



MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF LAW at ANDOVER

**SYLLABUS for Admiralty and Maritime Law – Spring 2021**  
**Professor Martin**

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**Instructor:** Professor Thomas H. Martin  
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**Course**

**Materials:** Casebook: J. Lucas and R.D. Schmidt, Admiralty: Cases and Materials (6<sup>th</sup> ed.2012) Supplement: Statute and Rule and Supplement (most recent ed.)

**Class Times:** Mondays and Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.

**Scope:** A survey of American Maritime law, with additional emphasis on the international legal regime of the oceans.

**Purpose:** Admiralty and Maritime Law is the oldest continuously observed body of law in the Western world, with the possible exception of the laws of Moses.

The course in Admiralty and Maritime Law is intended to acquaint the generalist student with this specialized law. It is not expected that students will be contemplating full-time practice as maritime lawyers. Rather, the course is oriented to the New England lawyer in general practice who may encounter a maritime matter from time to time.

Over and above its appeal to practitioners, Maritime Law is a fascinating field for study in itself. Students will gain understanding of their common-law subjects when they see how these subjects (e.g. torts, contract) are treated under another regime of law.

American Maritime Law is importantly based on statutes that express the interest of Congress in the maritime affairs of this country, from its earliest days. A pedagogical purpose of this course is to enhance students' ability to find, read, interpret and apply statutes.

**Course  
Description  
& Grading  
Criteria:**

The substantive coverage of the course is described in the syllabus, below. Students are required to write a paper on a maritime law topic of their choosing. The paper counts as 20% of the student's grade. The final examination counts as the remaining 80% of the grade.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>CASE BOOK, STATUTE, AND SUPPLEMENT ASSIGNMENTS</u>
<b>Week 1</b>	Introduction High seas and navigable waters	*
<b>Week 2</b>	Maritime Liens I	431-500 46 U.S.C. '31341-31343
<b>Week 3</b>	Maritime Liens II	515-588
<b>Week 4</b>	Maritime Commerce I	620-638 657-688 COGSA, Supp. 58-67
<b>Week 5</b>	Maritime Commerce II	688-765
<b>Week 6</b>	Maritime Torts I	931-1027 45 U.S.C. §51-59 46. U.S.C. '30104
<b>Week 7</b>	Maritime Torts II	1027-1087
<b>Week 8</b>	Collisions; Salvage	868-895, 921-930 Supp.210-232 766-826 Supp. 117-128
<b>Week 9</b>	General Average; Limitation of Liability	828-867 1167-1206 46 U.S.C. 30501-30511 Supp.177-196
<b>Week 10</b>	Admiralty Procedure	92-127 243-299 Supp. 269-300
<b>Week 11</b>	Federal and State Sovereignty Law of the American Coastal Zone	152-200 and *
<b>Week 12</b>	Maritime Applications of U.S. Environmental Laws; Fisheries	*
<b>Weeks 13-15</b>	International Law of the Sea; U.N. Law of the Sea Treaty	*

**\* Reading material will be distributed for these classes.**

In addition, supplementary reading material will be distributed from time to time on other topics.