



ABOUT ACUC'S SPECIALTIES

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ACUC classifies its specialties in two ways: the first according to the level of safety and the second as restricted or unrestricted. The level of safety refers to the risk or knowledge that this specialty entails. There are four levels: SL0; SL1; SL2 and SL3. "SL" stands for "Safety Level". The higher the SL, the higher the level of risk or special knowledge that specialty entails.

The **SL0** specialties can be done by anyone, even if they are not a diver. The **SL1** can be done by people with a minimum Open Water Diver certification; the **SL2** from Advanced Diver and the **SL3** from Rescue Diver.

If the specialties are restricted or not refers to the requirements that the Instructor must meet before being able to give courses in those specialties. The "Non-restricted" (NR) specialties are those in which the Instructor does not have to meet any specific requirement, apart of course, of being a Diving Instructor. The "Non-restricted" specialties are in turn divided into three types:

- **NR1:** The Instructor does not need to take any action and is automatically an Instructor of that specialty
- **NR2:** The Instructor does not need to take any specific Instructor course for said specialty, since they are sufficiently prepared as instructors, but to give the specific course, they must request from ACUC to be an Instructor for that specialty.
- **NR3:** The instructor needs to meet a specific requirement to be an instructor of that specialty or to be able to do any type of specialized diving with students who do not have that specialty.

The "Restricted" (**R**) specialties are those in which the Instructor must complete some type of course or specific training, before being able to teach said specialty or be able to do any type of diving with students who do not have that specialty.

Therefore, for example, a code "SL2-R" means that it is a specialty that can be done by any diver, who is at least Advanced Diver and can be taught by a Diving Instructor, who also had to complete a course or special program to teach said specialty or be able to do any type of dives with students who do not have that specialty. The ACUC specialties are listed below, along with their current code as it pertains to diver requirements.

Some of these specialties are available under the e-learning system. The theory part of all the specialties of the TEK branch, are only available under the e-learning system

SPECIALTIES SL0-NR1

- **Surface Controller** (SL0-NR1). It can be given even to non-divers but they must have the specialties of Diving Emergency Responder (DER) and O2 Emergency Responder (O2ER).

SPECIALTIES SL0-NR2

- **Equipment Maintenance** (SL0-NR2). No need to be a diver.

SPECIALTIES SL0-R

- **First Aid Provider** (SL0-R). It can be given even to non-divers. This course includes general First Aid.
- **Diving Emergency Responder** (SL0-R). It can be given even to non-divers. This course includes specific First Aid for Divers, Basic Life Support (BLS) and Semiautomatic External Defibrillator (SAED).
- **O² Emergency Responder** (SL0-R). It can be given even to non-divers.
- **Nitrox Mixing** (SL0-R). It can be given even to non-divers.

SPECIALTIES SL1-NR1

- **Rescue Specialist** (SL1-NR1). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver. **Note: Not to be confused with the main Rescue Diver course**

SPECIALTIES SL1-NR2

- **Deep Diving 40m/130f** (SL1-NR2). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **Non Penetration Wreck Diving** (SL1-NR2). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **Night Diving** (SL1-NR2). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **Drift Diving** (SL1-NR2). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **U/W Orientation** (SL1-NR2). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.

SPECIALTIES SL1-NR3

- **Altitude Diver** (SL1-NR3). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **Dry Suit Diving** (SL1-NR3). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **DPV Pilot Diver** (SL1-NR3). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **U/W Biology** (SL1-NR3). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **U/W Digital Photography** (SL1-NR3). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **Nitrox 40 Diver** (SL1-NR3). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.

SPECIALTIES SL1-R

- **Sidemount Diver** (SL1-R): The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.
- **Tek Nitrox Diver** (SL1-R). Diver must be at least Open Water Diver.
- **Rebreather Diver** (SL1-R). The diver must be at least a Nitrox 40 Diver.
- **Intro to Cave** (SL1-R). The diver must be at least an Open Water Diver.

SPECIALTIES SL2-NR1

- **Teaching Assistant** (SL2-NR1). The diver must be at least an Advanced Diver. The dry portion of this Teaching Techniques course can be offered to anyone, even if they are not a diver. **Note: Not to be confused with the old professional level course of Assistant Instructor**

SPECIALTIES SL2-R

- **Ice Diver** (SL2-R). The diver must be at least an Advanced Diver.
- **Tek Cave Diver** (SL2-R): The diver must be at least an Advanced Diver.
- **Intro to Tek** (SL2-R): The diver must be at least an Advanced Diver.
- **Normoxic Trimix** (SL2-R): Diver must be at least Advanced Diver, Intro to Tek Diver and NX40 Diver.
- **Full Face Mask and Communications** (SL2-R): The diver must be at least an Advanced Diver.

SPECIALTIES SL3-NR1

- **U/W Guide** (SL3-NR1). The diver must be at least a Rescue Diver, with the specialties of Diving Emergency Responder and O2 Emergency Responder. **Note: Not to be confused with the professional level Divemaster course**

For any other specialty, check with the ACUC main office. Some specialties (photosub, biology, etc.) can be taught by divers (not necessarily instructors) who have completed the Teaching Techniques specialty. In these cases, the "diver-instructor", if the course requires practice in water, he must have assisting personnel with a Divemaster certification or similar or higher, who will be in charge of the underwater safety of the students while the "diver-instructor" is teaching. In **no case** can a "diver-instructor", who is not a Diving Instructor, give practical classes in water without having said support staff.