

Maritime at Blake High School, Tampa FL

The Maritime program at Blake High School is a new endeavor in Maritime Education. The program will consist of a holistic curriculum anchored to 16 instructional units. This year, 15 freshmen are participating in the first Maritime class. With tremendous support from the community including the International Propeller Club, Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, and the Port of Tampa we plan on expanding the program to two freshmen classes next year and create additional course offerings at the middle schools that feed students to Blake.

Students in Maritime work together in the Maritime class and a Biology class, this concept is referred to as a cohort in middle and high school. This cohort allows the program to use a Career Academy model. The Maritime Academy will begin its certification process for Career Academy credentials next year. This rigorous process will allow the Academy to offer Industry Certification (Basic Safety Training), expand the cohort scheduling, strengthen industry relations, and include a student organization. These components provide the students with an authentic learning experience in preparation for Maritime post-secondary education and Maritime careers.

The Maritime curriculum touches on major aspects of the industry and is a one-of-a-kind model. The curriculum has been developed by Industry partners over the last two years and written by contextual learning trained teachers. This approach allowed the development of a truly industry driven problem-based rigorous curriculum. The curriculum is organized around 16 instructional units. These units include: Careers, Ships, Engineering, Oceanography, Admiralty Law, Port Operations, Marine Biology, and others. The variety of scope in this curriculum would require tremendous resources to create a Maritime library for student use. Therefore, the writers used multiple industry Internet sources for student activity design. Combined, the curriculum is easily transferable and ready to implement at sites across the nation. As a capstone, we plan on creating an internship program for students over their Junior year summer break that will include career exploratory On-the-Job-Training opportunities during their Senior year.

Currently, we are working on creating standards that meet state requirements to create a state approved course list for dissemination to all Florida Middle and High Schools. Once complete, this program will meet the demands of the Maritime Industry to provide high-skilled, motivated, workers for all areas of Maritime.

For questions please contact:

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