



Marine Science Magnet High School

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www.msmhs.com

SCI0640-Marine Studies II

2024-2025

Required Texts/Readings:

Students will be given a paper copy of the Connecticut Department Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP) textbook of the Connecticut Safe Boaters Guide as well as the Boater's Guide magazine for students to review and obtain their Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation.

Course Description:

In this full-year course, students will go into an indepth exploration into mariner skills and careers on the water. Students will learn the rules of the road on the water and understand navigational aids, reading nautical, tide and current charts. Students will learn to become competent navigators through a study of small boat handling navigation and then move into skills onboard commercial vessels. Voyage planning will be practiced in the classroom through the use of our state of the art boat simulator as well as with field trips to New England Science and Sailing. Furthermore, students will investigate the pathways of maritime universities, marine conservation and commercial shipping. Students will explore the ongoing efforts of environmental protection organizations.

Materials Needed:

Designated binder with MSII section, pens/pencils, paper, highlighters, and MSMHS Laptop

Classroom Attendance, Academic and Behavior Expectations

All MSMHS students are required to uphold the attendance, academic and behavioral expectations outlined in the school's Student/Parent Handbook which can be found on the MSMHS website.

Course Unit Outline - Enduring Understandings

Unit 1 – Connecticut Safe Boating

Quarter One

Enduring Understandings

- It is essential for boaters to be aware of their surroundings at all times in order to operate a vessel safely
- Every watercraft is different in the way it handles. It's important to get to know your boat's features and limitations for safe operation.

Unit II – The Legal Requirements of Boating

Quarter One/Two

Enduring Understandings

- Boater's of Connecticut are required to take a safe boating course to operate a watercraft with an extended version for training on towing water skiers or operating a jet ski.
- All mariners of powered and unpowered vessels are expected to know the laws associated with watercraft operation.

Unit III – Conservation of our Waterways

Quarter Two

Enduring Understandings

- Invasive species including accidental releases from aquaculture can lead to degradation of food webs and damage to private property.
- Marine protection acts have been put in place due to a series of events and or collected data on human environmental impacts.
- Marine sanctuaries and protected marine areas require conservation professionals, law enforcement and public communication.

Unit IV - Nautical Charts & Navigation

Quarter Three

Enduring Understandings

- Mariners apply safe boating practices to plan a route on the water.
- The ability to read and understand nautical charts is key to navigating local and foreign waters.
- Navigation is a skill that is essential for all boaters. Recognizing hazardous, monitoring weather, tides and currents are essential to a safe voyage.

Unit V - Ocean Tides, Currents & Bathymetry

Quarter Three/Four

Enduring Understandings

- Knowledge of local tides and currents is essential for safe navigation along our coastline.
- Ocean currents are influenced by many factors from bathymetric shapes to global systems.

Unit VI – Weather Systems & Instrumentation

Quarter Four

Enduring Understandings

- To understand local weather, one must understand global weather patterns and forces
- Ocean vessels have a variety of technologies that increase safety in navigation and expands our ability to study the ocean.

Retake / Revision Policy

- All students will be allowed to retake/revise all interim and unit summative assessments (with the possible exception of ECE assessments).
- Retakes/revisions on any summative assessments must be completed within **2 weeks of when the assessment was returned to the student** or before the end of the quarter, whichever comes first.
- Students who want the opportunity to retake/revise a unit summative assessment must have completed all scored and graded assignments before taking the original summative assessment or the end of the quarter, whichever comes first. In addition, any part of a unit

summative that is done outside of class, must be complete and turned in on time in order to be eligible for a retake/revision.

- Retakes/revisions are re-evaluations of learning; therefore, students earn the new grade not an average of the two grades, regardless of whether the new grade is higher or lower than the original.

*Note: There are no retakes/revisions for Midterms or Finals. Students with IEP or 504 accommodations for extended time should work with their teacher and/or case manager to determine appropriate application of their accommodations to this policy.

Late Work

Missing graded work/formative assessments must be completed, fully and accurately, before the unit summative assessment due date or the end of the quarter, whichever comes first, in order to receive credit. Any missing work will receive a 0 in PowerSchool until it is turned in before the summative assessment. After a unit summative assessment, work cannot be made up and will remain a 0 in PowerSchool.

For all science courses at MSMHS, a grade penalty may be issued for presentation or projects not completed on due date as they are used to teach the class. Late projects will not be allowed to revise and resubmit.

Extra Help:

Students interested in receiving extra help from teachers, or in meeting with their teacher before or after school, need to schedule a mutually agreed upon time to meet with their teacher. Teachers may require specific procedures for requesting appointments for extra help. Please know that teachers will be unable to meet with students on Wednesdays due to regularly scheduled faculty meetings.

Cell Phones

Students are permitted to bring cell phones to school, however, they must be stored in the designated location in each classroom throughout the block, including study hall. Students may not bring cell phones with them when they leave the classroom for any reason. Students may also be required to turn smart watches or other devices to designated locations during class at the request of the teacher. Students found to have violated these expectations will be required to turn their cell phone into school administration. Repeated offenses may result in escalated consequences. Cell phones may not be used in restrooms for any reason. Cell phones may be used before, during lunch, or after school hours.

Grade/Grade Reporting:

Overall evaluation in a course is measured in a number of ways in the form of formative and summative assessments.

MSMHS uses the following language for communicating how assignments will be scored and represented in PowerSchool:

- “Graded” – The assignment is evaluated for accuracy (not completion), is given a numeric score, is entered in PowerSchool and is included in the quarter average.
- “Scored” – The assignment is evaluated for accuracy (not completion), is given a numeric score, may be entered into PowerSchool, but is not included in quarter average.

- “Recorded” – The assignment is marked as completed or not completed, not given a numeric score, may be entered into PowerSchool, but is not included in quarter average.

Course grades are calculated by using the following percentages:

Q1 = 20%

Q2 = 20%

Midterms = 10%

Q3 = 20%

Q4 = 20%

Finals = 10%

The following table shows the letter grades equivalent to numerical grades and GPA.

Letter	Numerical Equivalent	GPA Equivalent	Honors Weighting	AP/ECE Weighting
A+	97-100	4.3	4.52	4.73
A	93-96	4.0	4.20	4.40
A-	90-92	3.7	3.89	4.07
B+	87-89	3.3	3.47	3.63
B	83-86	3.0	3.15	3.30
B-	80-82	2.7	2.84	2.97
C+	77-79	2.3	2.42	2.53
C	73-76	2.0	2.10	2.20
C-	70-72	1.7	1.79	1.87
D+	67-69	1.3	1.37	1.43
D	63-66	1.0	1.05	1.10
D-	60-62	0.7	0.74	0.77
F	50-59	0.0	0.0	0.0

Academic Integrity:

All work submitted by students should be a true reflection of their effort and ability. If submitted work or tests are not, then the student has manifested unacceptable academic behavior.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as intentionally or unintentionally presenting another's work as your own. Any source material (electronic, written, verbal) accessed to complete an assignment must be cited. Plagiarism includes the following:

- Copying verbatim or blending source material with your own without proper attribution,
- Paraphrasing source materials or borrowing ideas, terms, or concepts without acknowledging the source,
- Inventing sources or false attributions for sources,
- Supplying/selling your work to another or purchasing/copying another's work.

Cheating

Cheating is defined as copying all or part of an assignment or assessment or allowing another to copy your work. It is also doing someone's work or having someone else do your work. Cheating includes the following:

- Using unauthorized materials, devices, or assistance of any kind to complete your work or assessment, including on-line transfers,

- Collaborating on a task without the teacher's authorization, as well as providing or receiving information so as to give/gain an unfair advantage,
- Aiding another in cheating.

Other Academic Misconduct

Other forms of serious academic misconduct include:

- Altering grades,
- Stealing or obtaining test/assessment materials or answers,
- Submitting the same (or nearly the same) work for more than one class without disclosure or approval,
- Falsifying information on school related documents and forms.

ANY behavior that can be defined as cheating/plagiarism represents a violation of mutual trust and respect essential to education at MSMHS. Students suspected of cheating should expect to be questioned by their teacher. Students violating this rule are subject to the following penalties:

- Re-do of the assignment, notification to parents/caretakers; disciplinary consequence, written summary of event and action taken given to administration.
- If a student is found to have cheated/plagiarized a second time or is involved in a particularly serious act of cheating/plagiarism, the student will be referred to administration for appropriate penalties beyond those listed above. Additional penalties include such consequences as notification to award and scholarship committees; suspension from class or school and notification to the student's prospective colleges; loss of or disqualification from honors/privileges and positions (e.g. NHS, school leadership position).