



# CMAS

CONFÉDÉRATION MONDIALE  
DES ACTIVITÉS SUBAQUATIQUES

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WORLD UNDERWATER FEDERATION

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**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

# **Underwater Cultural Heritage Discovery Course (UCHDC)**

## **Version 2015**

The non-professional CMAS Scientific Speciality Courses (SSC) combines the expertise of marine and freshwater scientists, underwater geologists and archaeologists, diving officers, administrators, legislators, individual divers, from different parts of the world scientific diving community. Therefore we revised the SSC Version 2000/01 with the colleagues in the Scientific Committee (SC) mentioned below, who helped to produce this new standards, and acknowledges the help and advice given by many other people through letters or oral comments.

#### CMAS Scientific Committee 2015

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# Underwater Cultural Heritage Discovery Course

Minimum 1 day

4 theoretical teaching units (TTU)

2 practical teaching units (PTU)

0-2 dives

## 1.1. Aims of course

- to introduce divers to aspects of underwater cultural heritage in marine and fresh water
- to highlight the different types of underwater cultural heritage
- to help divers recognize sites of underwater cultural heritage
- to increase awareness about the protection of underwater cultural heritage
- to enhance the divers' personal experience by increasing their knowledge and awareness of underwater cultural heritage sites and their features.

## 1.2. Student performance objectives

By the end of the course the diver should be able to:

- recognize underwater archaeological sites and appreciate their importance
- dive sustainably due to a more comprehensive understanding of underwater cultural heritage
- report the finding of potential archaeological sites to the relevant local authorities

## 1.3. Prerequisites for participants

- age of 14 years
- CMAS \* or equivalent (only if dives are made)
- valid medical certificate (only if dives are made)

## 1.4. Instructor/student ratio in open water

- depending on the visibility and level of qualification

## 1.5. Instructor requirement (see SC administrative text)

- CMAS Diver \*\* diving licence and 100 dives
- successful participation in a minimum level 1 SCC in the respective area
- successful participation in a SSC for tutors and passing the relevant exam
- genuine interest in the respective field and in teaching
- a high sensibility for sustainable diving

## 1.6. Speciality Course requirements:

- adequate lecture/class room
- adequate dive site
- Teaching material and resources (publication, slides, presentation, manuals, text books)

### **1.7. Theoretical teaching units**

The theoretical part includes 3 units:

Theory I: - “Scientific resources”

gives general information about underwater cultural heritage sites

Theory II: - “Conservation of underwater finds”

includes the basics of conservation and dating for underwater archaeological finds

Theory III: - “Law and Code of Ethics (UNESCO)”

gives an overview of the national legislation, international rules and the UNESCO convention 2001 and the UNESCO Code of Ethics

### **1.8. Practical training units**

The practical part includes two dives:

Practice I: - “Dive on an underwater cultural heritage site”

The divers should learn to carry out a group dive on a cultural heritage site. They have to demonstrate safety measures for divers and preservation measures for the site.

Practice II: - “Finding a potential underwater cultural heritage site – reporting”

What to do in case of finding an underwater cultural heritage site?

How to report it?

### **1.9. Special rules**

- Divers have to fully respect the legislations and regulations of the local cultural heritage authorities.

### **2.0. Certification**

- by instructor evaluation

- all divers having successfully completed all components of the course will be issued the appropriate CMAS Underwater Cultural Heritage Discovery Course Card

- the brevet is valid permanently

All questions should be addressed to the  
President of the CMAS Scientific Committee  
CMAS H.Q. Viale Tiziano, 74 00196 Rome, Italy  
Tel. +39-06-32 11 05 93  
Fax +39-06-32 11 05 95  
Email: [sci@cmas.org](mailto:sci@cmas.org)  
[www.cmas.org](http://www.cmas.org)