

**Memorandum of Understanding Between
Massachusetts Maritime Academy
&
The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
November 15, 2021**

Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) summarizes an educational partnership agreement between Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA) and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (UMassD) to provide graduate study opportunities for students who may attend both institutions. Both institutions are committed to provide students a unique opportunity to successfully complete their academic goals, an Accelerated Pathway for a MMA undergraduate student to earn a Professional Science Master's (PSM) degree at UMassD. This agreement ensures that each institution serves the needs of students by providing them with appropriate guidance and advising information. Specifically, the MOU addresses course transfer as well as an articulation agreement.

Goals

The goals of this agreement are to:

- Increase student educational opportunities
- Foster collaboration between institutions
- Increase student interest in each institution
- Establish collegiality and communication among MMA and School for Marine Science and Technology (SMAST) faculty and administrators

MMA and UMassD hereby enter into the following agreement:

Provisions of Articulation Agreement

1. The institutions will develop and maintain an expanded articulation crosswalk (see Appendix A).
2. The institutions will develop a degree plan and clearly delineate courses to be taken at MMA and those to be completed at UMassD. This specified plan will be an informal contract between the two institutions and the students who choose to participate. This plan will guarantee to the student that the prescribed courses may be used toward the baccalaureate degree at MMA and Professional Science master's degree at UMassD. This is provided by the crosswalk in Appendix A and will be reviewed yearly for curriculum updates.
3. MMA students may apply to the accelerated pathway upon achieving classification as juniors with a major in Marine Science, Safety, and Environmental Protection. Students will 1) have a 3.2 or better GPA overall after completion of the fall semester of their junior year, 2) complete a short application to be reviewed by the SMAST department chairpersons at UMassD, including unofficial transcripts, and 3) provide one letter of recommendation from a MMA faculty member. Students will apply during the spring semester of their junior year. The Marine Science, Safety, and Environmental Protection Department Chair will be responsible for sending applications to the SMAST department chairpersons by March 15th. A preliminary decision on conditional admission to the accelerated pathway will be communicated before the end of April during the applicant's junior year. The communication will include an invitation to meet with SMAST department chairpersons for advising on potential co-op opportunities at SMAST. As a result of preliminary admission to the accelerated pathway, formal application and matriculation to the PSM program at UMassD will be expedited. A formal application to the PSM program will be

required. An official acceptance into the PSM program at UMassD will be conveyed to the student no later than May 31st of their junior year.

4. The terms of the Southeastern Association for Cooperation in Higher Education in Massachusetts (SACHEM) agreement will apply to this accelerated pathway (<https://www.umassd.edu/registrar/cross-registration/>). For courses completed outside the SACHEM agreement, UMassD tuition and fees will apply to UMassD courses taken prior to student matriculation as a graduate student; students will be considered undergraduates until the conferral of the undergraduate degree and will be billed for UMassD credits at the undergraduate rate during this time. MMA may consider counting the graduate-level courses taken at UMassD toward their BS degree to further incentivize participation (see Appendix A).
5. The institutions will engage in joint marketing efforts to promote the articulation partnership. Promotional efforts will include, but are not limited to, links on respective websites, information in institutional catalogs, and information in other university publications.
6. The institutions will strive to meet annually with the discipline faculty and administrators.

Terms

This agreement shall be effective on Nov. 15, 2021 and shall continue until terminated by either party giving one year written notice to the other party in order to protect all students transitioning between institutions. Any changes to this Memorandum of Understanding must be in writing.

Notice

In witness whereof, the authorized representatives of the parties have executed this agreement on the 15 day of Nov., 2021.

Massachusetts Maritime Academy

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth



Dr. Brigid Pavidonis
Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs



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Appendix A

This appendix specifies the course equivalency for the accelerated pathway and defines the terms and conditions of the graduate-level courses at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (UMassD) to be taken during the student's senior year at Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA).

Accelerated Pathway:

1. A MMA B.S. student may opt to complete up to 9 credits of graduate-level courses at UMassD prior to matriculation into the Professional Science Master's (PSM) program. Courses should be selected in consultation with an academic advisor at MMA. The required grade is B- or better in each course with an overall GPA of at least 3.0 in completed courses.
 - a. Recommended courses: MMA students would be advised to enroll in at least two of the following core UMassD oceanography classes. These would be double counted toward program electives for the MMA B.S. degree and core required courses for the UMassD PSM degree. Courses would be offered in distance learning classrooms so MMA students could participate remotely if needed.
 - i. MAR 545 Biological Oceanography (MMA students would need to attend lab in person)
 - ii. MAR 510 Chemical Oceanography
 - iii. MAR 555 Physical Oceanography
 - b. MMA students may opt to enroll in UMassD MAR 700 research seminars. Up to two units of seminar credit could be counted toward the UMassD PSM degree.
 - c. Double counting of credits: A maximum of 9 credits may be double counted toward the MMA B.S. degree and UMassD PSM.
2. MMA students who complete MS4141 Coastal Zone Management and earn a B- or better grade will have the requirement to complete a policy course as part of the UMassD PSM program waived.

MMA students may opt to participate in summer research at UMassD following their junior and senior years. These research experiences would count as MS3351 and 4411 Co-op I and II for the MMA B.S. degree and would fulfill the internship requirement for the UMassD PSM program.