

MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY DEPARTMENT OF MARINE TRANSPORTATION

RULES OF THE ROAD (MT2161)

FALL 2015

I. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to meet all Rules of the Road knowledge based assessments and the three performance-based assessments, which form part of the requirements for Officer in Charge of a Navigation Watch (STCW 95 Table A-II/1).

The objective of this rigorous program of study is to provide the student with a thorough knowledge of the content, application and intent of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, COLREGS, and the Unified Inland Navigation Rules and Regulations, INLAND RULES.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student will be able to discuss the differences and similarities between the COLREGS and the INLAND RULES. The student will be able to identify the traditional elements of maintaining a proper lookout at all times and in such a way as to conform to accepted “best practices.” The student will be able to identify the lights, shapes and sound signals contained in both the COLREGS and the INLAND RULES. The student will be able to recognize a vessel’s status by relative bearing, aspect, lights and sound signals. The student will be able to interpret the relevant rules that govern the actions between vessels. The student will be able to identify the elements that comprise risk of collision. The student will be able to describe the accepted principles and procedures to avoid a collision in any state of visibility. Ultimately, with shipboard, watch-standing experience, the student will be qualified to apply the Rules of the Road appropriately when serving as officer in charge of the navigation watch.

II. INSTRUCTOR

Capt. Patrick J. Modic

III. TEXT

NAVIGATION RULES: INTERNATIONAL – INLAND,
COMDINST M16672.2D AUGUST 2014 EDITION
FARWELL’S RULES OF THE ROAD, Craig H. Allen, 8th Edition

IV. ACADEMIC GRADING

"If something exists, it exists in some amount. If it exists in some amount, then it is capable of being measured." Rene Descartes, Principles of Philosophy, 1644

- A. The instructor intends to administer integral assessments biweekly during the semester and a comprehensive final exam. The purposes of the biweekly assessments are:
 - to measure the student's progress and provide feedback
 - to provide motivation
 - to ensure that the STCW Assessment standards are met
- B. **Approximately one third of each test will be based on material found solely in the assigned readings.** In addition, the instructor reserves the right to administer short unannounced tests at his discretion.
- C. Students who miss a scheduled test due to an authorized absence must personally notify the instructor prior to the test missed. Students who do not follow this procedure will be considered an unauthorized absentee and will receive a grade of zero for the test missed.
- D. The course grade prior to the final examination will be the numerical sum of all earned points divided by the total points possible.
- E. The final examination will be administered only in the period designated by the Registrar during final examination week at the end of the semester.
- F. The final course grade will be the sum of the pre-final score weighted at 66% and the final examination score weighted at 34%.

V. STCW ASSESSMENTS

- A. This course supports the following STCW elements:
 - **21A2** Maintain a safe navigational watch
 - **21A2.01** Thorough knowledge of the content, application and intent of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea
 - **21A2.02** Thorough knowledge of the Principles to be observed in keeping a navigational watch.
- B. Knowledge-based assessments will be conducted as part of this course. Students will be required to achieve a minimum grade of 70% for this course to satisfy the knowledge component of STCW. Individuals failing to achieve a minimum grade of 70% will be required to retake this course and retake the three performance-based assessments.

- C. Three performance-based assessments are associated with this course. The performance-based assessments are Pass/Fail (minimum passing grade is 90%). Each of the three performance-based assessments will be administered twice during the semester.
- D. Individuals that achieve a minimum grade of 70% but fail to pass one or more of the performance-based assessments associated with this course will receive an incomplete for the final grade.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Each student is responsible for completion of assessments, assignments and subject matter covered in the class whether he/she is present or not.
- B. Class attendance in this STCW Course is mandatory. (This means no cuts).
 - **Monday-Wednesday-Friday Schedule: more than four (4) absences from scheduled classroom lectures will result in failure of this STCW course.**
 - **Tuesday-Thursday Schedule: more than three (3) absences from the scheduled classroom lectures will result in failure of this STCW course.**

Administratively sanctioned absences are absences just as absence due to illness are absences. All absences will be reported to the Commandant's Office.

- C. Office hours are established to allow the student the opportunity to consult with the instructor. Office hours are the ideal forum to discuss individual problems and answer additional questions. If you are having a problem, do not hesitate to see your instructor.
- D. This course will use BLACKBOARD extensively as a means of communication outside the classroom and to provide additional study material to the students. Students are required to have an active BLACKBOARD account and to check it often for announcements and new material.
- E. In order to facilitate a resolution within a reasonable period, a student shall have seven calendar days from the time a test or other grading point is returned to address a clerical error in grading or to challenge a test question. This “statute of limitation” regarding the maximum time a student may seek redress shall be absolute.
- F. Massachusetts Maritime Academy is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are required to contact Mrs. Fran Tishkevich, Director of Disability Compliance (Ext.2208).

- G. Electronic communication devices, any telecommunication device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor including but not limited to: cell phones, iPhones and Blackberries, are prohibited from this class. In the event of a medical condition or personal circumstance necessitating the cadet to be in touch with a doctor or a parent, a reasonable accommodation will be made between the instructor and the cadet. **This is your first and only warning.** Failure to comply with this directive will result in the following Class Two Report Offense, *Disobedience of a Direct Order.*
- H. You will be treated and expected to behave as the professionals you are aspiring to be.

**MASSACHUSETTS MARITIME ACADEMY
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE TRANSPORTATION
Rules of the Road (MT2161)
Syllabus**

WEEK	TOPIC	COLREGS	FARWELL'S
Week One Introduction and Regulatory History	• Course Introduction and STCW Assessments & History of Collision Regulations		pp. 1-22
	• Pennsylvania Rule		pp.34-36
	• Louisiana Rule		pp. 55-61
	• Purpose of the Rules of the Road & RULE 1 - Application	pp. iv-v pp. 2-5	
Week Two Vessel Definitions	• RULE 3 - General Definitions which apply throughout the 72 COLREGS and INLAND RULES	pp. 6-11	pp. 61-86 p. 462, pp.484-517
Week Three Applying Lights to Vessel Definitions	• RULE 3 - General Definitions (cont.) • RULE 20 through 23 • Annex I	pp. 38-51 pp. 132-149	pp.484-517
Week Four Applying Lights to Vessel Definitions	• RULE 24 through 25 • Annex II • RULE 26 through 31	pp. 52-113 pp. 150-151	pp.484-517

WEEK	TOPIC	COLREGS	FARWELL'S
Week Five Application of Definitions to Rule 18 Maneuvering Situations	Conduct of Vessels in Sight of One Another Steering and Sailing Rules RULES 11 to 18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 18 Pecking Order • Rule 12 Sailing Vessels 	pp. 34-35 pp. 26-27	pp.350-359 pp. 348-349
Week Six Placing Moving Vessels In The Picture	Conduct of Vessels in Sight of One Another <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 13, Overtaking • RULE 14, Meeting • RULE 15, Crossing 	pp. 28-33	pp.396-427 pp.361-395 pp.429-450
Week Seven Duties of Stand-on and Give-way Vessels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 16, Action of Give-way Vessel • RULE 17, Action of Stand-on Vessel 		pp.259-263 pp.263-278
	OICNW-2-1A Identify Light Configuration Proficiency Demonstration Assessment OICNW-2-1B Identify Day Shapes Proficiency Demonstration Assessment		
Week Eight Conduct of Vessels in Any Condition of Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rule 4 Application • Rule 5 Lookout • Rule 6 Safe Speed 	pp. 12-17	pp.129-174, pp. 641-643 pp.175-206
Week Nine Conduct of Vessels in Any Condition of Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 7 Risk of Collision • RULE 8 Action to Avoid Collision 	pp. 16-19	pp.207-241 pp.242-278

WEEK	TOPIC	COLREGS	FARWELL'S
Week Ten Conduct of Vessels in Any Condition of Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 9 Narrow Channel • RULE 10 Traffic Separation Schemes 	pp. 20-25	pp.281-320 pp.321-360
Week Eleven Sound and Light Signals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 32 Sound Signal Definitions • RULE 33 Equipment for Sound Signals • ANNEX III • RULE 34 Maneuvering and Warning Signals • RULE 35 Sound Signals in Restricted Visibility 	pp. 114-119 pp. 152-161 pp. 120-123	pp.518-543 pp.315-317 pp.457-462
Week Twelve Restricted Visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 19 Conduct of Vessels in Restricted Visibility <p>OICNW-2-1C Identify Sound Signals Proficiency Demonstration Assessment</p>	pp. 36-37	pp.451-456 pp.457-462 pp462-483
Week Thirteen Miscellaneous Signals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RULE 36 Signals to Attract Attention • RULE 37 Distress Signals & ANNEX IV • Good Seamanship - Rule 2(a) • General Prudential Rule - Rule 2(b) 	pp. 124-131 pp. 162-165	pp.461-462, 565 p.565
Applications of Rule 2		pp. 6-7	pp.87-128
Week Fourteen Case Studies	<p>Case Studies EXXON CHESTER v REGAL SWORD EMPRESS OF IRELAND v STORSTAD</p>		