



## **Master Scuba Diver Course**

### Overview

This course is a continuing education certification course for divers who wish to increase their understanding and enjoyment of diving. Emphasis is on student participation and practical application of knowledge in open water after a classroom discussion of subjects. This course is an excellent progression toward NAUI Leadership roles.

Some subject areas are a review and expansion of material from previous courses. Each subject area is a progression in study, not a definitive study in the particular diving activity. However, instructors will specify performance objectives for related course diving activities; for example, during a navigation dive the student will swim a reciprocal course to within 10 feet (3 m) of its origin.

The course may be divided and taught in sections with the student's Diving/Training log being signed off for each activity until all requirements are met.

Upon successful completion of this course, graduates are considered competent to engage in open water diving activities without supervision, provided the diving activities and the areas dived approximate those of training.

### Prerequisites For Entering The Course

- Minimum age of 18
- NAUI Advanced Scuba Diver certification or the equivalent is required. The instructor is to ensure adequate student knowledge and capability before any open water training and shall use skill or other evaluations to do so.
- Students shall furnish and be responsible for the care and maintenance of their own equipment. The instructor shall initially assist the student in checking all student gear to ensure it is adequate and in proper working order.

### Course Duration

- Academic hours – 23 are estimated (class, home study, site briefing/debriefing)
- Open water dives – 8 minimum
- No dives will exceed 130 fsw (40 msw). No dives are to require actual stage decompression.

## Equipment Requirements

- Standard SCUBA equipment (including snorkel, alternate air source/octopus, timing device)
- Lights for night dives (1 minimum, 2 strongly recommended)
- Knife/cutting tool (1 minimum, 2 recommended)
- Compass for navigation dives
- Dive tables and/or dive computer (preferably nitrox capable)
- Underwater slate or notebook
- Surface marking buoy/lift bag/safety sausage and reel/spool may be required on some dives

## Skill Requirements (not a complete list)

- Skill requirements shall be targeted toward the specific activities of the dives conducted and shall be performed at a level significantly higher than that expected of divers at previous levels. Dive sites will be as varied as possible.
- Open water dives – 5 required dive areas listed here, with minimum 3 elective dives of instructor's choosing
  - Emergency procedures and rescue
  - Deep/simulated decompression diving
  - Limited visibility/night diving
  - Underwater navigation
  - Search and recovery – light salvage

## Academic Topics (not a complete list)

- Applied Sciences
  - Physics, physiology, medical aspects and fitness
- Equipment
  - Care of equipment, detailed functioning, specialized gear and applications, plus additional gear to be used in this course
- Diving Risks
  - Diving rescue, first aid and emergency procedures
  - Underwater communication, orientation and navigation
  - Environment
  - Dive planning and safety measures including benefits of emergency oxygen first aid
- Environment
  - Plant and animal identification, relationships, dangers, regulations and uses
  - Conservation, preservation and pollution
  - Water movement and characteristics
  - Shore, bottom and surface conditions
  - Diving locations
- Navigation
  - Problems, techniques, skill levels, hazards and safety procedures

- Search and recovery
  - Problems, planning, methods, techniques and equipment
- Light salvage
  - Theory, problems, hazards, methods, gear, rigging, calculations and principles involved
- Deep and simulated decompression diving
  - Dive tables
  - Problem prevention and resolution
  - Concepts, methods and equipment