



Advanced Instructor Course (AIC)

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The Advanced Instructor Course is for Club Instructors who have attended BSAC Open Water Instructor Course, or Instructor Crossovers who have become Open Water Instructors, who wish to broaden their knowledge and skills in open water teaching situations. The course takes place over two days at a coastal venue and is staffed by BSAC National Instructors. A full course generally consists of 18 students with an instructor : student ratio of 1:3.

AIMS

1. To teach students how to teach in open-water.
2. To expose students to a wide range of attitudes and experiences through contact with Instructors and other students

OBJECTIVES

To equip students with the skills to teach:

- shore based lessons in fundamental diving skills.
- the organisation and marshalling of boat dives, with general and specific teaching aims.
- the skills of dive leading at a variety of diver grade levels.
- to extend and improve the skills of teaching in the classroom.
- to make students aware of the level of knowledge required to teach in open water.

The AIC covers the teaching of dive planning, dive organisation and leadership, open water training exercises, boat diving and the use of small boats, good diving practice, and improved classroom teaching techniques.

Most of the course is of a practical nature, with an emphasis on teaching diving in open water. Candidates work in small tutorial groups with their instructor, to plan and carry out open water teaching exercises and boat dives which concentrate on making use of teaching opportunities in dive leading, position location and dive organisation. The role of the Instructor is to demonstrate teaching skills and to assist in the planning, preparation and subsequent development of student exercises.

Much of the course takes place outdoors, on or in the water, so apart from full diving equipment, you should bring waterproofs, high energy snack foods and a hot drink flask. You are asked to bring writing materials and a waterproof writing slate, for notes you may wish to take during the course. You should also provide supplementary equipment for use in open water lessons and dives - a small shot weight and buoy with 3-4m of line, some extra 2-3kg weights and an SMB and line. Charts and site information for the area will be provided, but you should provide your own chartwork instruments.

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The main elements of the course are: _____

1. Presentation of a previously prepared classroom lesson.
2. Planning and execution of an open water teaching exercise.
3. Planning and execution of a boat dive, making the most of teaching opportunities.

A classroom teaching topic will be given to each candidate two or three weeks before the event and on the course, students will be expected to teach the subject to a small group comprising other students and an instructor. The lesson topic relates to diving and requires a broad understanding of the subject area. This session should not be seen as an examination, but as an opportunity to teach a small group and to gain advice on improving your classroom teaching skills.

During the AIC, it will be to your advantage to make full use of the time available, involving both your instructor and other students in your group in as much discussion and questioning as possible. This will enable you to gain the maximum value from your Instructor's knowledge and experience, and also from that of other students on the course. Ample opportunity is provided for debriefing and discussing strategies for the improvement of your performance, both as a diver and an instructor.

If you have any queries about the Advanced Instructor Course, contact **Central Bookings** at BSAC HQ - telephone 0151 350 6209.

APPLYING FOR A PLACE ON AN AI COURSE

The Application Form opposite should be completed and returned to **Central Bookings** at BSAC Headquarters as soon as possible but **no later than six weeks before the Course date**, together with **all** of the following:

- Photocopies of your:
 - Advanced Diver certificate and:
 - **Either** Club Instructor & OWIC Attendance certificate.
 - **Or** Open Water Instructor certificate
 - Boat Handling Course certificate or equivalent, e.g. RYA NPS Level 2 Certificate.
 - Current BSAC Membership receipt or card.
 - Current Certificate of Fitness to Dive.
- The current Course Fee by cheque payable to BSAC - or use the credit card payment facility provided.

Many Advanced Instructor Courses are fully booked months in advance so early booking is strongly recommended. Dates and venues of AICs (and a note of **the current AIC Fee**) are issued with this form, and are published in the BSAC's annual 'Programme of Events' booklet and in the 'BSAC Courses' column of Diver magazine. Details of any additional events, or changes of date and venue, can be obtained by contacting Central Bookings at BSAC Headquarters.

*If you are able to provide a suitable boat (e.g. RIB or Inflatable) and engine for use on this course, please give details in the space provided on the Application Form. Boats **must** be insured as required by BSAC Rule 5(E).*

You will receive an initial acknowledgement of your application, which will be followed by further details and joining instructions at least two weeks before the course.

