John Williams-Mystic Maritime Studies Program
Executive Director: Thomas Van Winkle

The Williams College-Mystic Seaport Maritime Studies Program offers students a unique opportunity to explore the ocean, travel the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf coasts, and conduct original primary research of their own design in the humanities and sciences. Williams-Mystic is considered the coastal and ocean studies campus of Williams College. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors of all majors welcome to apply. A term at Williams-Mystic includes credit for one semester plus one Winter Study requirement, as well writing-intensive course credit. Four Williams courses are offered as an interdisciplinary curriculum in the semester-long program based at Mystic Seaport, in Mystic, Connecticut: Americans and the Maritime Environment, Literature of the Oceans, Marine Policy, and either Marine Ecology or Oceanographic Processes. Travel includes an offshore voyage on the open ocean sailing aboard a tall ship, a seminar along the Pacific Coast, and a Louisiana field seminar, all of which are cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary exercises. The Spring 2019 semester will include a field seminar to Sitka, Alaska. Students live in historic, cooperative, co-ed houses at Mystic Seaport, the world’s largest maritime museum, and have full access to world-class maritime collections, a maritime library, a state-of-the-art Marine Sciences teaching and research center, and diverse coastal habitats (where field research can be undertaken in a wide variety of environments, ranging from tide pools and salt marshes to sandy beaches and estuaries). Students also participate in maritime skills under professional instruction, with choices such as ship carving, music of the sea, boat building, or small boat handling and sailing. Williams-Mystic seeks candidates who are willing to try new things and work in a compelling academic environment. No sailing experience necessary. Participation in Williams-Mystic can also be used in partial fulfillment of the Maritime Studies Concentration at Williams. Admission is competitive, and interested students should email wmadmissions@williams.edu, call 860-572-5359, or visit the Williams-Mystic website.

BIOL 231 (F) Marine Ecology
Crosslistings: BIOL231 / MAST311
Secondary Crosslisting
Using the principles of evolutionary biology and experimental ecology, this course examines the processes that control the diversity, abundance and distribution of marine organisms. Major marine communities, including estuaries, the rocky shore, sandy beaches, salt marshes, coral reefs, and the deep sea are discussed in detail.
Class Format: lecture/laboratory, including coastal and near-shore field trips, 10 days offshore, and a laboratory or field research project
Requirements/Evaluation: two tests, a research project, and a presentation
Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport
Prerequisites: BIOL 101 or GEOS/MAST 104, or permission of instructor
Distributions: (D3)
Attributes: ENVI Natural World Electives; EVST Living Systems Courses; EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01 TBA Tim J. Pusack

Spring 2019
LEC Section: 01 TBA Tim J. Pusack

ENGL 231 (F) Literature of the Sea (WI)
Crosslistings: MAST231 / ENGL231
Secondary Crosslisting
Taking advantage of our maritime museum, coastal setting, and three field seminars, we study canonical and lesser-known novelists, short-story
writers, dramatists, and poets who set their works in the watery world, often in the exact places where we travel as a class. We read, for example—depending on fall or spring semester—Ernest Hemingway when sailing on the Straits of Florida, John Steinbeck when exploring Cannery Row on Monterey Bay, and Mark Twain on a steamboat on the Mississippi. We read Kate Chopin on the sands of the Gulf of Mexico, Rudyard Kipling out on Georges Bank, and Herman Melville’s masterpiece *Moby-Dick* aboard Mystic Seaport’s historic whaleship, the *Charles W. Morgan*, a vessel nearly identical to the vessel he climbed aboard at age twenty-one. In the classroom we examine these works through a mixture of lecture, small-group discussion, and writing. To further appreciation and analysis, this interdisciplinary course uses students’ emerging knowledge of maritime history and marine science.

**Class Format:** small group tutorials with weekly lectures, including coastal and near-shore field trips and ten days at sea

**Requirements/Evaluation:** regular papers, class participation, journal-writing, and a final paper

**Extra Info:** offered only at Mystic Seaport

**Extra Info 2:** may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D1) (WI)

**Attributes:** AMST Arts in Context Electives; ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives;

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**ENVI 26 (W) Material Culture and Craft of 19th Century Coastal New England**

Crosslistings: ENVI26 / MAST25

**Secondary Crosslisting**

The goal in this course is to provide an opportunity for students to develop an intimate understanding of 19th century Mystic through lived experience. To appreciate a culture or a community so different from what we live and experience today, you must also understand the ways in which its residents shaped their world, specifically, the crafts they plied. There are few opportunities in life when this understanding can be delivered through lived experience. This will be one of them. Taking advantage of the extraordinary resources of Williams-Mystic, the coastal and ocean studies campus of Williams College located at the Mystic Seaport in Mystic, CT, this winter-study course, taught at Williams-Mystic, aims to: 1) provide rich hands-on participatory experiences that authentically mirror 19th century maritime craft and culture; and 2) offers learners a rare opportunity to delve deeply into the mindset of 19th century maritime culture by creating an authentic artifact that reflects understanding of the values and mores of this time period. There will be a number of instructors; including instructors employed by the Mystic Seaport in who specialize in chanteys, shipsmithing, ship Carving, scrimshaw, canvaworks, and boatbuilding.

**Class Format:** Williams-Mystic

**Requirements/Evaluation:** performance-based evaluation using exemplars, experts and authentic audience; final paper or project

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 12

**Enrollment Preferences:** by application

**Materials/Lab Fee:** $1,500

**Attributes:** EXPE Experiential Education Courses

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**ENVI 351 (F) Marine Policy**

Crosslistings: ENVI351 / PSCI319 / MAST351

**Secondary Crosslisting**

This seminar utilizes the interdisciplinary background of the other Williams-Mystic courses to examine national and international contemporary issues in our relationship with our ocean and marine environment. This seminar takes a topical approach to the study of ocean and coastal law and policy,
examining climate change, fisheries, coastal zone management, admiralty law, marine biodiversity, ocean and coastal pollution, and ocean governance.

Class Format: lecture, discussions, guest lectures by active professionals, and includes coastal and near-shore field trips, and 10 days offshore

Requirements/Evaluation: an independent research paper, a presentation, and a final exam

Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport

Department Notes: satisfies the Environmental Policy requirement for the Environmental studies concentration

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: ENVI Environmental Policy; EXPE Experiential Education Courses; POEC International Political Economy Courses

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01 TBA Catherine Robinson Hall
Spring 2019
LEC Section: 01 TBA Catherine Robinson Hall

GEOS 210 (F) Oceanographic Processes
Crosslistings: GEOS210 / MAST211

Secondary Crosslisting
This course examines ocean and coastal environmental science issues including carbon dioxide and the ocean's role in climate, El Niño and other ocean-atmosphere oscillations that influence our weather, coastal erosion and other hazards, coastal pollution, and fisheries. The focus is on controlling processes with regional comparisons. Blue water oceanography is conducted in the Atlantic and comparative coastal oceanography includes trips to southern New England shores, and the West and Gulf coasts of the US as part of the Williams-Mystic program.

Class Format: lecture/laboratory, including coastal and near-shore field trips, 11 days offshore, and a laboratory or field research project

Requirements/Evaluation: two tests, a research project, and a presentation

Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport

Distributions: (D3)

Attributes: ENVI Natural World Electives; EVST Living Systems Courses; EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01 TBA Lisa A. Gilbert
Spring 2019
LEC Section: 01 TBA Lisa A. Gilbert

HIST 352 (F) Americans and the Maritime Environment (WI)
Crosslistings: HIST352 / MAST352

Secondary Crosslisting
This course examines the impact of the maritime environment (both salt water and fresh) on human affairs from the age of European expansion to the opening decades of the 21st century. Taught using the collections of Mystic Seaport Museum and on several distant field seminars, Americans and the Maritime Environment examines en situ such things as race, gender, revolution, and humankind's changing relationship with the world's oceans. Readings in primary sources and secondary works on the social, economic, and technological implications of maritime activities culminate in an original research paper.

Class Format: lecture/discussion, including coastal and near-shore field trips, 10 days offshore, and an independent, primary source research project

Requirements/Evaluation: two papers, and short presentation, and final exam. Student papers will be a 5-page minimum and a 15-page minimum essay; the 15-page paper will be critiqued in three steps, as a proposal, a draft, and a final paper, with attention to reasoning and style

Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport

Prerequisites: BIOL 101 or GEOS/MAST 104, or permission of instructor

Distributions: (D2) (WI)
MAST 25 (W)  Material Culture and Craft of 19th Century Coastal New England

Crosslistings: ENVI26 / MAST25

Primary Crosslisting

The goal in this course is to provide an opportunity for students to develop an intimate understanding of 19th century Mystic through lived experience. To appreciate a culture or a community so different from what we live and experience today, you must also understand the ways in which its residents shaped their world, specifically, the crafts they plied. There are few opportunities in life when this understanding can be delivered through lived experience. This will be one of them. Taking advantage of the extraordinary resources of Williams-Mystic, the coastal and ocean studies campus of Williams College located at the Mystic Seaport in Mystic, CT, this winter-study course, taught at Williams-Mystic, aims to: 1) provide rich hands-on participatory experiences that authentically mirror 19th century maritime craft and culture; and 2) offers learners a rare opportunity to delve deeply into the mindset of 19th century maritime culture by creating an authentic artifact that reflects understanding of the values and mores of this time period. There will be a number of instructors; including instructors employed by the Mystic Seaport in who specialize in chanteys, shipsmithing, ship Carving, scrimshaw, canvasworks, and boatbuilding.

Class Format: Williams-Mystic

Requirements/Evaluation: performance-based evaluation using exemplars, experts and authentic audience; final paper or project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: by application

Materials/Lab Fee: $1,500

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses; TRVL Winter Study Travel Course

Winter 2019

TVL Section: 01    Cancelled

MAST 211 (F)  Oceanographic Processes

Crosslistings: GEOS210 / MAST211

Primary Crosslisting

This course examines ocean and coastal environmental science issues including carbon dioxide and the ocean's role in climate, El Niño and other ocean-atmosphere oscillations that influence our weather, coastal erosion and other hazards, coastal pollution, and fisheries. The focus is on controlling processes with regional comparisons. Blue water oceanography is conducted in the Atlantic and comparative coastal oceanography includes trips to southern New England shores, and the West and Gulf coasts of the US as part of the Williams-Mystic program.

Class Format: lecture/laboratory, including coastal and near-shore field trips, 11 days offshore, and a laboratory or field research project

Requirements/Evaluation: two tests, a research project, and a presentation

Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport

Distributions: (D3)

Attributes: ENVI Natural World Electives; EVST Living Systems Courses; EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Fall 2018

LEC Section: 01    TBA    Lisa A. Gilbert
Taking advantage of our maritime museum, coastal setting, and three field seminars, we study canonical and lesser-known novelists, short-story writers, dramatists, and poets who set their works in the watery world, often in the exact places where we travel as a class. We read, for example—depending on fall or spring semester—Ernest Hemingway when sailing on the Straits of Florida, John Steinbeck when exploring Cannery Row on Monterey Bay, and Mark Twain on a steamboat on the Mississippi. We read Kate Chopin on the sands of the Gulf of Mexico, Rudyard Kipling out on Georges Bank, and Herman Melville's masterpiece Moby-Dick aboard Mystic Seaport's historic whaleship, the Charles W. Morgan, a vessel nearly identical to the vessel he climbed aboard at age twenty-one. In the classroom we examine these works through a mixture of lecture, small-group discussion, and writing. To further appreciation and analysis, this interdisciplinary course uses students' emerging knowledge of maritime history and marine science.

Class Format: small group tutorials with weekly lectures, including coastal and near-shore field trips and ten days at sea

Requirements/Evaluation: regular papers, class participation, journal-writing, and a final paper

Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport

Extra Info 2: may not be taken on a pass/fail basis; not available for the fifth course option

Distributions: (D1) (WI)

Attributes: AMST Arts in Context Electives; ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives;
Primary Crosslisting

This seminar utilizes the interdisciplinary background of the other Williams-Mystic courses to examine national and international contemporary issues in our relationship with our ocean and marine environment. This seminar takes a topical approach to the study of ocean and coastal law and policy, examining climate change, fisheries, coastal zone management, admiralty law, marine biodiversity, ocean and coastal pollution, and ocean governance.

Class Format: lecture, discussions, guest lectures by active professionals, and includes coastal and near-shore field trips, and 10 days offshore

Requirements/Evaluation: an independent research paper, a presentation, and a final exam

Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport

Department Notes: satisfies the Environmental Policy requirement for the Environmental studies concentration

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: ENVI Environmental Policy; EXPE Experiential Education Courses; POEC International Political Economy Courses

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01 TBA Catherine Robinson Hall

Spring 2019
LEC Section: 01 TBA Catherine Robinson Hall

MAST 352 (F) Americans and the Maritime Environment (WI)

Crosslistings: HIST352 / MAST352

Primary Crosslisting

This course examines the impact of the maritime environment (both salt water and fresh) on human affairs from the age of European expansion to the opening decades of the 21st century. Taught using the collections of Mystic Seaport Museum and on several distant field seminars, Americans and the Maritime Environment examines en situ such things as race, gender, revolution, and humankind's changing relationship with the world's oceans. Readings in primary sources and secondary works on the social, economic, and technological implications of maritime activities culminate in an original research paper.

Class Format: lecture/discussion, including coastal and near-shore field trips, 10 days offshore, and an independent, primary source research project

Requirements/Evaluation: two papers, and short presentation, and final exam. Student papers will be a 5-page minimum and a 15-page minimum essay; the 15-page paper will be critiqued in three steps, as a proposal, a draft, and a final paper, with attention to reasoning and style

Extra Info: offered only at Mystic Seaport

Prerequisites: BIOL 101 or GEOS/MAST 104, or permission of instructor

Distributions: (D2) (WI)

Attributes: AMST Space and Place Electives; ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives; EXPE Experiential Education Courses; HIST Group F Electives - U.S. + Canada; HIST Group P Electives - Premodern;

Fall 2018
LEC Section: 01 TBA Alicia C. Maggard

Spring 2019
LEC Section: 01 TBA Alicia C. Maggard

PSCI 319 (F) Marine Policy

Crosslistings: ENVI351 / PSCI319 / MAST351

Secondary Crosslisting

This seminar utilizes the interdisciplinary background of the other Williams-Mystic courses to examine national and international contemporary issues in our relationship with our ocean and marine environment. This seminar takes a topical approach to the study of ocean and coastal law and policy, examining climate change, fisheries, coastal zone management, admiralty law, marine biodiversity, ocean and coastal pollution, and ocean
governance.

**Class Format:** lecture, discussions, guest lectures by active professionals, and includes coastal and near-shore field trips, and 10 days offshore

**Requirements/Evaluation:** an independent research paper, a presentation, and a final exam

**Extra Info:** offered only at Mystic Seaport

**Department Notes:** satisfies the Environmental Policy requirement for the Environmental studies concentration

**Distributions:** (D2)

**Attributes:** ENVI Environmental Policy; EXPE Experiential Education Courses; POEC International Political Economy Courses

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**Fall 2018**

LEC Section: 01  TBA  Catherine Robinson Hall

**Spring 2019**

LEC Section: 01  TBA  Catherine Robinson Hall