

**Nautical Science Program – Naut. 302b
Master's – Advanced Navigation & Seamanship, level 4
USCG Merchant Mariners Masters Credential Preparation Course**

Academic Units: 2- Degree credit is not offered for this course

Offered: Spring Semester Only

Class Days: Wednesday's 3:00PM – 4:50PM

Contact Hours: Total 250 hrs.

Campus Lectures – 28 hours

Sea-time Laboratories – 232 hours:

8-hour." Skipper Preparedness Training"

24- hours "Performance Boat II" And Celestial Navigation Practice

8- hours "302b Practical Instruction"

24-hours "NROTC Midshipmen Crew Training Sail"

48- hours 2nd Mate Training Sail

96- hours as mate on voyages for naut 301a

4- hours CPR, AED, and First Aid certification

Review Dates: April 28th @ 3pm

Final Exam Dates: May 7- 14th, 2025

**(Students should not make travel arrangements which conflict w/
assigned exam times per university policy)**

Location:

<http://priceschool.usc.edu/naut/>

USC Campus for weekly lectures.

Off campus laboratories- San Pedro, Long Beach and Port of Los Angeles.

Instructors:

Captain Lars Harding, Faculty & Program Administrator

Office: Physical Education Building - PED 302b

Office Hours:

Capt. Harding, By appointment or drop-ins 2-2:45 & 5-5:45pm wed's

Contact Info:

Captain Harding - (562) 230-5277, Lharding@usc.edu

Phone and email messages will be returned within 48 hrs.

Note: When engaged in offshore voyages with students there may be a delayed response.

USCG Accreditation:

This course is Certificated by the United States Coast Guard (USCG) for sea time toward a "U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariners Masters Credential". (**USCG Certificate UNIVSC-155**).

Course Description:

This course is the culmination of four semesters of training, classroom work and sea time laboratories taught at the University of Southern California's Nautical Science Program. Designed for advanced level students who wish to pursue a "Merchant Mariner's Masters Credential" issued by the United States Coast Guard (USCG). Successful students leave this accredited training course with the necessary skills and understanding to safely navigate a passenger vessel at sea under power or sail. Upon completion, students in this course apply the following concepts and skills as necessary for safe navigation: Traditional navigation methods, charting and piloting knowledge, electronic navigation equipment including; GPS, Radar, Sonar, AIS and VHF. Celestial Navigation training, Marine weather meteorology, modeling and forecasting, admiralty law as applied to collision avoidance and coastal piloting. Department of Homeland Security and United States Coast Guard navigation rules for all ships operating in inland and international waters. Damage control and emergency procedures for fire, sinking, grounding, injuries, CPR, AED and 1st Aid. Seamanship, sail handling, sail trim, maneuvering both under power and sail. And lastly, an understanding of environmental laws and acceptable USCG practices for discharge and stowage of all types of marine fuels, combustibles, sewage and effluents.

At-Sea laboratories will include practical application of advanced sail training and handling skills, advanced vessel maneuvering skills under both power and sail, application of advanced navigation and piloting skills, operation of navigational marine electronics, advanced anchoring, docking, mooring skills, man-overboard recovery, engine maintenance course and skipper/command preparedness practical.

Learning Objectives:

Students gain knowledge and understanding of the following vessel command skills:

- USCG licensing requirements
- Dept. Homeland Security Navigation Rules (Inland and International)
- Piloting Rules for "Lights, Shapes and Sound Signals aboard ship"
- Advanced Navigation
- Celestial Navigation- Noon Shot.
- Advanced Marine Weather
- Boat Handling and Seamanship
- Admiralty laws regarding piloting of vessels
- Damage control, emergency procedures, lifesaving skills

Prerequisite(s): Nautical Science 001A and 001B

Co-Requisite(s): None

Concurrent Enrollment Options: Special dispensations for concurrent enrollment may be discussed in person and approval will be given by program administrator and based upon experience.

Course Notes:

Course enrollment is allowed for Letter Grade, Pass/Not Pass and Audit. Attendance at all lectures, off-campus laboratories and sailing events is required. Dates for these components of the course will be arranged during the first three weeks of lectures. Copies of the lecture slides, instructional videos and other class information will be posted on Blackboard. **United States Coast Guard license track students must enroll for a letter grade.** Students must complete all "at sea labs" to receive exponential sea time issued by the USCG for license track.

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

The following are available at the USC Book Store and Safe Navigation Stores

Text:

USDHS-USCG Navigation Rules Int. and Inland (Required)

EZ Nautical Celestial Almanac- current edition (Required)

Piloting, Seamanship & Small Boat Handling, Chapman (provided for reference)

Celestial Navigation, Tom Cunliffe

Charts: 1210 TR Martha's Vineyard to Block Island (provided as reference)

18746 U.S. West Coast- San Pedro Channel (provided as reference)

18749 U.S. West Coast – San Pedro Bay (provided as reference)

Description and Assessment of Assignments:

A mid-term examination will be given during the 7th- 9th week of classes. Attendance is mandatory to all off campus laboratories. The final examination will require significant demonstration of charting, navigation and seamanship skills acquired during off campus events.

Grading Breakdown:

5%	Lecture Attendance. Note that attendance is required to participate in the off-campus laboratories
20%	Midterm Examination
10%	Celestial Navigation Fix
20%	(4% each) "Performance Boat II, 002B Practical Day Sail, Skipper Preparedness, Sabot Sailing".
<u>45%</u>	<u>Final Exam</u>
02%	Extra credit

Grading of Final Examination

(Due to the challenging nature of this exam and historical results the following curve is used)

A	95-100
A-	80-94
B+	77-79
B	66-76
B-	60-65
C+	57-59
C	53-56
C-	50-52
D+	47-49
D	43-46
D-	40-42
F	39 and below

Course Grading Scale

≥ 90% = A, ≥ 80% = B, ≥ 70% = C, ≥ 60% = D, Failing Work < 45% or missing assignments or attendance

Assignment Submission Policy

Mid-term examination must be taken during the scheduled lecture. Participation in off-campus instructional laboratories and multiple sailing voyages are mandatory. Off-campus activities will be scheduled during the first three weeks of class. Changes to scheduled "at-sea voyages" may only be made with advanced notice and in person with compelling and legitimate conflict or documented illness.

Grading Timeline

Final class grades will be submitted per standardized university policies and procedures.

Special Needs Students are Welcome!

Please contact Capt. Lars P. Harding, Program Administrator to discuss accommodations

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

	Topics / Daily Activities	Learning Objectives	Readings and Homework	Deliverable/ Due Dates
Week 1	Course/ Syllabus review, laboratory scheduling, "Sea book" time logging,	USCG requirements for Master's Credential license track students Participating as a teaching assist.	Blackboard slides "Sea book" for time documentation	Classroom work
Week 2	Scheduling Labs	Seamanship skills	Knot booklet, splicing, whipping hand-outs	
Week 3	Navigation proficiency Charting, piloting review	Advanced navigational & traditional charting skills	Blackboard slides and online videos Hand- outs	
Week 4	Advanced Navigation & Charting, electronic Navigation, Celestial Navigation	Students apply traditional or electronic navigation skills as situation demand. Celestial understanding	Blackboard slides and online videos Hand-outs	
Weeks 5-6	Celestial Navigation	Seamanship skills, passenger, crew and ship safety. Noon Fix procedures	Blackboard slides and online videos	
Week 7	Traditional charting, fixes. USCG Governance rules book	Seamanship and command skills USCG Laws and responsibilities	Blackboard slides and online videos	
Weeks 8	USCG/DHLS Nav Rules: Inland and International waters	Command skills, crew communication, ship safety	Text: US Dept of Homeland security Navigation Rules	
Week 9	USCG/DHLS Nav rules for ships: Inland and international waters	Bridge operations and vessel command, ship safety	Text: US Dept of Homeland security Navigation Rules	Mid-term- USCG Navigation Rules Int. and Inland
Week 10-11	USCG/DHLS Rules lights/sounds aboard	Boat Handling and Seamanship US Coast Guard laws	Blackboard slides and online videos	
Week 12	Health aboard ship, nutrition, provisioning sanitation for a disease-free ship	Maintenance of officer/crew/health aboard ship Nutrition requirements	Hand-outs, blackboard slides	
Week 13	CPR, AED, First Aid training- Drowning and hyperthermia	Demands of shipboard life and passenger and crew safety		
Weeks 14-15	Final Exam review Charting review Navigation review	Final Exam Week 16- per USC final exams schedule and policies	Blackboard, videos, slides, hand-outs, practical's	
Week 16	Final Exams			Date/Time: See USC Schedule of Classes at classes.usc.edu/

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct:

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in “SCampus” Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

Support Systems:

Student Counseling Services (SCS) – (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention. engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1 (800) 273-8255

Provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) – (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm. engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp

Sexual Assault Resource Center

For more information about how to get help or help a survivor, rights, reporting options, and additional resources, visit the website: sarc.usc.edu

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED)/Title IX Compliance – (213) 740-5086

Works with faculty, staff, visitors, applicants, and students around issues of protected class. equity.usc.edu

Bias Assessment Response and Support

Incidents of bias hate crimes and microaggressions need to be reported allowing for appropriate investigation and response. studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support

The Office of Disability Services and Programs

Provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange relevant accommodations. dsp.usc.edu

USC Support and Advocacy (USCSA) – (213) 821-4710

Assists students and families in resolving complex issues adversely affecting their success as a student EX: personal, financial, and academic. studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa.

Diversity at USC

Information on events, programs and training, the Diversity Task Force (including representatives for each school), chronology, participation, and various resources for students. diversity.usc.edu

USC Emergency Information

Provides safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible. emergency.usc.edu

USC Department of Public Safety – UPC: (213) 740-4321 – HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24-hour emergency or to report a crime.

Provides overall safety to USC community. dps.usc.edu

Academic Integrity

The University of Southern California is foremost a learning community committed to fostering successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas. Academic misconduct is in contrast to the university's mission to educate students through a broad array of first-rank academic, professional, and extracurricular programs and includes any act of dishonesty in the submission of academic work (either in draft or final form).

This course will follow the expectations for academic integrity as stated in the [USC Student Handbook](#). All students are expected to submit assignments that are original work and prepared specifically for the course/section in this academic term. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s). Students suspected of engaging in academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Other violations of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

The impact of academic dishonesty is far-reaching and is considered a serious offense against the university and could result in outcomes such as failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension, or even expulsion from the university.

For more information about academic integrity see the [student handbook](#) or the [Office of Academic Integrity's website](#), and university policies on [Research and Scholarship Misconduct](#).