This class will survey the traditions and historical development of the coastal culture of the Northeastern United States, with an emphasis on the fishing, whaling, and seafaring history. By exploring the maritime history of the U.S., students will better understand how the Atlantic Ocean and its traditions have shaped American society and framed national identity. Through understanding the relationships between the various maritime subcultures that have influenced the northeastern portion of the U.S., students will gain a better understanding of how our government has been created at a local, state, and national level. Students will examine how our social, economic, and political roles in connection with the ocean by reading and discussing selections from numerous historical journals, books and primary sources including works of literature in which seafaring traditions are discussed and/or demonstrated.

Excursions in the co-required Coastal Cultural Experience course allow students to explore the maritime setting of the works and topics discussed in the course.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
By the end of the course, the student will demonstrate:
1. An understanding of the larger political, social, economic, intellectual and cultural issues and themes that have contributed to shaping the relationship between American history and identity and the maritime environment
2. Knowledge of the major events, ideas, trends, and problems in American history
3. Knowledge of how the America’s maritime environments have affected different groups and common institutions
4. Understanding of America’s evolving relationship with the rest of the world.
5. An ability to explain how the past has shaped the present
6. An ability to think critically by analyzing and evaluating historical events and ideas in American history and the maritime world
7. Ability to question and rethink his/her preconceived notions regarding American history.
8. Demonstrate critical understanding of a selection of primary sources.
9. Demonstrate familiarity with different interpretations of the past.
10. Express his/her own interpretations of the past.
11. Practice his/her writing, thinking, and comprehension skills in tests and reading and writing assignments.

REQUIRED TEXTS: Assorted handouts, readings and postings on Blackboard including primary and secondary source material

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
1. PARTICIPATION – 40% OF FINAL GRADE
   a. Attendance -- 10% of your final grade. You will have TWO excused absences to allow for illness or another pressing matter. ALL other absences are unexcused. In case of prolonged illness or absence for a serious reason, please contact me.
   b. Assigned readings, written homeworks, and quizzes -- 15% of your final grade. NO late homeworks & NO emailed homeworks will be accepted. There are NO makeup quizzes. Everyone has ONE excused homework OR quiz. HOMEWORKS ARE TO BE TYPED. All homeworks and quizzes are equally weighted unless otherwise specified.
   c. Participation in discussion and group work -- 15% of your final grade. This will include students taking on different group roles, as indicated by the instructor, as well as contributing orally to the class.

2. EXAMINATIONS -- 30% OF FINAL GRADE - All examinations are essay format. Students will receive a list of review questions/topics before each exam and there will be an in-class exam review.
a. Midterm -- 15% of final grade  
b. Final exam to be held during finals week -- 15% of final grade

3. PAPER/PROJECT -- 20% OF FINAL GRADE - Detailed instructions will be posted on Blackboard as well as discussed in class. This paper will be due in class when specified. Late papers will be penalized 5% per day late. The paper must be submitted to SafeAssign prior to any grade being recorded. No projects will be accepted 5 pm after the announced due date.

4. EDUCATIONAL SERVICE PROJECT -- 10% OF FINAL GRADE In an effort to disseminate material taught at Stony Brook University to members of the community, you will prepare a Detailed instructions will be posted on Blackboard as well as discussed in class. This project will be in class at a date and time to be announced. Late projects will be penalized 5% per day late. No projects will be accepted after announced the due date.

LECTURE SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS  
(Subject to change)

Readings:  

Week Two: Age of Reconnaissance  
Readings:  
a) “Digest of Columbus’s Log Book,” in J.M. Cohen, ed., Christopher Columbus: The Four Voyages  
c) Robert Juet, “Hudson Explores a River” (1609) pp. 591-595

Week Three: Mercantilism in the 1600s and Colonial Merchants & Trade  
Readings:  
a) John Smith “New England Fisheries” (1614)  
b) Parliament, “Encouraging and Increasing of Shipping and Navigation” (1660)  
c) J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur, “A Nantucket She-Merchant” (1782)

Week Four: Atlantic Crossings  
Readings:  
a) Charles Lawrence, “Dispers’d Among His Majesty’s Colonies” (1755)  
b) John Winthrop. The Voyage of the Fleet and its Arrival in New England - March 29 to July 8, 1630  
c) Jasper Dankers, “Margaret’s Ship” (1679)

Week Five: Colonial Seafarers and Enslaved Africans & Seafarers  
a) Cotton Mather, “The Sea is a School of Vice” (1700) pp.9-10, 15-18  
b) J. Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur, “Simple Whalemen” (1782)  
c) Selections from Richard Henry Dana. A Seaman’s Friend  
d) Britton Hammon, “Out of the Paw of the Lion” (1760)

Week Six: Unruly Jack Tars and Piracy  
a) William Shirley, “Knowles Riot” (1747)  
b) William Dickinson, “Burning the Gaspee” (1773)  
c) Marcus Rediker. The Pirate and the Gallows: And Atlantic theater of Terror and Resistance.
Week Seven:
Midterm –

Week Eight: Revolution & Republic and Maritime Political Economy
Readings:
a) Thomas Paine, “Common Sense” (1776)
b) Thomas Jefferson “Occupation of the Ocean” (1785)
c) Fisher Ames, “A Navigating People” (1793)

Week Nine: Merchants & Entrepreneurs and Protecting American Shipping & Seamen
a) Elias H. Derby “A Little Particular in These Orders” (1789)
b) George Nichols, “Pepper Trade” (1802)
c) Alexander Hamilton “Instructions to Revenue Cutter Commanders” (1791)

Week 10: The Golden Age & Perils of Seafaring
b) John Clark, “Lexington Testimony” (1840)
c) Henry David Thoreau, “Wreck of the St. John” (1849)

Week 11: American Whaling
Readings:
a) Selections from Herman Melville’s Moby-Dick
b) Samuel Millet, “Whaling Journal” (1849)

Week 12: The Gendered Atlantic
Readings:
c) Log of the Skipper’s Wife, James Balano

Week 13:Launching Social & Labor Reform
a) Joseph Bates, “Temperance Ship” (1828)
b) Richard Henry Dana Jr., “Flogging on the Pilgrim” (1840)

*Paper Due ***Paper must be Safely Assigned by class period***

Week 14: Fishing Cod on the Grand Banks & The Lobster Culture
Readings:
a) Selections from Mark Kurlansky’s Cod – A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World
b) Selections from Peter Matthiessen. Men’s Lives
c) The Lobster Coast, Colin Woodward
d) The Secret Life of Lobsters, Trevor Corson

Week 15:
Seafaring & Popular Culture and Conclusion
Readings:

Educational Community Service Project Due

Final Exam: (non-comprehensive) – Final Exam Week
THE USUAL DISCLAIMERS.....

Class Participation: Regular attendance is essential for the successful completion of this course. All students are expected to attend every class session in its entirety and are responsible for all that transpires in class whether or not they are in attendance. For the course to function properly, students must complete the required weekly readings and be willing to participate in the class discussions. Your in-class performance will comprise a full thirty-five percent of the total grade. You are advised to exchange contact information with one or more of your classmates in case you miss class.

Blackboard: You can access class information, documents, and assignments on-line at: http://blackboard.sunysb.edu. You should be sure to consult it at least once a week; ideally, you would log on before every class. Blackboard will be used to post class-related announcements. It is your responsibility to make sure that the email you check is the one you have marked as preferred on SOLAR so that you will receive copies of announcements. If you used Blackboard during the previous semester, your login information (Username and Password) has not changed. If you have never used Stony Brook’s Blackboard system: for help or more information see: http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/helpdesk/docs/blackboard/bbstudent.php For problems logging in, go to the helpdesk in the Main Library SINC Site or the Union SINC Site, you can also call: 631-632-9602 or e-mail: helpme@ic.sunysb.edu

Email: Faculty may ONLY communicate with you via your official College email account. If you choose to forward your official college email to another off-campus account, faculty are not responsible for any undeliverable messages to your alternative personal accounts.

Papers: Papers should be double-spaced, Times-New Roman, font size 12. Margins should be 1”. Your papers are to be turned in, on time, during class. Do not stick papers in mailboxes or under doors -- you do so at your own risk. KEEP A COPY OF EVERYTHING THAT YOU TURN IN; it will be your responsibility to produce it if somehow it is lost or stolen from the pile. Lateness will be penalized.

Writing Center: If you need assistance in writing papers, please contact your instructor as well as SBU’s Writing Center: http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/writrhet/writing_center/writing.html

Tests: If you are forced to miss an exam or paper because of an emergency, you must inform the instructor by e-mail or telephone of this fact. In order to receive the opportunity for a makeup, you must document the emergency.

Notice Concerning Disabilities: If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, medical or learning disability that may have an impact on your ability to carry out the assigned course work, please contact the staff of the Disabled Student Services (DSS) Office, 128 Educational Communications Center, 632-6748, 632-6749/TDD. DSS will review your concerns and determine, with you, what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation of disability will remain confidential.

Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following web site: http://www.ehs.sunysb.edu and search Fire safety and Evacuation and Disabilities.

Academic Integrity: Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person’s work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/

Academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or
materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Plagiarism is using others’ ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information. Students are continually engaged with other people’s ideas: they read them in texts, hear them in lectures, discuss them in their classes, and incorporate them into their own writing. As a result, it is very important that each student give credit where it is due. Plagiarism, intentional or unintentional, is considered academic dishonesty and all instances will be reported to the Academic Judiciary. To avoid plagiarism, you must give credit whenever you use another person’s idea, opinion, or theory; any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings, or any other pieces of information, that are not common knowledge; quotations of another person’s actual spoken or written words; or paraphrase of another person’s spoken or written words. Citing all sources and putting direct quotations in quotation marks are required. For further information on plagiarism, go to [http://www.wpacouncil.org/positions/WPAplagiarism.pdf](http://www.wpacouncil.org/positions/WPAplagiarism.pdf) or ask the instructor.

*** PLAGARIZED PAPERS WILL BE SENT TO ACADEMIC JUDICIARY WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF A FAILURE FOR THE COURSE ***

**Critical Incident Management Initiative:** Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students’ ability to learn. Stony Brook expects students to maintain standards of personal integrity that are in harmony with the educational goals of the institution; to observe national, state, and local laws and University regulations; and to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people.

**NO SMOKING** in the classroom including electronic cigarettes and water pipes.

**Classroom Policy:** Students are expected to follow the Stony Brook Code of Conduct while in the classroom. If you are not familiar with the Code you can find it at:


Behavior that is disruptive to the function of the class, other students, or the instructor will not be tolerated. Poor class behavior or violations to the Code of Conduct will lead to removal from the class, possible withdrawal, or suspension. Food is not permitted in class. Beverages are OK, but please bring a container the can be closed to reduce spills. If a spill occurs please clean it up immediately.

**Cell Phone and Electronic Devices:** Use of cell phones, blackberries, iPods, MP3 players, and other audio and telecommunications devices is strictly prohibited during class. The only exceptions are through permission granted by the instructor for special purposes. During regular class sessions, cell phones must be either in ‘vibrate mode’ or turned off. Calls cannot be answered. Text messaging is not allowed during class. Cell phones must be turned off and enclosed in a case, book bag, briefcase, or the like during tests and exams. YOU are responsible for ensuring this policy is followed. Students MAY NOT have cell phones, electronic dictionaries, calculators, pagers or other “information rich” devices (anything that can receive and/or store many pages of text) in their possession during tests and exams.

*** ANYONE CAUGHT TEXTING WILL BE DEDUCTED HALF AN ABSENCE ***

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100 percent</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92 percent</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89 percent</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86 percent</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82 percent</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79 percent</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76 percent</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72 percent</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69 percent</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66 percent</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62 percent</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59 percent</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>