

Learn to Scuba Dive with the Hart House Underwater Club!

Teaching in the pool and classroom is designed to promote safe diving practices and prepare you for a lifetime of recreational diving! After completing the indoor portion of the course students will be required to perform several outdoor dives in an actual lake or ocean to qualify. Our course leads to Scuba certification with the National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI), recognized around the globe. For more info read on, and contact our Course Coordinator – hhuc.training@gmail.com.

The first pool and class session usually meets in the Benson Building Room 302. (see the Club's home page for the next course start date) You enter through the main turn-style of the Athletic Centre and follow the signs to Room 302 – third floor in the Benson Building. Bring a knapsack, towel, swimsuit, lock and writing materials for the classroom. Be prepared to have fun!

When are our beginner Scuba Courses offered?

Our club runs two yearly beginner scuba courses on Tuesday nights:

The fall course runs from the end of September to December. The winter course runs from the end of January to April. (No class Reading Week in February). (See the FAQs section at the end of this brochure for this year's dates)

A typical night consists of a two hour classroom session followed by one and a half hours in the pool. Members often visit a local spot afterwards for food and good times!



How much ?

The cost is \$280 for HART HOUSE MEMBERS. You must be a student or Senior Member of Hart House to get this rate (for information on Hart House memberships, please call 416-978-2452). The fee includes a one year membership in the Hart House Underwater Club. Membership in the Club also offers the benefits of affordable summer dive weekends, and an excellent equipment rental program throughout the year. NOTE: Our fee includes ALL manuals, training material and equipment use during the course

For NON-HART HOUSE MEMBERS the cost is \$330. If you are not a Hart House member

you should consider joining to gain the several financial benefits mentioned above that will recover the cost. In addition, to complete the course you must attend open water training with your Instructor that involves additional costs beyond the course fee mentioned above.

Additional Open-water certification options (1 required):



1. TOBERMORY, ONTARIO. One weekend in early June (fall or winter course). Package includes shore and boat diving, motel accommodation and food. Approximate price is \$300.00.
2. A TROPICAL PARADISE, to be determined, after the April exam period. Location and price will be announced each once details are firmed up. (about \$2600)
3. REFERRAL. Complete your open-water dives elsewhere with an Instructor of your choosing. (if that can be arranged)

Equipment costs

Students are responsible for a mask, snorkel, fins and a weight belt (roughly \$250 - a discounted equipment package is offered at the start of the course). A light wetsuit or "shorty" is desirable but not necessary for the pool.

We provide all the scuba gear required during your course. (Tank, Regulators, Gauges, Buoyancy Compensator)

Can I take the course ?

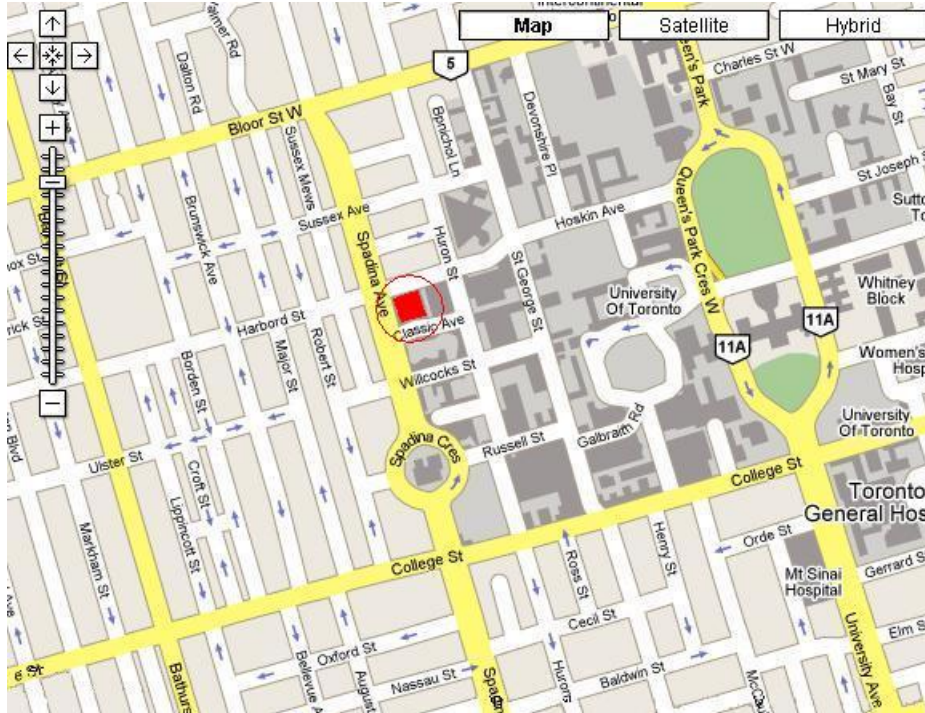
The course is open to all University of Toronto students, faculty and staff, and members of the general public. Youths aged 15 to 17 years of age may take the course with a guardian and approval of the instructor.

While strong swimming experience is helpful, it is generally accepted that overall comfort in deep



water is more important when we assess your swimming level for entry into the class. In addition, all students will be expected to complete a medical history and liability waiver.

Time and place:



Each course runs approximately 12 classes on Tuesday nights 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the University of Toronto Athletics Centre (& Benson Building), South-East corner of Harbord and Spadina. Parking is available at various locations around the building.

For more information you can e-mail hhuc.training@gmail.com.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q1. When is the course?
A1. The course is Tuesday nights, from 7pm-11pm. The Fall course will run from September 20th until December 6th 2011; the Winter course will run from January 24^h until April 10th, 2012 (there will be no class on February 21st, due to University Reading Week).
- Q2. Is there any difference between the two courses?
A2. The content of the courses is identical.
- Q3. How do I sign up for the course?
A3. You can sign up for the course by contacting The HUB at Hart House during business hours in person or by phone at 416-978-2452. You may also sign up online at <http://www.harthouse.ca/classes> (we are listed under Aquatics). Alternatively, you can show up to the first class to sign up on a first come, first served basis (people who sign up in advance are given priority). Advance registration is recommended as the course is quite popular

Q4. If I sign up in advance, do I still need to come to the first class?

A4. Yes – the course starts with the first class.

Q5. How much does the course cost?

A5. The course is \$280 for Hart House members, and \$330 for non-members (U of T students are Hart House members). This includes all course materials, the textbook, dive tables, a diving logbook and the use of the club's SCUBA equipment for the duration of the course.

We prefer you to pay the full price when you register. *You must pay the course fee to HHUC, in full, before the beginning of the second Tuesday night class of the session.*

Q6. Are there any other costs associated with the course?

A6. Yes, you will also need to provide your own snorkeling equipment (mask, snorkel, fins, weight belt and weights), which can cost anywhere from \$250-\$350. This price buys you the quality of equipment that will last you a long time and meet the demands of scuba diving. An additional expense is the cost of the required open water certification dives, which you may do with the club, or another instructor (if that can be arranged. Certifying with the club is expected to cost approximately \$290 (which includes hotel, food, boat fees, air fills, and scuba equipment, for the weekend). You will also need to rent a full wet suit for the open water training part of the course (approx. \$50).

Q7. How does your course compare with inexpensive weekend courses I have seen advertised?

A7. First of all, our course cost reflects the actual costs that we incur to run the course – we have to rent the pool and classroom time, in addition to maintaining our equipment and obtaining textbooks and course materials. All our Instructors, Assistants and club helpers are keen divers who volunteer their time to train you in this exciting sport. Dive shops often run their courses as a loss leader, making back the money when they sell you equipment. In addition, there can be many hidden costs in the seemingly cheaper courses (i.e. extra fees for text books, equipment rental, open water etc.). With our course, you can also be sure that we have your best interests at heart, since we do not have any interest in selling you equipment. Finally, we also have one of the best student-staff ratios, usually having three staff for eight to ten students. The HHUC NAUI Scuba Diver Course includes at least 42 hours of student – Instructor contact (not including open water training) and is spread over at least 11 weeks to give our student divers time to learn and master knowledge, skills and safe diving practices under the watchful eye of our staff.

Q8. Where is the course held?

A8. Our course is held at the University of Toronto Athletic Centre at the corner of

Spadina and Harbord. The lectures will be in Room 302 of the Benson Building, while the pool sessions will be held in the Athletic Centre Pool.

Q9. Why do you use the Athletic Centre, if you are the **Hart House** Underwater Club?

A9. The pool at the Athletic Centre is deeper than the pool at Hart House, and more suited to our needs.

Q10. What should I bring to the first class?

A10. Your swimsuit, towel, lock, pen and paper.

Q11. Do I need to have my snorkeling equipment for the first class?

A11. No – we ask that you wait to purchase your equipment until after the first class (we will let you know what to look for when purchasing your equipment, in the first class).

Q12. Should I change into my swimsuit before class?

A12. No – we will have a classroom session before going to the pool.

Q13. How do I get into the Athletic Centre if I am not a member?

A13. The Athletic Centre will let you in through the turnstiles when you let them know you are there for the HHUC Scuba Diver Course. They will be expecting you.

Q14. Is there any difference between taking the course as a Hart House member or a non-member?

A14. Yes – if you are a Hart House member, not only is the course cheaper for you, but you also automatically receive membership in our club for the remainder of the season AND the following season (our season runs from May to April). Being a member allows you to pay a lower price when diving on one of our scheduled dives during the summer, and you can also rent our SCUBA equipment for a weekend or the entire summer, for a comparatively low price. With these discounts non-members will recover the cost of joining Hart House. Non-members must join Hart House and the Club at the end of the Course in order to earn the privileges of club membership.

Q15. Can you recommend a dive shop from which I can get my equipment?

A15. We try not to promote one dive shop over another, although if you ask our instructors, they may tell you which shops they frequent. The most important



criteria for a dive shop is choosing one that is convenient for you AND where they are willing to give you good service (not just sell you equipment). Experiences vary between shops and even different personnel within the same shop. For a list of some of the dive shops in the GTA, check out our website <http://www.utoronto.ca/hhuc>, and click on Resources.

Q16. What is the difference between NAUI and PADI?

A16. There are several diving certification agencies, including NAUI (National Association of Underwater Instructors – www.naui.org) and PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors). Our club has been a NAUI affiliated club for over 48 years (and you will receive a NAUI certification upon completion of your course). The material taught by the different agencies is generally the same, and their requirements for certification (i.e. pool time, class time, open water skills) are more or less equivalent. The only differences tend to be in course structure and philosophy, and in the end it doesn't matter what agency certifies you, your dive certification should be recognized anywhere in the world. There are strong instructors and weak instructors in all of the organizations – we are confident we have a solid instructional staff. They have consistently received excellent feedback from the students through our post course questionnaires.

Q17. How long is the certification good for?

A17. Your dive certification never expires. It is proof of training as of the date it is issued. It is recommended that you keep your skills up by diving regularly, and continuing with courses after you complete the beginner course.

If you have any further questions, please consult our website or email us – hhuc.training@gmail.com