MASTER OF MARITIME BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS IN MARITIME BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

The Master of Maritime Business Administration and Logistics is a professional graduate management degree offered on the Galveston Campus that helps the student develop an integrated understanding of the centrality of ports and interconnected transportation systems to the international and domestic commerce of the United States and to the general global trading system. Coursework in international trade, economics, finance, marketing, management, logistics, port management and environmental science will prepare graduates for senior management positions in a wide variety of industries associated with logistics and, most specifically, waterborne commerce.

Southeast Texas, from the Louisiana border to Freeport, contains the important ports of Beaumont-Port Arthur, Galveston, Houston and Freeport, an important segment of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW), and a significant portion of the oil refining capacity of the United States. This maritime complex contains a rich diversity of cargo handling facilities which connect to the main east-west and north-south rail and road arteries of the nation. Port activity in the region is steadily expanding as world trade and the general globalization of business increases. The opening of the new locks of the Panama Canal will dramatically increase regional port and logistics activity and the associated need for professionals with advanced degrees. Additionally, increased energy exploration and recovery activities in the Gulf of Mexico are expected to stimulate 2-3 trillion dollars of economic investment in the coastal zone of Texas in the next few decades. This investment will sustain continued economic growth for the foreseeable future. The combination of these two circumstances—the general increase in world trade and the expanding energy industry in the Gulf of Mexico—will provide exciting and challenging opportunities throughout the energy, maritime and all other transportation industries.

The graduate program in Maritime Business Administration and Logistics will attract dynamic and forward looking students who understand the implications of expanding regional and international trade. Some students will want to complete the thesis option, which requires preparation of a graduate thesis involving original research. This is strongly recommended for students who intend to continue their education at the doctoral level. The non-thesis option does not preclude future work toward a doctorate but is most appropriate for students who see this graduate program as their final professional degree. Thesis students will be supervised by a graduate advisory committee that is responsible for development of their final degree plan.

Graduate programs in business typically are delivered by both full time and part-time/adjunct faculty who are active researchers and practitioners in their fields. Proximity to the Houston-Galveston port complex allows ready access to extremely well qualified faculty, to research opportunities, and to challenging and exciting professional career opportunities following graduation. The website for the Department of Maritime Business Administration provides biographical summaries of all faculty who teach in this program and their research interests.

This program is also approved for delivery via asynchronous distance education technology.

Program Requirements

Program Requirements

- Student’s Advisory Committee (p. 1)
- Degree Plan (p. 2)
- Credit Requirement (p. 2)
- Transfer of Credit (p. 2)
- Limitations on the Use of Transfer, Extension and Certain Other Courses (p. 2)
- Thesis Option (p. 3)
  - Thesis Proposal (p. 3)
  - Final Examination/Thesis Defense (p. 3)
- Non-Thesis Option (p. 4)

Student’s Advisory Committee

On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs

For the Non-Thesis Student:

All MMB non-thesis students’ advisory committees will consist of the departmental graduate advisor for the MMB program or the department head for the Maritime Business Administration department. The departmental graduate advisor or the department head has the responsibility of approving the proposed degree plan for all non-thesis MMB students.

For the Thesis Student:

After receiving admission to graduate studies and enrolling for coursework, the student will consult with the head of his or her major or administrative department concerning appointment of the chair of his or her advisory committee. The student’s advisory committee for the master’s degree will consist of no fewer than four members, one of whom must have an in-depth knowledge of the student’s fields of study and research. The chair or the co-chair of the advisory committee must be from the student’s major department (or intercollegiate faculty, if applicable), at least one of the members must have an appointment to a department other than the student’s major department.

The chair, in consultation with the student, will select the remainder of the advisory committee. The student will interview each prospective committee member to determine whether he or she is willing to serve. Only graduate faculty members located on Texas A&M University campuses may serve as chair of a student’s advisory committee. Other graduate faculty members located off campus may serve as a member or co-chair (but not chair) with a member as the chair. The chair of the committee, who usually has immediate supervision of the student’s research and thesis, has the responsibility for calling required meetings of the committee and for calling meetings at any other time considered desirable.

If the chair of a student’s advisory committee voluntarily leaves the University and the student is near completion of the degree and wants the chair to continue to serve in this role, the student is responsible for securing a current member of the University Graduate Faculty, from the student’s academic program and located near the Texas A&M University campus site, to serve as the co-chair of the committee. The Department
Credit Requirement

On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs

A minimum of 36 semester credit hours of approved courses and research hours are required for Thesis Option (Research Track) MAAL students. A minimum of 36 semester credit hours of approved coursework is required for the Non-Thesis Option (Professional Track) MAAL students.

The 36-hour Thesis Option (Research Track) curriculum is structured with 21 hours of required courses and 15 hours of electives. Students may use up to 6 hours of their elective coursework as MARA 691 research hours. Students should consult with the Graduate Advisor or their advisory committee regarding required and elective coursework.

The 36-hour Non-Thesis Option (Professional Track) curriculum is structured with 21 hours of required courses and 15 hours of elective coursework. Students should consult with the Graduate Advisor or their advisory committee regarding required and elective coursework.

Transfer of Credit

On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs

Students may transfer a maximum of 12 hours of courses or one-third of the total hours of the degree plan, whichever number is greater, from an approved institution upon the advice of their advisory committee. Courses taken in residence at an accredited U.S. institution or approved international institution with a final grade of B or better might be considered for transfer credit if, at the time the courses were completed, the student was in degree-seeking status at Texas A&M University at Galveston or at the institution at which the courses were taken, and if the courses would be accepted for credit toward a similar degree for students in degree-seeking status at the host institution.

Coursework in which no formal grades are given or in which grades other than letter grades (A, B, C, etc.) are given (for example, CR, P, S, U, H, etc.) is not accepted for transfer credit. Courses appearing on the degree plan with grades of D, F or U may not be absolved by transfer work. Credit for thesis research or the equivalent is not transferable. Credit for coursework submitted for transfer from any college or university must be shown in semester credit hours or equated to semester credit hours. Students must have an official transcript sent directly from the university in which the transfer coursework was taken to the Texas A&M at Galveston Office of Admissions and Records. Courses completed at other institutions are not included in computing the GPA.

Limitations on the Use of Transfer, Extension and Certain Other Courses

On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs

If otherwise acceptable, certain courses may be used toward meeting credit-hour requirements for the master's degree under the following limitations.

1. The total of any combination of A and B below may not exceed the greater of either 12 hours or one third (1/3) of the total hours on the degree plan. The following restrictions apply.
   a. Courses taken in residence at an accredited U.S. institution, or approved international institution with a final grade of B or greater, will be considered for transfer credit if, at the time the courses were completed, the student was in degree-seeking
Students must submit their thesis in electronic format as a single PDF. Maritime Business Administration students must submit their thesis to the student's advisory committee and the Head of the Department of Maritime Business Administration. After successful defense (or exemption from) and approval by the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, an acceptable thesis is required for the Master of Maritime Business Administration and Logistics degree. An acceptable thesis is required for the Master of Maritime Business Administration and Logistics degree. In addition, any combination of 685, 690, 691 and 695 may not exceed 12 credit hours.

The 36-hour thesis-option curriculum is structured with 21 hours of required courses and 15 hours of optional elective courses of which at least 6 hours are in 691 courses. Additional flexibility to replace required courses targeted to their area of research is available to thesis-option students upon recommendation and approval by their committees and the Head of the Department of Maritime Business Administration.

**Thesis Proposal**

**On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs**

For the thesis option, the student must prepare a thesis proposal for approval by the advisory committee and the head of the Department of Maritime Business Administration. This proposal must be submitted to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies at least 15 working days prior to the submission of the request for the final examination. There are compliance issues that must be addressed if graduate students are performing research involving human subjects, animals, infectious biohazards and recombinant DNA. Students involved in these types of research should check with the Office of Research Compliance and Biosafety at (979) 458-1467 to address questions about all research compliance responsibilities. Additional information can also be obtained on the website rcb.tamu.edu.

**Final Examination/Thesis Defense**

**On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs**

This section applies to thesis students only.

A student must pass a final examination by dates announced each semester or summer term in the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies Calendar. To be eligible to take the final examination, a student's GPA must be at least 3.000 for courses on the degree plan and for all courses completed at Texas A&M which are eligible to be applied to a graduate degree, and there must be no unabsolved grades of D, F or U for any course listed on the degree plan. To absolve a deficient grade, the student must repeat the course at Texas A&M University and achieve a grade of C or better. All coursework on the degree plan must have been completed with the exception of those hours for which the student is registered. For thesis-option students, an approved thesis proposal must be on file in the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies according to published deadlines prior to the final examination or submission of the request for exemption from the final examination.

A request to hold and announce the final examination must be submitted to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies a minimum of 10 working days in advance of the scheduled date for the examination. The Office of Graduate and Professional Studies must be notified in writing of any cancellations. A student may be given only one opportunity to repeat the final examination for the master's degree and that must be within a time period that does not extend beyond the end of the next regular semester (summer terms are excluded).

For thesis option students, the final examination covers the thesis and all work taken on the degree plan and at the option of the committee may not exceed 12 credit hours.

Exceptions will only be permitted in unusual cases and when petitioned by the student's advisory committee and approved by the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

**Thesis Option**

**On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs**

The thesis option is designed to allow the student to demonstrate research capabilities through developing an independent and thorough investigation of a particular problem of interest. This would also prepare the student for further graduate studies. An acceptable thesis is required for the Master of Maritime Business Administration and Logistics degree for students who select the thesis option program. The finished work must reflect a comprehensive understanding of the pertinent literature and express in clear English, the problem(s) for study, the method, and the significance and results of the student's original research. Guidelines for the preparation of the thesis are available in the Thesis Manual which is available online at http://ogaps.tamu.edu.

After successful defense (or exemption from) and approval by the student's advisory committee and the Head of the Department of Maritime Business Administration, students must submit their thesis to . Students must submit their thesis in electronic format as a single PDF file.
be written or oral or both. The final examination may not be administered before the thesis is available to all members of the student’s advisory committee in substantially final form, and all members have had adequate time to review the document. The examination is conducted by the student’s advisory committee as finally constituted. A thesis option student must be registered in the University in the semester or summer term in which the final examination is taken. Persons other than members of the graduate faculty may, with mutual consent of the candidate and the major professor, attend final examinations for advanced degrees. Upon completion of the questioning of the candidate, all visitors must excuse themselves from the proceedings. A positive vote by all members of the graduate committee with at most one dissent is required to pass a student on his or her exam. A department, or interdisciplinary degree program, may have a stricter requirement provided there is consistency within all degree programs within a department or interdisciplinary degree program.

The Report of the Final Examination Form must be submitted with original signatures of only the committee members approved by the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies. If an approved committee member substitution (1 only) has been made, his/her signature must also be submitted to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies. If necessary, multiple copies of the form may be submitted with different committee member original signatures. If an approved committee member substitution (1 only) has been made, his/her signature must be included on the form submitted to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

**Non-Thesis Option**

**On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs**

A final examination is not required for the non-thesis option.

**Additional Requirements**

**On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs**

**Additional Requirements**

- Residence (p. 4)
- Continuous Registration (p. 4)
- Time Limit (p. 4)
- Scholarship (p. 4)
- Application to Degree (p. 4)
- Licensing Program Requirements (p. 4)

**Residence**

**On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs**

No residence requirement exists; however, attention is directed to the rules regarding Limitations on the Use of Transfer, Extension and Certain Other Courses.

**Continuous Registration**

**On-Campus and Distance Education Degree Programs**

Students in the thesis option of the Master of Maritime Business Administration and Logistics program who have completed all coursework on their degree plans other than 691 (Research) are required to be in continuous registration until all requirements for the degree have been completed. See Continuous Registration Requirements (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/academic-expectations-general-degree-requirements/registration-academic-status/).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MART 202</td>
<td>Ship Stability and Trim</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 204</td>
<td>Terrestrial Navigation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 208</td>
<td>Maritime Meteorology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 210</td>
<td>Integrated Navigation I: RADAR/ARPA/ECDIS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 212</td>
<td>Marine Dry Cargo Operations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 215</td>
<td>Seamanship II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 303</td>
<td>Celestial Navigation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 307</td>
<td>Global Maritime Distress Safety System</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 310</td>
<td>Integrated Navigation II: Electronic Navigation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 313</td>
<td>Marine Liquid Cargo Operations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 321</td>
<td>Navigation Rules, International and Inland</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 410</td>
<td>Integrated Navigation III: Bridge Watchstanding</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 498</td>
<td>Maritime Medical Care</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NVSC 200</td>
<td>Naval Science for the Merchant Marine Officer</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cruise Coursework:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MART 200</td>
<td>Deck Sea Training I: Basic Communications, Navigation and Seamanship</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 300</td>
<td>Deck Sea Training II: Intermediate Communications, Navigation and Seamanship</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MART 350 or Deck Sea Training II – Commercial Internship</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MART 400</td>
<td>Deck Sea Training III: Advanced Communications, Navigation and Seamanship</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Courses complete a Training Record Book which includes USCG required Basic Safety Training, Ratings Performing a Navigational Watch, First Aid Provider, and Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch. All STCW related courses must be completed with a C or better to meet license standards. Furthermore, the Midshipmen are required to complete mandatory sea service, participate in the USCG approved Corps of Midshipmen License Option Program, complete a degree, and pass license examination administered by the USCG. Candidates will also have to follow all regulations set forth in 46 CFR 1.910 and 46 CFR 310, STCW as amended, and USCG Texas A&M Maritime Academy approved Standard Operating Procedure and any other regulations required by Texas A&M Maritime Academy License Option programs.

This degree requires full participation in the Texas A&M University Maritime Academy Corps of Cadets as a qualified License Option cadet. Refer to the University catalog section for the Texas A&M Maritime Academy for detailed requirements. In addition to the academic requirements outlined here, the cadet must also complete the following requirements to receive the degree:

- Successfully complete required sea service and minimum training cruise requirements.

- Pass a comprehensive professional examination (either the Third Mate Unlimited- Oceans or Third Assistant Engineering Unlimited) administered by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG).

- Successfully complete all competencies required by the International Convention on Standards for Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW).

Note: STCW competency certifications expire 5 years after completion. If the cadet does not complete the degree within that time period, the cadet will be required to revalidate the expired competency prior to graduation.

*This program prepares students for the opportunity to pursue an occupational license. Please refer to the Notification for Students Pursuing an Occupational License in our catalog for additional information.*