2020 Shipmates
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4. Torie Ball 15. Cameron Robie
5. Rachel Backman 16. Paulina Shea
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1- Introduction

Dear Ocean Classroom Shipmates, the following material is provided to help you prepare for your term at sea. Due to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, itineraries, ports of call, starting dates, and maildrop information will be provided subsequently once Proctor establishes its return protocols for the community at large. Enclosed you will find information to help you prepare for your term at sea, including a brief history of the program, operational procedures, and packing lists.

2- Program Background

Ocean Classroom was founded in 1994 by former faculty member and Proctor parent, David Pilla. During its twenty-seven years of operation, the program has served over 400 Proctor students with life changing voyages aboard The Harvey Gamage, The Westward, The Spirit of Massachusetts, and The Roseway.

In 2014, Proctor partnered with the World Ocean School (WOS) that owns and operates the beautifully restored 137 foot schooner Roseway. Built in 1925 in Essex, Massachusetts, the Roseway was first fashioned as a Grand Banks fishing schooner. Today, the Roseway is certified as a Sailing School Vessel (SSV), retrofitted with a 600 HP diesel engine and a full array of communication/navigational equipment. The vessel is also viewable on the nations’ National Historic Register (viewable at https://npgallery.nps.gov/GetAsset/9fb31d08-fb80-4b88-9227-b54c463ece2f).

To learn more about the schooner’s history, its restoration, and the World Ocean School, please visit their website at https://worldoceanschool.org/

3- Ocean 2020

For the nine-week duration of the trip, Roseway will house a professional crew of fifteen in addition to the twenty-one participating Proctor students (see list above).

Over the course of the voyage, you will learn all of the seamanship skills necessary to sail a traditional schooner along the Eastern Atlantic Seaboard of the United States into Caribbean waters. Consistent with tradition and philosophy, students are to be treated as active crew members, not passengers.

From the first day of the term, students are divided into three different “watches” termed A, B and C. Each watch group will contain seven students overseen by one mate serving as a watch officer. The watch officers will teach and guide your watch group in all the principle jobs of running the ship while underway and in port. Throughout the entire period of the journey, watch rotations are continuous from the start of the voyage until you are released from your duties at the final port of destination at the end of the voyage.

In addition to responsibilities as crew members, students take on a full academic schedule, earning credits in the following courses: Marine Science, Maritime Literature, Maritime History, Navigation and Applied Mathematics, and Ocean Classroom seamanship skills.

4- Summer Reading

On Ocean Classroom, each and every student will face challenges as the voyage unfolds and we have every faith that each will rise to these challenges! One of the best ways to prepare for these challenges is by
starting to think like a sailor by starting assigned summer reading. As mentioned in prior communications, we have selected two books, “Oceans of Life” by Callum Roberts and “Adrift” by Steven Callahan. Another great way to prepare mentally is to visit the World Ocean School website and read about the incredibly colorful history of the Schooner Roseway.

5- The Ocean Mindset
You should begin thinking of yourself as a member of Roseway’s crew immediately. Remember always that the order of priority on any working ship is: SHIP, SHIPMATE, then SELF. If you take care of The Ship, she will take care of you. If you think about your shipmates first, they will be there for you always. With this in mind, keep yourself safe and healthy at all times!

Ocean Classroom has the potential to be one of the most powerful experiences that you participate in as a Proctor student. You have earned the right to be part of this remarkable program and we hope you take pride in being a part of this program’s 27th year. So, welcome again to Ocean Classroom aboard the schooner Roseway.

6- Academic Overview
Proctor’s Ocean Classroom program embodies the concept of “experiential education”. As such, the academic curriculum dovetails with everyday life aboard the ship. For example, coastal marine resource issues are clearly tied to regional socioeconomic issues. Navigation skills are directly tied to the work that takes place during watch. And so forth…

Students participating in Ocean Classroom earn credits in the following areas: Marine Science, Maritime Literature, Maritime History, Applied Mathematics/Navigation, and Ocean Classroom Skills. The academic courses are graded with both numerical and effort grades. Ocean Classroom Skills encompasses all of the seamanship work that is done during the voyage and is reflected in an effort grade.

Due to voyage scheduling, there is not a formal midterm grade that corresponds to Proctor’s calendar. Rather, each family will receive a broad academic performance notice approximately half-way through the voyage.

Marine Science
Incorporating both physical oceanography and marine biology, the Marine Science course is extensive in scope. Utilizing various texts, such as Oceanography by Gross, this course strives to expose students to the wide range of marine issues that exist in both coastal and open ocean ecosystems. Throughout the voyage students will maintain a scientific journal to monitor ecosystem variations as the ship sails from New England waters to the mid-Atlantic regions, into southeastern U.S. waters, and finally into the Caribbean. Students also work on research projects as part of the Marine Science course. Some examples of past projects include dolphin behavior studies, the physics of sail theory, and regional oceanographic comparison studies.

Maritime Literature
Utilizing works ranging from Captains Courageous, In the Heart of the Sea and The Sea Wolf to Story of a Shipwrecked Sailor and Rime of the Ancient Mariner, the Maritime Literature course covers a broad spectrum of material. Analytical writing, creative writing, and oral presentations are all used as the
basis for evaluating student competence. The use of journals has been an integral part of the curriculum in as well.

**Maritime History**
The primary goal of the *Maritime History* course is to explore how the ocean has played a major role in the shaping of cultures found along the voyage track. Using works such as *A Continent of Islands* by Kurlansky, *Black Jacks* by Bolster, and *Seafaring Women* by Depauw, this course surveys a wide range of regional topics. In addition, students perform “port presentations” that reflect the socio-economic and natural history of the particular area visited.

**Applied Mathematics and Navigation**
The competent mariner needs to be a solid mathematician. Utilizing modern navigational techniques, as well as traditional skills, the *Applied Mathematics and Navigation* course is applied on a daily basis while at sea. Within each watch, boat checks are completed and a ship’s log filled out. This ship’s log includes continuous plotting and calculated fixes along the voyage track. Using texts such as *Coastal Navigation* by Toghill and *Practical Navigation* by Chase, this course is taught by the ship’s captain and watch officers. Students learn to fix the ship’s location by using various methods from hand plotting with charts and compass to celestial navigation with the used of the sextant as well as using the array of electrical navigational aboard the ship.

**Ocean Classroom Skills**
This course embodies all of the work that a student does as an active member of the crew. Under the direction of the watch officer and assistant watch officer, each student is expected to develop a working knowledge of the ship. Everything from the understanding of pin systems to the ability to splice a line is part of this “course”. Students receive an effort grade for this

**7- Passports**
A valid passport with at least three months to expire is required of this program. No passport, no go.

**8- Spending Money**
Approximately $350 should suffice. ATMs will be available at all ports. Additionally, students are responsible for paying for their baggage check fee at the airport at program end. All students must plan accordingly.

**9- Health and Immunizations**
There are no additional required immunizations to participate in Ocean Classroom beyond standard immunizations one would receive as a Proctor students.

**10- Shipboard Safety Issues**
Under no conditions does a prudent mariner take the sea for granted. In step with this age-old truth, the Ocean Classroom program holds safety as its top priority. The professional crew who work in our program are trained and licensed in accordance with United States Coast Guard regulations. Professional positions manned on board include:
1. Captain of the Vessel
2. Chief Mate
3. Second Mate
4. Third Mate
5. Engineer
6. Deck Hands
7. 3 Academic Instructors
8. Cook
9. Medical Officer – Wilderness First Responder level at minimum

Crew of 15 and 21 Student shipmates = 36 aboard vessel

11- Rules, Regulations and Disciplinary Responses
It is absolutely critical that all students understand and abide by the rules and regulations established for this program. Life at sea demands that decision-making by each student is sound. Issues of trust and safety are directly linked to this. As Program Director, I will not waver in enforcing these rules. As such, please read the following sections carefully!

Ocean Classroom is a one-strike program
Failure to abide by the rules and regulations outlined in Proctor’s Greenbook will result in removal from the program at the earliest prudent opportunity at parents’ expense and the loss of academic credit for the Ocean Classroom term. The statement above relates to, but, is not restricted to: the use and/or possession of illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco products. In addition, social behaviors that put oneself and/or others at risk or jeopardizes the integrity of the program will result in dismissal from the program and loss of academic credit.

Please understand that the severity of this response is due to the following:
• Your behavior plays a direct role in the lives of fellow crew members.
• Trust is critical in the safe and successful operation of this program.
• You may be making port stops in foreign countries where the legal response to certain violations will result in incarceration.

12- Clothing and Gear List
While it may seem daunting to outfit yourself for a term at sea, keep in mind that you can borrow gear from past Ocean students or from friends of family members who are sailors. My two boys went on Ocean and borrowed gear and then in turn lent their dry pack to many Ocean students over the years.

Bags
The main objective is to have the right stuff and pack light as all your personal gear will live in your very cozy bunk space. Pack light as light is right!
• All students are limited to one (normal!) duffel bag-sized pack for clothing items/luggage aboard ship (no hard suitcases).
• One day pack to carry academic books and supplies.
Clothing
A good place for one stop shopping is “Grundens” for foul weather gear (available at
https://shop.grundens.com/). The below products are also sold through distributors such as West Marine:

- Two (2) sturdy work pants (Carhart’s)
- Two (2) to Three (3) pairs of shorts.
- Warm outer layers for cool weather/night sailing (wool sweater, wool hat, fleece/pile clothing).
- Long underwear for northern parts of the voyage.
- Soft-soled shoes –Tevas or Chacos and a pair of sneakers for running, hiking, work on deck.
- Five (5) pairs of socks. Smart wool best (no cotton)
- Hat w/visors (ball cap).
- Five (5) T-shirts that you don’t mind getting dirty.
- Six (6) to Eight (8) pairs of underwear.
- One (1) Light towel and One (1) facelcloth.
- One (1) Swimming suit.
- One (1) waterproof analog watch with backlight to tell time at night
- One (1) Insulated Mug with a handle
- Chapstick SPF
- Polarized Sunglasses with croakies or neck strap.
- Extra pair of eyeglasses/ extra contacts (if appropriate).
- Berts bees towelettes- Or non-scented baby wipes
- Knife (approximately 4” blade with sheath) for rigging work. No folding knives please.
- Headlamp with infrared bulb.
- Crazy Creek-type chair (great for class on deck).
- Medium weight Foul weather gear and sea boots.
- Light gloves for up north
- Mid-weight synthetic sleeping bag.
- Personal hygiene items/toiletries.*
- Sunscreen- Lotion only not spray as it leaves a sticky surface.
- Sea sickness medicine (motion illness) – Bonine is good. Hopefully you won’t need it.
- Musical instrument – Penny whistle Yuke- Guitar
- Go pro type camera optional
- Academic supplies (pens, pencils, notebooks, etc.).
- Snorkeling equipment – the ship carries gear. P preference if you want your own.
- Several 1 gallon-sized Ziplock-type bags. A wide range of uses!
- Water bottle.
- No Coffee or personal Food.
- No Scented colognes or perfumes
- No electronic equipment such as phones, iPads or laptops. Phones will be collected at the beginning of the trip and redistributed at the end. Phone calls to parents will be done on the educator’s phones.

In closing, Proctor continues to work on a daily basis with the World Ocean School to develop our protocols for the fall voyage. Once all details worked out, there will be a further communication outlining our course of action to begin the fall program.
So, for now, fair winds and following seas!

Regards,
Brooks Bicknell
Proctor Ocean Classroom Director
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