



ICMA – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - 2015

COURSE – “Introduction to Seafarers’ Welfare and Maritime Ministry”

Coordinator: Professional Development Committee, ICMA Contact: executivedirector@namma.org or gensec@icma.as

Dates: *Online* Oct. 1-Nov. 4
In class Nov. 4-11
Online Nov. 18-25

Course Locations:

- Dedicated Course Website link sent to students
- Webinars (recorded on “Gotomeeting”)
- In class – Conference room, Gdynia, Poland and excursions

Special Lecturers: As noted in outline below

Readings: Short texts or recorded speeches given with each lesson or provided.

Course description:

Maritime ministries have undergone profound developments in the last generation, mostly to do with changes in our globalized world and the shipping industry. Those involved in seafarers’ welfare need to continue to develop professionally to help their work adapt to these changing realities. This course gives an overview and discussion of key issues in seafarers’ welfare and maritime ministry. The course is designed for new chaplains, ship visitors and volunteers, but should also be useful for those who have experience in maritime ministry, but wish to sharpen their skills.

Course Introduction:

At the heart of our work is communication with seafarers. When our members pursue excellence in communicating with seafarers, they also provide great service. Preparation in how to communicate with

team members and seafarers is key for long-term success. Throughout this course, students will be introduced to topics that will allow them to communicate meaningfully with seafarers in order to serve them in a holistic manner.

As this course will be done both online and in class, participants must have the necessary motivation and organization to keep up. However, we note that the participant's own style and his or her denominational and cultural background will play in an important role in shaping how this course will be experienced. Though experts will guide us through the information, we expect to learn much from each other as well. Further, we choose to do this course in 'hybrid' fashion so we can retain the essential experience of learning from each other face-to-face in the in class portion of the course.

Course Objectives:

- to provide a basic understanding of the maritime industry and introduction to seafarers’ welfare
- to learn skills necessary to communicate meaningfully with seafarers
- to help students deepen their commitment to seafarers’ ministry and develop their professional and spiritual perspectives

Course Prerequisites and Expectations:

- Proficiency in English in reading and oral comprehension is essential. Knowledge of other languages an asset.
- high school/secondary school diploma or equivalent required. Other higher education or vocational training an asset.
- As a *professional development* course, we expect students to be open to critical reflection and the possibility of change.
- This is not a conference, but a training event. Participation in all topics by all participants is required.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Title
Oct 1 online	1.1	Maritime World: Combating "Sea Blindness"
Oct 5 online	1.2	Maritime World: Introduction
Oct 12 online	1.3	Maritime World: The Life of a Seafarer
Oct 19 online	2.1	Partnerships: History and Models of Maritime Ministry
Oct 26 online	2.2	Partnerships: Mission and Role of the Church
Nov 2 online	3.1	Ship Visiting: Safety on Board
Nov 4 a.m.	1.4	Maritime World: Seafarers' Rights and Advocacy
Nov 4 p.m.	1.5	Maritime World: Maritime Labour Convention, 2006
Nov 5 a.m.	4.1	Communication: How to have meaningful conversations
Nov. 5 p.m.	3.3	Panel discussion - Partnerships for Seafarers' Welfare
Nov. 6 a.m.	3.4	Partnerships for Seafarers' Welfare (with ISWAN)
Nov. 6 p.m.	1.6	Maritime World: Port tour (Gdynia)
Nov. 7 a.m.	4.2	Communication: Inter-Cultural Communication
Nov. 7 p.m.		(Free time)
Nov. 8 a.m.		(Ecumenical worship)
Nov. 8 p.m.	4.3	Communication: Ecumenical Conversations
Nov 9 a.m.	5.1	Outreach: Strategic Planning and a "Case for Support"
Nov. 9 p.m.	5.2	Outreach: Building Resources for Maritime Ministry
Nov. 10 a.m.	5.3	Outreach: Using Social Media
Nov. 10 p.m.	3.2	Ship Visiting: Planning a Successful Ship Visit
Nov. 11 a.m.	3.3	Ship Visiting: Etiquette and Understanding Stress/Fatigue
Nov. 11 p.m.	3.4	Ship Visiting: Connecting Seafarers to Shore
Nov 18 online	6	Crisis Preparedness Training
Nov. 25 online	7	Conclusion/Short Reflection Paper

Evaluation

1. Completion of weekly online reading and viewing assignments.
2. Completion of weekly brief written requirements.
2. Participation in class presentations Nov. 4-11, Gdynia, Poland.
4. Completion of final word reflection paper.

Expected Outcomes

They have acquired new skills and take home a "toolbox" on which they can rely when working with seafarers. They will be more self-assured in what they are doing which normally results in more effective ship visits and a more confident approach when seeking to provide welfare services. Through the course, students have learned to communicate with seafarers in such a way that they no longer become clients or objects of charity, but equals with whom they can share life.

Certification

Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive an official certificate endorsed by ICMA.