In the Fall semester of 2015, the Department of Anthropology’s Nautical Archaeology Program began offering a Master of Science in Maritime Archaeology and Conservation. The Nautical Archaeology Program at Texas A&M is the oldest and one of the largest master and doctoral degree granting programs of its type in the world. The M.S. degree maintains our traditional focus on ships and seafaring around the world and throughout time, as well as the fundamentals of archaeological artifact conservation. Further specialized training in maritime archaeology emphasizes technical skills required in a variety of professional areas.

The M.S. is designed to prepare students for employment in maritime museums, cultural resource management firms, (including companies working with the offshore oil industry), and federal, state, or similar government agencies.

Students in the M.S. program will benefit from the research opportunities and internships available through Texas A&M University’s Center for Maritime Archaeology and Conservation (CMAC), and the university-affiliated Institute of Nautical Archaeology (INA). The program is open to a limited number of students, selected on a competitive basis.

For more information about how to apply and current deadlines, please visit:

http://anthropology.tamu.edu/html/graduate-admission.html
Courses

Required Courses

ANTH605 Conservation of Archaeological Resources I (4 credit hours)
ANTH608 Skills in Maritime Archaeology (3 credit hours)
ANTH611 Introduction to Nautical Archaeology (3 credit hours)
ANTH615 History of Wooden Shipbuilding Technology (3 credit hours)

Recommended Courses

MAST489 Forensic Underwater Science (4 credit hours)

Maritime Elective Courses (3 credit hours each)

ANTH603 Seafaring Life and Maritime Communities
ANTH606 Conservation of Archaeological Resources II
ANTH607 Historical Archaeology
ANTH610 Outfitting and Sailing the Wooden Ship 1400-1900
ANTH612 Pre-Classical Seafaring
ANTH613 Classical Seafaring
ANTH614 Books and Treatises on Shipbuilding
ANTH616 Research and Reconstruction of Wooden Hulls
ANTH618 Medieval Seafaring in the Mediterranean
ANTH628 New World Seafaring
ANTH629 Post Medieval Seafaring
ANTH633 Deep-Submergence Archaeology

Other Elective Courses (3 credit hours each)

ANTH602 Archaeological Methods and Theory
ANTH639 Gender, Ethnicity and Class in Archaeological Research
ANTH642 Research Design in Anthropology
ANTH644 Classical Archaeology
ANTH645 Cultural Resource Management

This curriculum is designed to allow students to complete the M.S. in Maritime Archaeology and Conservation in a two-year framework. All students are required to write a thesis in order to complete the degree, as a thesis-based graduate degree is essential for many employment opportunities, and is also a prerequisite for being listed on the Registry of Professional Archaeologists (RPA).
Deborah Carlson is a classical archaeologist specializing in seafaring in ancient Greece and Rome. She directed the excavation of the Classical Greek shipwreck at Tektas Burnu, Turkey and the Late-Hellenistic column wreck at Kizilburun, Turkey. She serves as President of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology (INA) and teaches undergraduate courses in Greek and Roman archaeology and graduate seminars in Classical seafaring and Classical archaeology.

Filipe Castro researches Iberian seafaring, history of shipbuilding, and cultural heritage management. He has conducted research in Portugal, Italy, Croatia, Brazil, and Puerto Rico. He is the director of the J. Richard Steffy Ship Reconstruction Laboratory and teaches courses on Mediterranean seafaring, reconstruction of wooden ships, and treatises on shipbuilding.

Kevin Crisman researches seafaring from circa 1500 AD to the present. He has studied numerous wrecks, including the colonial-era 16-gun sloop Boscawen, the War of 1812 U.S.N. brigs Eagle and Jefferson, canal boats and merchant schooners, a circa 1820s horse-powered paddle ferry, and Heroine, an early Mississippi River steamboat. He is the Director of the Center for Maritime Archaeology and Conservation, and teaches courses on the archaeology of ships, maritime technology, and seafarers.

Donny L. Hamilton is a historical archaeologist who specializes in the conservation of archaeological material. He directed the decade long excavation of the submerged 17th-century town of Port Royal in Jamaica and conserved all the recovered material. Other significant conservation projects include the shipwreck material from the 1554 Spanish Fleet wrecked on Padre Island, Texas, and Robert de La Salle’s 17th-century shipwreck in Matagorda Bay, Texas. He is the Director of the Conservation Research Laboratory and teaches courses in historical archaeology and artifact conservation.

Cemal Pulak researches Bronze Age maritime trade, technology, seafaring, ship construction, and nautical archaeology of the eastern Mediterranean and the Aegean from prehistory to post-medieval times. He is best known for his excavation of the 1300 BC Uluburun shipwreck and the 11th-century shipwrecks at Yenikapi, Turkey. He is the Director of the Old World Research Laboratory and teaches courses in the history of seafaring and ship construction.

Shelley Wachsmann focuses on ships and seafaring, primarily in the eastern Mediterranean during the Bronze and Iron Ages (roughly 3000–600 BC). Wachsmann’s excavations include a 2,000-year-old vessel found in the Sea of Galilee and the exploration of first millennium AD shipwrecks in Tantura Lagoon, Israel. He believes in using a holistic approach—combining iconography, texts, and archaeological artifacts—in studying the past and teaches undergraduate courses in biblical and Egyptian archaeology and graduate seminars in Preclassical seafaring and deep-submergence archaeology.

http://nautarch.tamu.edu/academic/faculty.shtml