	PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION	Newcastle University

1	**Awarding Institution**	Newcastle University
2	**Teaching Institution**	Newcastle University
3	**Final Award**	MSc in Marine Technology
4	**Programme Title**	MSc Marine Transport with Management
5	**Programme Code**	5113
6	**Programme Accreditation**	N/A
7	**QAA Subject Benchmark(s)**	Engineering
8	**FHEQ Level**	M
9	**Last updated**	April 2014

10	**Programme Aims**

The overall aims of the multi-disciplinary programme are to produce graduates who have developed well founded knowledge, skills and understanding within the area of marine transport. The coupling of a sound theoretical grasp of the subject with practical application, awareness of responsibilities to society and the environment, and the requirement for flexibility, are regarded as essential to the process of becoming a professional in the marine transport and related sectors such logistics.

Specifically, the programme aims:

- To equip students having diverse backgrounds with knowledge skills and understanding in their chosen programme

- To enable students to operate at a professional level in shipping, ports, marine services, logistics and other related industry sectors.

- To equip students with appropriate transferable practical skills in computing and information technology, data collection and analysis, problem formulation and solving and communication skills, both oral and written.

- To enable students to enhance their learning experience, particularly with respect to the dissertation, by benefiting from the School's exceptional research led teaching.

- To encourage students to develop awareness and responsible attitudes towards the needs of society and the environment in the application of their knowledge, including a regard for safety appropriate to their profession.

- To produce graduates who are recognised by the maritime industry worldwide as fully equipped to contribute at a professional level, especially where a Master's degree is required.

- To instil in students an awareness of their professional responsibilities and the need for their own continuing professional development.

- To contribute to the working environment within the School, such that students enjoy the University learning experience and wish to maintain contact with the School in its future activities, professionally as well as socially.

- To provide a programme which meets the FHEQ at Honours level and which takes appropriate account of the subject benchmark statements appropriate to the course title.

11   Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the programme students should:

A1.Thoroughly understand the workings of the commercial shipping and supporting sectors;

A2. Be equipped with a detailed knowledge and understanding of facts, concepts, principles and theories of marine transport;

A3. Have a working knowledge of IT applications and data sources relevant to the commercial shipping sector;

A4. Understand the principles of shipping economics and how they interface with global trade economics;

A5. Understand and be able to apply management principles and business practices, including professional and ethical responsibilities;

A6. Understand the role of shipping in society and the constraints within which student's judgement will be exercised;

A7.Understand the roles of the different stakeholders in the sector;

A8. Be able to assess and manage safety and business risks, with a thorough knowledge of the legislative framework for safety in shipping (the ISM code).

A9. Understand the linkages between shipping and wider logistics and supply chain systems.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Acquisition of this knowledge and understanding is primarily given through a combination of lectures, tutorials, example classes and coursework. Additionally, students are given access to experienced professionals in the industry to help develop their knowledge by using visiting lecturers, visiting professors and a structured series of seminars featuring key industry practitioners.

The dissertation process enables students to study a chosen subject in greater depth, practising the application of principles learned in class. Students also teach each other through presentation of their own research at a conference held at the end of the year.

Field trips are used to give first-hand experience of the industry, including a day spent at sea aboard the Princess Royal studying ship safety, operations and navigation.

Throughout, the student is encouraged to undertake independent reading both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Assessment Strategy

Formative assessment occurs through tutorial examples and coursework. The primary means of assessing factual knowledge is the closed book examination. This is supported by assessed coursework and case studies, which involve both written and oral presentations. In depth individual learning is assessed through the dissertation, using a combination of a written submission, a poster and an oral presentation at the annual stream conference.

Formal examinations are used to assess knowledge and understanding. Assessed coursework provides further opportunities to demonstrate intellect and ability. The dissertation provides final evidence of the levels attained.

Intellectual Skills

A successful student will be able to:

B1. Classify shipping markets by trade sector and specify and source the data and metrics to correctly analyse these markets and trades;
B2. Understand legal instruments relating to safety and insurance;
B3. Analyse the structure of shipping markets and trades and their economics;
B4. Understand, apply and critique appropriate maritime law and statutory instruments;
B5. Understand the nature of business risk and the methods available to analyse and mitigate risks;
B6. Understand and engage with contracts;
B7. Search for information for the further development of ideas;
B8. Understand and apply the key principles, practices and technologies that underlie effective logistics management;
B9. Apply management science techniques to the analysis of maritime and logistics systems.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Acquisition of these skills is primarily given through a combination of lectures, tutorials, example classes and coursework. Additionally, students are given access to experienced professionals in the industry to help develop their knowledge by using visiting lecturers, visiting professors and a structured series of seminars featuring key industry practitioners.

Throughout the student is encouraged to undertake independent reading both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learned and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Assessment Strategy

Formative assessment occurs through tutorial examples and coursework. The primary means of assessing intellectual ability is the closed book examination. This is supported by assessed coursework and case studies, which involve both written and oral presentations. In depth individual learning is assessed through the dissertation, using a combination of a written submission, a poster and an oral presentation at the annual stream conference.

Formal examinations are used to assess intellectual ability. Assessed coursework provides further opportunities to demonstrate intellect and ability. The dissertation provides final evidence of the levels attained.

Practical Skills

On completing the programme students should be able to:
A successful student will be able to:

C1. Select and apply appropriate techniques for modelling and analysing relevant markets, trades;
C2. Synthesize data from key industry sources to support market analysis in a professional manner;

C3. Use management principles in the development of solutions to practical problems;
C4. Use management science techniques in the modelling and analysis of systems, processes and investments, and in the assessment of business risk;
C5. To select and apply appropriate computer based methods for modelling and analysing problems in selected fields;
C6. Be creative in the solution of problems;
C7. Structure and present analysis in a professional context;
C8. Evaluate the consequences of investment decisions on cash flow.
C9. Interpret financial statements.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The skills are acquired principally through experience gained in coursework and the dissertation, supported by lectures and seminars The dissertation and coursework for MAR8074 in particular provide significant opportunities for the development of practical skills.

Students are given two opportunities to present their ideas, analysis and conclusions: in a seminar that is run by students to present the results of group coursework in MAR8074 and in a day long conference where all students will present their dissertation results.

Assessment Strategy

Courseworks and the dissertation process are the main methods by which these skills can be judged. Students will also be assessed on their ability through the dissertation process, during which the abilities of the student to apply the skills will be apparent.

Transferable/Key Skills

On completing the programme, a successful student will be able to:

D1. manipulate and present data in a variety of ways;
D2. use evidence-based methods in the solution of problems;
D3. use general IT skills;
D4. use creativity and innovation in problem solving;
D5. work with limited or contradictory information;
D6. communicate complex concepts, analyses and conclusions effectively;
D7. apply time and resource management.
D8. engage with legal instruments, contracts, insurance and risk management tools.
D9. use the systems perspective to analyse a particular problem.

Teaching and Learning Methods

The transferable skills are developed in many of the taught modules and in project-based coursework.

Assessment Strategy

The skills assessed through formal examination, coursework and the dissertation.

12	Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features

Basic structure of the programme

The MSc comprises a 12 month programme taught over two semesters with examinations at the end of each semester and a third semester where the focus is on the dissertation. The dissertation totals 80 credits and there are 100 taught credits, thus yielding 180 credits in total.
The MSc can also be taken part-time over 24 months.

Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)

http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/programme/

13	Criteria for admission

Normally an upper-second-class Honours degree or higher in a relevant marine or economics/business discipline. Equivalent qualifications also considered on a case-by-case basis.

Admissions policy/selection tools

Selection by the stream leader.

Non-standard Entry Requirements

Considered on case-by-case basis with inspection of undergraduate transcripts and consideration of relevant work experience.

Additional Requirements

Level of English Language capability
Applicants whose first language is not English require IELTS 6.5 with no individual element scoring below 5.0.

14	Support for Student Learning

The Student Services portal provides links to key services and other information and is available at: *http://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/*

Induction
During the first week of the first semester students attend an induction programme. New students will be given a general introduction to University life and the University's principle support services and general information about the School and their programme, as described in the Degree Programme Handbook. New and continuing students will be given detailed programme information and the timetable of lectures/practicals/labs/ tutorials/etc. The International Office offers an additional induction programme for overseas students.

Study skills support
Students will learn a range of Personal Transferable Skills, including Study Skills, as outlined in the Programme Specification. Some of this material, e.g. time management is covered in the appropriate Induction Programme. Students are explicitly tutored on their approach to both group and individual projects.

Numeracy support is available through Maths Aid and help with academic writing is available from the Writing Development Centre (further information is available from the Robinson Library).

Academic and Pastoral support
Each undergraduate and taught postgraduate student will be assigned a personal tutor.*
A personal tutor is one part of a wider network of advice and guidance available to students to support their personal and general academic development. The module leader acts as the first point of contact for subject-specific academic advice. Thereafter the Degree Programme Director or Head of School may be consulted. Issues relating to the programme may be raised at the Student-Staff Committee, and/or at the Board of Studies. Within the academic unit, students may also receive additional academic and pastoral advice from a range of other student-facing staff including degree programme directors, dissertation/project supervisors, and administrative support staff.
*Arrangements may vary for students taking special types of provision.

The University also offers a wide range of institutional services and support upon which students can call, such as the Writing Development Centre, Careers Service and Student Wellbeing Service. This includes one-to-one counselling and guidance or group sessions / workshops on a range of topics, such as emotional issues e.g. stress and anxiety, student finance and budgeting, disability matters etc. There is specialist support available for students with dyslexia and mental health issues. Furthermore, the Student Union operates a Student Advice Centre, which can provide advocacy and support to students on a range of topics including housing, debt, legal issues etc.

Support for students with disabilities
The University's Disability Support team provides help and advice for disabled students at the University - and those thinking of coming to Newcastle. It provides individuals with: advice about the University's facilities, services and the accessibility of campus; details about the technical support available; guidance in study skills and advice on financial support arrangements; a resources room with equipment and software to assist students in their studies.

Learning resources
The University's main learning resources are provided by the Robinson and Walton Libraries (for books, journals, online resources), and Information Systems and Services, which supports campus-wide computing facilities.

All new students whose first language is not English are required to take an English Language Proficiency Test. This is administered by INTO Newcastle University Centre on behalf of Newcastle University. Where appropriate, in-sessional language training can be provided. The INTO Newcastle University Centre houses a range of resources which may be particularly appropriate for those interested in an Erasmus exchange.

15	**Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning**

Module reviews
All modules are subject to review by questionnaires which are considered by the Board of Studies. Changes to, or the introduction of new, modules are considered at the Board of Studies and/or the School Teaching and Learning Committee. Student opinion is sought at the Student-Staff Committee and/or the Board of Studies. New modules and major changes to existing modules are subject to approval by the Faculty Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee.

Programme reviews
The Board of Studies conducts an Annual Monitoring and Review of the degree programme and reports to Faculty Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee. The FLTSEC takes an overview of all programmes within the Faculty and reports any Faculty or institutional issues to the Faculty Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee.

External Examiner reports
External Examiner reports are considered by the Board of Studies. The Board responds to these reports through Faculty Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee. External Examiner reports are shared with institutional student representatives, through the Student-Staff Committee.

Student evaluations
All modules, and the degree programme, are subject to review by student questionnaires. Informal student evaluation is also obtained at the Student-Staff Committee, and the Board of Studies. The results from student surveys are considered as part of the Annual Monitoring and Review of the programme and any arising actions are captured at programme and School / institutional level and reported to the appropriate body.

Mechanisms for gaining student feedback
Feedback is channelled via the Student-Staff Committee and the Board of Studies.

Faculty and University Review Mechanisms
Every six years degree programmes in each subject area undergo periodic review. This involves both the detailed consideration of a range of documentation, and a review visit by a review team (normally one day in duration) which includes an external subject specialist and a student representative. Following the review a report is produced, which forms the basis for a decision by University Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee on whether the programmes reviewed should be re-approved for a further six year period.

Accreditation reports

Additional mechanisms

16   Regulation of assessment

Pass mark
The pass mark is 50%

Course requirements
Progression is subject to the University's Masters Degree Progress Regulations, Taught and Research and Examination Conventions for Taught Masters Degrees. There are reassessment opportunities, with certain restrictions. Limited compensation up to 40 credits of the taught element and down to a mark of 40% is possible for candidates who commenced their programme in 2013/14 or earlier. For students starting their programme in 2014/15 or later, no compensation is possible.

The University employs a common marking scheme, which is specified in the Taught Postgraduate Examination Conventions, namely:

Summary description applicable to postgraduate Masters programmes		Summary description applicable to postgraduate Certificate and Diploma programmes	
<50	Fail	<50	Fail
50-59	Pass	50 or above	Pass
60-69	Pass with Merit		
70 or above	Pass with Distinction		

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:

The University Prospectus: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/

The School Brochure: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/marketing/services/print/publications/ordering/

Degree Programme and University Regulations: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/

The Degree Programme Handbook:

Mapping of Intended Learning Outcomes onto Curriculum/Modules

MSc Marine Transport with Management

Module	Type	Intended Learning Outcomes			
		A	**B**	**C**	**D**
MAR3021	Compulsory	1,2,4,6,7	1,3	1	2
MAR8064	Compulsory	5	3,7	3,9	3,4,7
MAR8014	Compulsory	1,5,8	2,4	7	8
MAR8029	Compulsory	1,2,3,4	1,3	1,2	2
MAR8036	Compulsory	1,5,8	2,4	7	8
MAR8074	Compulsory	1,2,3,4,6,7,8	1,3,4,5,6	1,2,4,5,6,7,8	1,2,3,4,5,6
MAR8075	Compulsory	1,2, 9	8,9	1,2,3,4,7	1,2,3,4,5,9
MAR8096	Compulsory	1,3	7	2,4,5,6,7	1,2,3,4,5,6,7