

MARITIME STUDIES - BA

Maritime Studies (MAST) offers students a unique opportunity to examine the varied ways humans use and impact coastal and maritime environments.

This program is well suited for students seeking to understand the vital and synergistic relationship humans have with the sea.

With 40% of the world's population living within 60 miles of a coastline, a myriad of interests and demand for jobs dependent upon coastal areas exist, such as:

- Energy exploration and use
- Preservation and conversation of culture
- Historical research
- Underwater archaeology
- Contract archaeology
- Commercial fisheries
- Museums and their management
- Policy changes
- The effects of rising sea levels and changing coastal climates on coastal communities
- Human rights at sea

By studying the history, archaeology, literature, and politics of maritime peoples and cultures from ancient times to present, Maritime Studies graduates gain a comprehensive understanding of the interconnected issues, while achieving an excellent broad-based interdisciplinary education with a distinctive, international emphasis.

Working closely with their undergraduate advisor, students tailor the MAST degree program to suit their interests and career goals, and have many opportunities for enrichment activities contribute to a healthy graduation portfolio. Activities can include enrollment in an internship suited to their career interest, participation in field studies, concentration on a particular topic with a professor of their choice, and/or studying abroad for a semester. MAST students are able to train as a crew member on a working 19th century tall ship, The Elissa. MAST students are encouraged to pursue at least one minor, usually in Anthropology, English, Diving, Museum Studies or History, and many earn two.

Employers understand that students of the liberal arts bring advanced comprehensive problem-solving capabilities to the job market. Upon graduation with the MAST degree, students have acquired valuable critical thinking, reasoning, and communication skills. They are prepared for a diverse choice of fields including, but not limited to, oil and gas administration, environmental management, state and federal agencies, historical and non-profit foundations, museums conservation and administration, mass and niche communication, nautical and contract archaeology, journalism, education, management, law school, and graduate studies in related fields.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric	3
MAST 240	Introduction to Maritime Studies ^{1,2}	3

Life and physical sciences (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences>) 1

Mathematics (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics>) 3

Directed elective ^{1,3} 3

Semester Credit Hours 13

Spring

ENGL 203 Writing about Literature 3

Government/Political science (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science>) 3

Language, philosophy and culture (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture>) 3

Mathematics (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics>) 3

MAST elective ^{1,4} 3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Second Year

Fall

ANTH 225 Introduction to Biological Anthropology 4
& ANTH 226 and Introduction to Biological Anthropology Laboratory ¹

HIST 232 History of American Sea Power 3

Creative arts (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts>) 3

Social and behavioral sciences (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences>) 3

Directed elective ^{1,3} 3

Semester Credit Hours 16

Spring

ANTH 210 Social and Cultural Anthropology ¹ 3

POLS 232 Introduction to Maritime Public Policy ¹ 3

American history (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history>) 3

Government/Political science (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science>) 3

General elective 3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Third Year

Fall

ANTH 316 Nautical Archaeology ¹ 3

MAST 365 Material Culture ¹ 3

Life and physical sciences (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences>) 4

MAST elective ^{1,4} 3

MAST elective ^{1,4}	3
Semester Credit Hours	16
Spring	
ENGL 335 Literature of the Sea ¹	3
HIST 242 United States Maritime History ¹	3
Directed elective ^{1,3}	3
MAST elective ^{1,4}	3
MAST elective ^{1,4}	3
Semester Credit Hours	15
Fourth Year	
Fall	
ENGL 415 Studies in a Major Author ¹	3
MAST 425 Thesis and Technical Writing ¹	3
MAST elective ^{1,4}	3
MAST elective ^{1,4}	3
General elective	3
Semester Credit Hours	15
Spring	
MAST 411 International Maritime Culture ¹	3
Directed elective ^{1,3}	3
MAST elective ^{1,4}	3
MAST elective ^{1,4}	3
General elective	3
Semester Credit Hours	15
Total Semester Credit Hours	120

¹ Must make a grade of C or better.

² Required the first semester in the MAST program.

³ Select from ANTH 202, ANTH 313, ANTH 350, ANTH 409, ANTH 423, ANTH 485; COMM 203, COMM 365/JOUR 365; ENGL 330, ENGL 334, ENGL 338, ENGL 339/AFST 339, ENGL 374/WGST 374, ENGL 484, ENGL 485; HIST 226, HIST 370, HIST 373, HIST 374, HIST 405, HIST 485; KINE 199; MARA 212, MARA 421, MARA 435, MARA 470; POLS 353, POLS 366; SPAN 101, SPAN 102, SPAN 201, SPAN 202. A maximum of 3 hours of KINE 199, and a maximum of 3 hours of 484 or 485 may be used for directed electives.

⁴ Select from ANTH 318, ANTH 330, ANTH 351, ANTH 484; CLAS 371; MAST 200-499 (<https://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/mast/>) (except MAST 365, MAST 480, MAST 481); PHIL 314; POLS 231, POLS 347. A maximum combination of 6 hours of 484, 485 and/or 491 may be used as MAST electives.

Students in the BA-MAST program must maintain a portfolio of artifacts from MAST required coursework. The portfolio is developed over the course of the undergraduate career, and upon completion, will contain artifacts from each MAST required course. The Portfolio is assessed for completion during the last term of enrollment, after the student submits the graduation application. The completion of the portfolio requirement will be assessed by the Maritime Studies faculty.