The Maritime Studies (MAST) concentration focuses on the reality that the Earth is going through the greatest revolution in modern human history. Temperatures are rising at a rate unprecedented in recent geological time, impacting every human endeavor and the entire world economy. Cyclonic storms (hurricanes, monsoons, and cyclones) are increasing in size, frequency and intensification rate globally, leading to vast losses of human life and profound alterations of coastal communities. Inextricably linked to these changes are the world's oceans: the oceans control the world's climate, feed billions of people (and yet seafood supplies are rapidly diminishing as the ocean warms), and sea level is rising and swamping immense areas of inhabited coastline around the world. Global climate change further presses profoundly upon the fundamental issues of environmental justice and equitability, societal inclusivity, sustainability, and knows no diversity boundaries.

We encourage students to investigate these subjects from the perspectives of the humanities, social sciences, and physical sciences. Maritime Studies is an interdisciplinary, cross-divisional program that includes literature, history, policy, and science of the ocean.

Candidates for the concentration in Maritime Studies must complete a minimum of seven courses: the interdisciplinary introductory course (GEOS 104 Oceanography), four intermediate core courses (at Williams-Mystic), an elective, and the senior seminar. Students who have completed other study-away programs that emphasize maritime studies should consult with the Environmental Studies chair about the possibility of completing the Maritime Studies concentration.

**Required Courses (6 courses)**

**Introductory Course**
MAST/ENVI/GEOS 104 Oceanography
Note: Students who take MAST 211/GEOS 210 (Oceanographic Processes) at Williams-Mystic may substitute an extra elective in lieu of GEOS 104.

**Capstone Course**
In their junior or senior year, Maritime Studies concentrators must take a 400-level Environmental Studies seminar along with majors and concentrators in Environmental Studies. Specific course offerings will vary from year to year, but will emphasize real-world problem-solving and applied research.

**Core Courses (taken as part of Williams-Mystic Program at Mystic Seaport)**
MAST/ENGL 231 Literature of the Sea
311/Biol 231 Marine Ecology OR MAST 211/GEOS 210 Oceanographic Processes
MAST/ENVI 351/PSCI 319 Marine Policy
MAST/HIST 352 American Maritime History

**Elective Course(s) - one required**
Elective courses are listed based on either a clear maritime statement in the course description or broad practical/theoretical applicability to maritime studies. Concentrators will take a minimum of one course from the lists below. If concentrators find other courses in the catalog that they believe meet the requirements for a MAST elective, they may bring them to the attention of the Chair or Associate Director.

**Maritime History**
HIST/AFR 248 The Caribbean: From Slavery to Independence
HIST/JAPN/ASST 321 History of U.S.-Japan Relations
HIST/ASST/INST 391 When India was the World: Trade, Travel and History in the Indian Ocean

**Marine Policy**
ECON/ENVI 213 Introduction to Environmental and Natural Resources Economics
ECON/ENVI 386/ECON 518 Environmental and Natural Resource Policy
ENVI 307/PSCI 317 Environmental Law
PSCI 223 International Law
PSCI 229 Global Political Economy
PSCI 347 Law of the Sea
ENVI/PSCI 328 Global Environmental Politics

**Marine Science**
GEOS 212 / BIOL 211 Paleobiology
GEOS/ENVI 215 Climate Changes
GEOS 302 Sedimentology
GEOS/MAST/ENVI Corals and Sea Level
GEOS/ENVI/MAST 314 Analytical Historical Geology
GEOS/MAST/ENVI 404 Coastal Processes and Geomorphology
BIOL 414 Life at Extremes: Molecular Mechanisms

Honors in Maritime Studies: see details in course catalog.