying experience and sea-time should be presented using the AHSCP logbook.*

Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)

RPL may be awarded for S-5A syllabus Basic subjects only. Individuals requesting RPL may do so during their application and will be required to provide evidence against the syllabus that they meet the requirements. RPL will be considered against the AMC Category "A" Program, but not automatically granted. A compulsory UTAS pre-course mathematics module (KMA002 Applied Mathematics Foundation) must be completed prior to commencing the Category "A" Programme unless Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is granted for the Basic subject of Maths.

The module is offered in Semester 2, commencing 6 July 2026, with enrolments required by 28 June 2026 via Open Universities Australia. This subject is separate from the Category A Programme and attracts HECS-HELP. [Click here](#) for further information. Applications for RPL should be submitted by 1 June to allow sufficient processing time.

Accommodation

On-campus accommodation during the course is available for students at either Norfolk Hall or Investigator Hall. Affordable meal packages are available for both accommodation options.

- Norfolk Hall: Motel Style accommodation situated on the main campus of the AMC and provides queen size bed with ensuite, television and mini fridge. Rooms serviced daily (excluding weekends).
- Investigator Hall: Featuring single rooms, alongside communal areas such as shared kitchens, common rooms, bathrooms and laundry. Please visit the [Investigator Hall website](#) for more information.

For further information about the program, please contact CAT-A.admin@utas.edu.au

Development and Support Partners



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