International, interdisciplinary European Scientific Diving Training
Course 2023

Course description

In 2023, the Alfred Wegener Institute Centre for Scientific Diving (CSD) in cooperation with the Institut de la Mer de Villefranche (IMEV), the training facility Teraqua, and the Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) offer the international, interdisciplinary course “European Scientific Diver” within the framework of the ESD regulations.

The course includes an intense training in professional diving skills for scientific purposes and ends with a theoretical and practical examination by the “German Examination Board for Scientific Divers” (Deutsche Prüfungskommission für Forschungstaucher).

The course is divided into three parts: (1) Online theory seminars, (2) Training phase (theory and praxis) and (3) exam preparation phase (theory, praxis and examination). In the theory seminars all aspects of scientific diving in the areas of law, medicine, physics, technology and practice are presented and deepened. In the training phase, the basics of scientific diving and different scientific working techniques are taught. In the exam preparation phase, the execution of more complex scientific working techniques under water is taught and discussed. Directly after this phase, the 2-day examination takes place.

Theory seminars:
- A total of 14 weekly online theory units, starting in 08. February 2023.
- Taught across centers in weekly 1.5-hour webinars accompanied by e-learning seminars

Training Phase:
- The training phase takes place in a 14-day block course from 11.04.2023 to 21.04.2023 at the Institut de la Mer de Villefranche (near Nice), with arrival in Villefranche on 10.04.2023.

Exam preparation phase:
- The exam preparation phase will take place jointly for all participants at the CSD on Helgoland from 10.07 - 28.07.2023.

Examination:
- The official examination by the “German Examination Board for Scientific Divers” will take place at the CSD on Helgoland from 26.07. to 27.07.2023.
Entry requirements for course participation

1. Passing a theoretical competence test on level CMAS** which will be conducted jointly via videoconference on 11.01.2023.
2. Being a master or PhD student, a postdoctoral fellow, an early career scientist or a technician in an aquatic science discipline.
3. Holding a valid recreational dive certificate on at least the level of PADI Rescue Diver, CMAS**/VDST T2 (Silver) or equivalent.
4. Proof of at least 70 open water dives with a total dive time of 30 h, of which at least 10 dives are deeper than 15m and 5 dives deeper than 25m.
5. Proof of experience in diving with a dry suit (15+ logged dives).
6. Valid health examination for work diving according to the respective countries’ occupational health legislations¹ (e.g., German G31.2).
7. Documented proof of CPR training¹ no older than a year at the time of the final examination.
8. Documented certification of “ILS Lifesaver” (DLRG Silber) or a comparable recognized international pool lifesaver training¹.
9. Availability of full diving equipment incl. dry suit except for tanks and weight belts. In case parts of the equipment are not available, please contact the course coordinator.

Application

Applications with a letter of motivation and a diving curriculum vitae should be sent to esd2023@scientific-diving.eu by 19.12.2022 at the latest.

Written proof of access requirements 1-2 must be submitted at the beginning of the course when the participation agreement is signed (February 2023). Written proof of access requirements 3-7 must be submitted and equipment (9) must be available from the beginning of the training phase. Written proof of access requirement 8 must be submitted at the latest at the beginning of the exam preparation phase.

Course fees

The course fee is 1200 Euros and includes the use of the infrastructure (bench fees, boat use and equipment) at the respective training locations as well as the BG examination and ESD certification fees. Travel expenses, accommodation and meals are not included in the course fee.

Further information on the training facilities and scientific diving in Germany and Europe:

- [www.forschungstauchen-deutschland.de](http://www.forschungstauchen-deutschland.de)
- [http://www.teraqua-ausbildungsbetrieb.de/](http://www.teraqua-ausbildungsbetrieb.de/)
- [https://lov.imev-mer.fr/web/](https://lov.imev-mer.fr/web/)

¹ Because there are no „European“ certificates for CPR, „ILS Lifesaver“ and „Professional diver health examination“, the respective national certificates are accepted if they are equivalent to the German certificates (see [https://www.ilsf.org/certification/equivalency-tables/](https://www.ilsf.org/certification/equivalency-tables/)). In case of questions if a national certificate is accepted as equivalent please contact philipp.fischer@awi.de.