

WILLIAM F. THOMPSON SCHOOL OF

MARINE TRANSPORTATION

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

These dynamic majors lead to career opportunities as a deck officer aboard a wide variety of vessels from unlimited-tonnage commercial ships to tugs, barges, and smaller commercial craft. Students will also pursue a Bachelor of Science degree.

Marine Transportation Core Courses

All Marine Transportation students, whether in the Marine Transportation Operations or Vessel Operations and Technology major, are required to study the following subjects:

- Introduction to Nautical Science
- Ocean Survival
- Firefighting
- Seamanship
- Cargo Operations
- Terrestrial Navigation
- Navigation Rules
- Celestial Navigation
- Meteorology
- Electronic Navigation
- Ship Stability
- Ship Handling
- Marine Communications
- Casualty Analysis
- Medical Care Provider

Marine Transportation Elective Courses

In addition to the required courses for the MTO, VOT, or SVO majors, students can pursue their interests, build their knowledge, and refine their skills choosing from Marine

Transportation electives such as:

- Weather Routing
- Tug and Barge Operations
- Advanced Tanker Operations
- Yacht Management
- Transiting Polar Regions
- Azimuth Stern Drive Operations
- Traditional, Modern, and Auxiliary Sail Vessel Technologies

Marine Transportation Operations (MTO) Major*

Successful completion of this major leads to a Bachelor of Science degree, Third Mate License, Unlimited Tonnage, and appropriate STCW credentials issued by the U.S. Coast Guard, allowing career options of sailing as a deck officer on any size vessel on any ocean. In addition to the core courses, students will learn vessel operations and navigation while studying subjects such as:

- Ship Structure
- Tanker Operations
- Marine Transportation
- Ship's Business
- Watchkeeping

**This major requires participation in the Maine Maritime Academy Regiment of Midshipmen.*

Vessel Operations and Technology (VOT) Major**

Successful completion of this major leads to a Bachelor of Science degree and has the option of a Mate 500- or 1600-ton License, and appropriate STCW credentials issued by the U.S.

B.S. DEGREES

**Marine Transportation Operations
Vessel Operations and Technology**

A.S. DEGREES

**Small Vessel Operations
Small Craft Design
Small Craft Systems**

Coast Guard. Career options include sailing as a deck officer aboard vessels with commensurate tonnages. In addition to the core courses, students will learn vessel operations and navigation while studying subjects such as:

- Vessel Operations
- Small Craft Technology
- Small Craft Construction
- Marine Systems
- Diesel Power
- Workboat Operations

***In this major, participation in the Maine Maritime Academy Regiment of Midshipmen is a personal choice.*

Small Vessel Operations (SVO)

This major leads to an Associate of Science degree and a Mate 200-ton U.S. Coast Guard License. Students pursuing this program follow the course progression of the first 2 years of the VOT program.

AT-SEA TRAINING

Marine Transportation Operations (MTO)

Students choosing this major are required to complete 360 sea days. Sea time is accomplished through specialized laboratories, simulation, and three distinct at-sea experiences: two training voyages aboard the Training Ship *State of Maine* and one summer Cadet Shipping assignment.

Training Cruises: At the conclusion of the first and third years, students will gain sea experience aboard the college's Training Ship *State of Maine*. Typically scheduled during the summer months, training cruises often include domestic and foreign ports of call. Students gain the practical skills required of a licensed deck officer. The first cruise provides an introduction to both the deck and engineering aspects of a ship's operations. The junior cruise focuses on deck officer training, watch-standing, and ship's maintenance.

Cadet Shipping: Following the second year at MMA, students will spend 90 days sailing a commercial merchant ship, typically aboard a tanker, container ship, bulk carrier, passenger ship, or other specialized vessel. This experience immerses the student in the shipping industry, providing an opportunity to hone skills and knowledge, and to learn from other professional seafaring officers in the marine transportation industry.



Vessel Operations & Technology (VOT)

Students choosing this major are required to complete 240 sea days. In order to qualify for the Mate 500- or 1600-ton License, sea service must be earned aboard appropriately-sized vessels over three cooperative work experiences. These experiences typically occur between each academic year and may be gained aboard a variety of commercial vessels including tugs, supply vessels, ferries, and even tall ships.

Small Vessel Operations (SVO)

Students choosing this major are required to complete 120 sea days before the Mate 200-ton License can be issued. Like the VOT major, these experiences may be aboard a variety of commercial vessels including tugs, supply vessels, ferries, and tall ships.

SETTING MMA APART

Compare Maine Maritime Academy to other colleges and see what sets us apart:

- 90+% professional job placement
- Low student-to-faculty ratio of 15:1

- Ocean-rated tug and barge, schooner, research vessel, navigational training vessel, sailing fleet
- Annual at-sea experience
- Small, safe campus setting
- Location directly on the ocean
- Strong professional reputation
- Variety of cooperative education opportunities
- State-of-the-art shiphandling and navigation simulators
- Full-service boatyard with marine travel lift and boat shop
- Lifestyle options: regimented or independent
- Public college tuition

OUR WATERCRAFT

Maine Maritime Academy's waterfront is filled with many types of vessels. Depending on your personal or program interests, you'll take the helm and sail aboard some of the following.

- *State of Maine*, a 500' training ship
- *Bowdoin*, an 88' schooner
- *Capt. Susan J. Clark*, a 70' training vessel
- *Pentagoet*, a 76' tugboat
- *Oyster Bay*, a 230' barge
- *Friendship*, a 47' research vessel
- 50+ additional sail and power vessels

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Marine Transportation Operations and Vessel Operations and Technology majors lead to professional licensing opportunities.

Marine Transportation Operations (MTO)***

- USCG Third Mate License, Unlimited Tonnage, Any Oceans, and STCW credentials
- USCG Able Seaman, Unlimited

Vessel Operations and Technology (VOT) ***

- USCG Mate 500-ton or 1,600-ton License, Near Coastal or Oceans depending upon sea time, and STCW credentials
- USCG Able Seaman, Special

Small Vessel Operations (SVO) ***

- USCG Mate 200-ton License, Near Coastal (up to 200 miles)
- USCG Able Seaman, Special

Sail Training Concentration

Courses leading to an Auxiliary Sail endorsement, with qualifying sea time under sail, include:

- Auxiliary Sail Vessel Operations
- Traditional Vessel Technology
- Two-month Auxiliary Sail Training Cruise

***Auxiliary Sail Endorsement available upon successful completion of additional requirements.

CAREER OPTIONS

Professional maritime careers encompass a wide variety of professions. Depending upon your major, you may find yourself employed as an officer aboard:

- Commercial Merchant Ships
- Tug and Barges
- Offshore Supply Vessels
- Dynamic Positioning Vessels
- Coast Guard or Navy Vessels
- Tall Ships

LEARN MORE

Visit mainemaritime.edu for helpful information on all aspects of Maine Maritime Academy academics, student life, and admissions. Admissions counselors are always available to speak with you — simply give us a call. Our online catalog is regularly updated and should be referred to for complete programming.

