

Fall, 2021

Anthropology 603

Seafaring Life and Maritime Communities 1450-1950

Dr. Kevin Crisman

Office 131b Anthropology, tel. 979-492-0751, e-mail: kcrisman@tamu.edu

Seminar hours: Wednesday 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Online Office hours: Tuesday 1-3 p.m. or by appointment

(Zoom Meeting ID 819-899-9514)



Seafaring is among the most complex and labor-intensive of all human endeavors, and those who follow the sea must adapt to a life of privation and mortal peril. The era between 1450 and 1950 saw the expansion of seafaring to a worldwide scale. This seminar-format course draws upon primary documents, archaeological evidence, contemporary images, and scholarly studies (and, in three instances, 20th-century cinematic interpretations of seafaring life) to investigate the mariners who sailed the ships: their origins, work routines, living conditions, common attitudes, and varied experiences. The course also seeks to identify broader trends in maritime communities and global seafaring in the early-modern era.



Week 1. Introduction to Seafaring Life and Maritime Communities.

1. Objectives, course requirements, assignment of seminar topics. [Crisman]
2. **Special Feature: *BATTLESHIP POTEMKIN*** (or, Abused Russian sailors lead a proletarian revolt; 1925, 67 minutes).

Week 2. Profiling a Profession: Group Identity, Origins, Gender, Class and Race of Seafaring Populations.



1. "To Sea Once More": The Group Identity of Mariners (Appearance, Speech, Behavior, and Motivations).
2. Passengers, Pirates, Wives, and Sailors: Women at Sea.
3. Assimilation and Discrimination: The Multi-Ethnic, Multi-Racial Nature of Seafaring Communities.

- Week 3. Shipboard Hierarchy, Living Quarters, and Work Routines.**
1. Patterns of Shipboard Hierarchy, Occupational Organization, and Discipline in the early-Modern Era.
 2. Divisions of Shipboard Living and Working Space as Seen in the Documentary and Archaeological Record.
 3. “Stamp the Capstan ‘Round’”: Daily Work Routines on Sailing Ships (presentation to include discussion of music as a tool for synchronizing group labor).
- 
- Week 4. The Diet and Health of the Sailor.**
1. Scourge of Sailors: The Causes and Treatments of Scurvy, Yellow Jack and Other Common Diseases or Injuries of Mariners.
 2. Pipe All Hands to Dinner: Archaeological and Documentary Evidence of the Shipboard Diet: Storage, Preparation and Consumption of Food.
 3. Waste Disposal and Hygienic Practices.
- Week 5. Deprivation and Sensuality, Life and Death.**
- 
1. Sing Ho! for the Pipe and Bowl: The Sailor’s Shipboard Diversions and Comforts.
 2. “A Trip Ashore, He Does Adore”: Interactions Between Sailors and Shore-Side Communities.
 3. *Memento Mori*: Attitudes towards Death and Remembrance among Seafarers.
- Week 6. To the Ends of the Earth: European Mariners of the 15th-17th Centuries.**
1. Ambassadors of Change: The Role of Seafarers in the Worldwide Exchange of Flora, Fauna, Technology, and Knowledge.
 2. Evidence of Crew and Passenger Life from VOC Shipwrecks.
 3. Pathology of a Profession: Studies of Human Remains from Shipwrecks.
- Week 7. Special Feature: CAPTAIN BLOOD** (or, Pirate life as it should have been, with Errol Flynn and Olivia de Havilland; 1935, 119 minutes).
- Week 8. Bloodthirsty Pirate, Menial Laborer, Noble Proletariat.**
1. Narratives of the Most Notorious Pyrates: Fact and Fiction.
 2. MUTINY!: Famous Incidents from the Early-Modern Era.
 3. Gentle Lad, Merry Mischief-Maker, Sage Observer, Drunkard, Buffoon and Brawler: Contemporary Images of the Sailor. [Crisman]
- Week 9. Jack Tar the Seagoing Warrior: Naval Life in the Age of Sail.**
1. Press Gang and Rendezvous: Manning England’s Wooden Walls from the 16th to the Early 19th Centuries.
 2. Rolling Out the Upper Crust: The Royal and U.S. Navy Officer Corps.
 3. Fighting Sail: The Experience of Battle in the Era of the Broadside.

**Week 10.****The Sea Harvesters: Fishermen and Whalers.**

1. Fishermen and Fishing Communities in the 18th and 19th Centuries.
2. “Blubber Boilers”: Manning and Work Routines on 19th-Century American Whalers.
3. Occupational Therapy: Arts and Handicrafts of the Sailor.

Week 11.**New Technologies, Booming Times: Seafaring in the 19th Century (pt. I).**

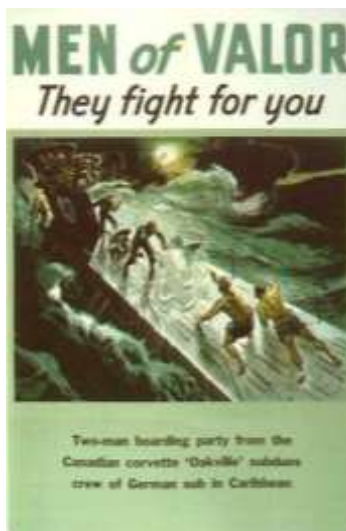
1. Freshwater Salts: The Lake and Canal Sailors of the 19th Century.
2. Mirror of the Times: Work, Race, Class, and Gender on North American Lake and River Steamboats.
3. Temperance, Finding God, and the ‘Red Register’: Improving the Lives of 19th-Century Sailors.

Week 12.**New Technologies, Booming Times: Seafaring in the 19th Century (pt. II).**

1. “O Tale of Woe!”: The Influence of Fatal Steamboat Accidents on American Travel, Politics, and Society. [Crisman]
2. Engineers, Stokers and Sailors in the New Age of Steam, Iron, and Coal.
3. Temporary Mariners: The Varied Experiences of 19th-Century Trans-Atlantic Passengers.

Week 13.**Seafaring Experience in the First Half of the 20th Century.**

1. A New Breed of Sub-Seafarers: Submariners in Two World Wars.
2. **Special Feature: *THE CRUEL SEA*** (based on the novel by Nicholas Monserrat, who served on R.N. corvettes during World War II; 1953, 121 minutes).



Anthropology 603

Course Requirements

1) Seminar Presentations and Discussions (40% and 10%, respectively, of final grade)

During the semester each student will be assigned several seminar topics to research and present in class (there are 30 seminar topics available; the number you are assigned will depend upon the size of the class). Presentations should be about 40 minutes in length, followed by 10 minutes of questions and discussion. Prepare and distribute a bibliography of the sources consulted for your seminar presentation (*make sure it has the presentation title, your name, and that the professor gets a copy*). Use of visual and auditory aids such as Powerpoint, photocopied handouts, chalkboard illustrations, musical selections, and interpretive dances is strongly encouraged. A concertina is available if you plan to sing sea shanties.

Seminar presentations will be graded on the basis of their thoroughness, organization, and clarity, as well as their inclusion of illustrations and maps, and the distribution of a bibliography of sources consulted in preparing the presentation.

Attendance of all classes and active participation in discussions are strongly encouraged. Chronic unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.

2) Project 1. Read and review of a primary account of seafaring life. (10% of final grade)

Select an original journal or memoir describing a voyage, a series of voyages, or a career at sea (see the Hakluyt Society publications for examples). **Your selection must be approved by Dr. Crisman beforehand.** Prepare a 6- to 8-page review (plus citations and bibliography) that provides a brief historical context for the account and summarizes the book's contents, highlighting references to seafaring life and maritime communities. This might include, but does not have to be limited to, the seminar themes listed in your syllabus. What does this account tell us about contemporary maritime society, shipboard life, routines, and material culture? What is the writer's viewpoint – officer, ordinary sailor, or passenger? What motivated the author to write this account? How reliable does it appear to be? And, how useful is it likely to be for nautical archaeologists?

Be scholarly and informative, yet succinct. Reference specific pages in your text. Maps or tables summarizing voyages, vessel types, duties, or other types of data are welcome. Be sure to follow my 'Guidelines for Writing Your Term Paper'. Begin looking for your book Week 1. Complete selection and approval by Week 3 (September 15). Review due by **5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27, 2021**. Late papers will receive a lower grade.

3) Project 2. The term paper. (40% of final grade)

Research, write, edit, and submit a professional, publishable-quality term paper on a subject that relates to seafaring life and maritime communities between 1450 and 1950. The first step, after selecting a topic and researching sources, will be to prepare a *three page* term paper proposal modeled on a thesis proposal; in the proposal you will state the nature and importance of the topic, discuss previous research and potential sources, outline your plan for analysis of the data, and summarize the significance of the proposed research. A *separate* bibliography of primary and secondary sources that you intend to use in preparing the term paper must be included. The term paper proposal is due by **class time on Wednesday, September 29, 2021.**

The term paper text can be no longer than 20 pages (12-point font, double spaced); citations, bibliography, illustrations, and appendices do not count as the 20 pages. The paper should adhere to the requirements and recommendations provided in my “Guidelines for Writing Your Term Paper” handout. The paper is to be submitted on or before **5 p.m., Thursday, December 9, 2021.** Submitting your paper after this date, unless you have a truly compelling excuse for the delay, will result in a lower grade.

My paper grading criteria are as follows: (“A”) research, analysis, writing, and citation are professional and with minimal editing the paper could be published as a journal article or book chapter; (“B”) paper is good in most respects, but due to shortcomings in one or more areas would require significant editing before publication would be possible; (“C”) paper is at lowest levels of acceptability, and would require major new research or re-writing to achieve publishable standards; (“D”) paper falls below lowest levels of acceptability in research, analysis, writing, and citation; (“F”) paper fails to meet all professional standards, or the professor has found evidence of plagiarism.

• **Please note:** I read term papers carefully, which means I read them slowly. It is possible that I may not be able to read your paper and grade it before the deadline to turn in the Fall, 2021 grades (December 20); if this occurs you will receive a temporary “Incomplete” until the paper is graded and I submit a “Change of Grade” form. Do not be alarmed by an “Incomplete” unless you failed to turn in your paper. If you need to get the final grade on your transcript by December 2021 (for job or graduate school applications, for example), please let me know when you submit the paper for grading.



The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact the Office of Support Services for Students with Disabilities in Room 126 of the Student Services Building. The telephone number is 845-1637.

Academic Integrity Statement:

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.”

Any questions about this?

See the Student Honor Council Rules and Procedures on the web at <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor>

Diversity in the Anthropology Classroom

Respect for cultural and human biological diversity are core concepts of Anthropology. Anthropological research provides perspectives and data that can be used to examine many current social issues that may be appropriate to discuss in this class. Students and faculty should expect to both defend and critique diverse points of view in a respectful manner. Please respect the different experiences, beliefs and values expressed by your fellow students and instructor, and refrain from derogatory comments about other individuals, cultures, groups, or viewpoints. There is no justification for discrimination or hateful speech or behavior in any form. The Anthropology Department supports the Texas A&M University commitment to diversity, and welcomes all individuals regardless of all age, background, citizenship, disability, education, ethnicity, family status, gender, gender identity, geographical origin, language, military experience, political view, race, religion, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, and work experience (See <http://diversity.tamu.edu/>).

Title IX and Statement on Limits to Confidentiality

Texas A&M University and the College of Liberal Arts are committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws provide guidance for achieving such an environment. Although class materials are generally considered confidential pursuant to student records and policies laws, University employees – including instructors – cannot maintain confidentiality when it conflicts with their responsibility to report certain issues that jeopardize the health and safety of our community. As the instructor, I must report (per Texas A&M System Regulation 08.01.01) the following information to other University offices if you share it with me, even if you do not want the disclosed information to be shared:

Allegations of sexual assault, sexual discrimination, or sexual harassment when they involve TAMU students, faculty, or staff, or third parties visiting campus.

These reports may trigger contact from a campus official who will want to talk with you about the incident that you have shared. In many cases, it will be your decision whether or not you wish to speak with that individual. If you would like to talk about these events in a more confidential setting, you are encouraged to make an appointment with the Student Counselling Service (<https://scs.tamu.edu>).

Students and faculty can report non-emergency behavior that causes them to be concerned at <http://tellsomebody.tamu.edu>.

Fall, 2021 Semester COVID-19 Vaccinations and Masking Statement

To help protect Aggieland and stop the spread of COVID-19, Texas A&M University urges students to be vaccinated and to wear masks in classrooms and all other academic facilities on campus, including labs. Doing so exemplifies the Aggie Core Values of respect, leadership, integrity, and selfless service by putting community concerns above individual preferences. COVID-19 vaccines and masking — regardless of vaccination status — have been shown to be safe and effective at reducing spread to others, infection, hospitalization, and death.



A Mask-less ‘Slacker’ in the 1918 Pandemic

Statement on Mental Health and Wellness

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student’s academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in proper self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the Texas A&M Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. Emergency help is also available 24 hours through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Fall, 2021

Anthropology 603
Seafaring Life and Maritime Communities

Afloat and Ashore: The Life of the Sailor
An Annotated Bibliography of Primary Accounts

Balano, James W (Ed.). *The Log of the Skipper's Wife*. Camden, Me: Down East Book, 1979. Excerpts from the journals of Dorothea Moulton Balano (the editor's mother), who took to the sea with her husband on a variety of sailing ships in the early twentieth century. The vivid and witty entries chronicle her many experiences at sea.

Barlow, Edward. *Barlow's Journal of his Life at Sea in King's Ships, East and West Indiamen and other merchantmen from 1659 to 1703* (Basil Lubbock, ed.), in two volumes. London: Hurst and Blackett, 1934. These two volumes should be required reading for anyone researching English maritime trade, naval history, and seafaring in the second half of the 17th century. Barlow went everywhere (Africa, Asia, the Americas and West Indies) and saw everything, but had a rough time of it.

Barnard, John. *Ashton's Memorial: An History of the Strange Adventures, and Signal Deliverances, of Mr. Philip Ashton*. Boston: Samuel Gerrish, 1725 (reprinted by Peabody Museum of Salem, 1976). Ashton is taken captive by evil pirate captain Edward Low and is subsequently marooned for 16 months. Another early eighteenth century hard-luck case.

Brewster, Mary. *"She Was a Sister Sailor": Mary Brewster's Whaling Journals 1845-1851*. Edited by Joan Druett. Mystic, Ct.: Mystic Seaport Museum, Inc., 1992. These represent six years of daily journal entries describing daily life at sea. Brewster, the wife of an American whaling ship captain, accompanied her husband on lengthy voyages to the Pacific. These journals are described by their editor, the noted maritime historian Joan Druett, as "the most complete compendium of the female experience in nineteenth century whaling and seafaring."

Canot, Theodore. *Adventures of an African Slaver*. Garden City, N.Y.: Garden City Publishing, Inc., 1928. Narrative of a slave-ship sailor.

Chamier, Frederick. *Life of a Sailor*. Barnsley, U.K.: Seaforth Publishing, 2011. Seafarers' Voices Series. Chamier goes to sea as a naïve, puffed-up young Royal Navy midshipman in 1809 and quickly learns of the hardships of naval life (even as an officer). Continues in the service until 1827. Meets Lord Byron in Constantinople. Great verbal imagery here, such as cold sailors "wrinkling up their noses, like monkeys in a frost."

Chase, Owen, Thomas Chappel, and George Pollard. *Narratives of the Wreck of the Whale-ship Essex of Nantucket Which was Destroyed by a Whale in the Pacific Ocean in the Year 1819*. London: Golden Cockerel Press, 1935 (re-published by Dover Books, New York, 1989). The

true story of a whale attack that inspired Melville's *Moby Dick* and, in 2015, the lamentable movie *In the Heart of the Sea*. Involves cannibalism and great suffering.



Cleveland, Richard Jeffry. *Voyages and Commercial Enterprises of the Sons of New England*. New York: Burt Franklin, 1968 (originally published in 1857). Autobiography of a New England merchant ship sailor, 1792-1833.

Cloud, Enoch. *Enoch's Voyage: Life on a Whaling Ship, 1851-1854*. Wakefield, R.I. and London: Moyer Bell, 1994. This is the real deal. After a short introduction by Cloud's great, great, great granddaughter Elizabeth McLean, this book is the transcribed day-to-day account of Cloud's three-year stint at sea during the height of the American whaling era. Beware: Cloud is hopelessly addicted to exclamations!!!

Cobb, Elisha. *Elisha Cobb, 1768-1848: A Cape Cod Skipper*. London: Oxford University Press, 1925. Memoirs of a New England sea captain, describing voyages to Europe in the 1790s.

Coggeshall, George. *Thirty-six Voyages to Various Parts of the World Made Between the Years 1799 and 1841*. London: Macdonald and Jane's, 1874 (first published in New York in 1858). Detailed memoir of seagoing life by a famous New England sea captain and privateer.

Cooper, James Fennimore. *Ned Myers, or a Life Before the Mast*. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute Press, 1989. This one is rightfully considered a classic among sailor memoirs. It presents the life of Edward Myers, narrated to his old friend Cooper (the famous author). Myers sailed in nearly every type of merchant vessel and warship during the first half of the 19th century. Between the booze and the shipwrecks, he had a hard life. Meyers' eyewitness account of the sinking of the schooner *Scourge* on Lake Ontario in 1813 was hugely helpful to archaeologists after the discovery of the wreck in the 1970s.

Coxere, Edward. *The Adventures by Sea of Edward Coxere* (E.H.W. Meyerstein, ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1945. Memoirs of 17th century English sailor in European and Mediterranean waters. Another hard-luck case: numerous disastrous voyages and frequent persecution at home for his then-radical Quaker beliefs.

Crow, Hugh. *The Memoirs of Captain Hugh Crow: The Life and Times of a Slave Trade Captain*. Introduction by John Pinfold. Oxford: Bodleian Library, 2007. Crow made thirteen

slaving voyages across the Atlantic in the years immediately prior to the outlawing of the slave trade by the British Government in 1807. Besides recounting his adventures as a mariner, the book serves as an apologia for his participation in the trade: in Crow's view the slaves were better off in the plantations of the Americas than back home in Africa. Apparently, he was doing them a huge favor.

Dampier, William. *A New Voyage Round the World*. London: Argonaut Press, 1927 (there are other editions as well). Dampier was a curious character: Buccaneer, naval officer, geologist and biologist, explorer. This book is his most famous, describing his circumnavigation of the world between 1679 and 1691.

Dana, Richard Henry. *Two Years Before the Mast*. New York: P.F. Collier and Son, 1937 (this has been published in many editions). Considered one of the classics of sea literature. Narrative of a college student who enlists as a common sailor for a two-year voyage to California and back, 1834-1836.

Dickenson, Jonathan. *Jonathan Dickenson's Journal or, Gods Protecting Providence, Being the narrative of a Journey from Port Royal in Jamaica to Philadelphia between August 23, 1696 and April 1, 1697*. New Haven, Ct.: Yale University Press, 1945. Account of English merchant shipwrecked on the coast of Florida.

Doane, Benjamin. *Following the Sea: A Young Sailor's Account of the Seafaring Life in the mid-1800s*. Halifax, N.S.: Nimbus Publishing, Ltd. and the Nova Scotia Museum, 1987. Narrative of the seafaring and whaling experiences of Doane, recorded by his son and published by his grandson. While highly readable, the memoir was written many years after the events it describes, and the reader must judge for himself or herself if the story contains 'improvements'.

Durand, James, *James Durand, An Able Seaman of 1812* (George S. Brooks, ed.). New Haven: Yale University Press, 1926. Memoirs of Connecticut sailor who served on merchant craft and in the American and Royal Navies between 1801 and 1816.

Ely, Edward. *The Wanderings of Edward Ely* (Anthony and Allison Sirna, eds.). New York: Hastings House, 1954. Account of passenger on voyage from New York to California gold fields in 1850-1851.

Figuerola, Martín Fernández de. *A Spaniard in the Portuguese Indies*, James B. McKenna, ed. Cambridge, Ma.: Harvard University Press, 1967. Figuerola joined Portuguese East Indies fleet in 1505 and spent six years voyaging around Far East.

Gardner, James Anthony. *Above and Below Hatches: Recollections of James Anthony Gardner*. London: Chatham Publishing, 2000. Hijinks-and-opinion-heavy memoirs of life in the Royal Navy during the late 18th and early 19th century. Like Hervey's journals (see below), this account was not intended for publication, with its tales of wild antics and strange times.

Garneray, Louis. *Seaman Garneray: Voyages, Aventures et Combats*. Roland Wilson, trans. Argyll, Scotland: Argyll Publishing, 2003. Account of a French sailor during the late 18th and

early 19th centuries. Garneray served on both Republican Navy vessels and privateers, and after his capture spent a long stretch on a British prison hulk at Portsmouth.

Goelet, Francis. *The Voyages and Travels of Francis Goelet, 1746-1758*. New York: Queens College Press and the Gregg Press, 1970. Daily journals of a New York City merchant, describing five voyages to New England, England, Holland, and the West Indies in the mid-18th century. Includes tipped-in section of Goelet's pen-and-watercolor ship portraits and charts.

Greene, Welcome A. *The Journals of Welcome Arnold Greene* (Howard Greene and Alice E. Smith, eds.). Madison, WI: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1956. Detailed daily journal of two voyages, kept by the supercargo of the merchant brigantine *Perseverance*, 1817-1820.

Hatch, A.S. *Jack Corbett MARINER*. New York: The Quantuck Lane Press, 2003. Narrative of Alfredrick Hatch, sent to sea as a sickly lad to either "cure him or kill him." A classic tale of the young greenhorn tossed into forecandle among the hard-boiled old salts. Jack Corbett befriends Hatch, "shows him the ropes," and gets him through the voyage. Years later, Corbett shows up on the doorstep of the now-wealthy Hatch, who hires him as a family retainer (at this point the Victorian literary sap starts dripping out of the text, you may well end up in tears).

Hay, Kenneth M. and Joy Roberts, eds. *The Sea Voyages of Edward Beck in the 1820s*. Edinburgh: The Pentland Press, 1996. Detailed journals of an observant sailor, beginning with his apprenticeship and continuing up to his elevation to ship's officer. Beck sails in European waters, and subsequently makes voyages to Quebec and around the cape to Calcutta.

Hay, Robert. *Landsman Hay*. Barnsley, U.K.: Seaforth Publishing, 2010. Seafarers' Voices Series. Narrative of Hay, who joins the Royal Navy in 1803 at age 14 and spends the next eight years regretting it. Nearly loses a leg, is press-ganged after deserting, and is shipwrecked: he had his reasons for wanting to leave.

Hay, Mary. *I Saw a Ship A'Sailing*. London: Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1981. These are Hay's reminiscences of the eight years she spent on her father's ship *Ladye Doris*, when she was between the ages of seven and fifteen. Written in a narrative form from memory, so the account is less 'immediate' than a seafaring journal, but an entertaining read in its own right.

Hervey, Augustus. *August Hervey's Journal: The Adventures Afloat and Ashore of a Naval Casanova*. David Erskine, ed. London: Chatham Publishing, 2002. These are the *very* personal journals of a Royal Navy officer who rose high in rank in the mid-18th century, but who also recorded details of his remarkably active sex life. A curious look at the naval upper crust.

Johnson, Noah ('A Wanderer'). *Journals of Two Cruises Aboard the American Privateer Yankee*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1967. Daily journals of ship's clerk of an American privateer, 1812-1813.

Kelly, Samuel. *Samuel Kelly An Eighteenth Century Seaman*. Crosby Garstin, ed. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co., 1925. Account of Kelly's seafaring life between 1778 and 1795, with voyages between Europe, the Caribbean, and North America. A terrific read.

Killman, Daniel O. *Forty Years Master: A Life in Sail & Steam*. Edited by John Lyman and Harold D. Huycke. College Station, Texas: Texas A&M University Press, 2016. This is a new favorite of mine, the unvarnished account of a hard-boiled and relentless American sailor who commanded ships in the Pacific for most of his career, and experienced every kind of difficulty and triumph in his more than fifty years at sea. This book has joined the F.H. Shaw book (see below) as a reading for my Anth 610 course.

Lay, William and Cyrus M. Hussey. *Mutiny on Board the Whaleship Globe*. New York: Corinth Books, 1963. Survivor accounts of the bizarre and bloody *Globe* mutiny of 1824.

Léry, Jean de. *History of a Voyage to the Land of Brazil*. Berkeley, Ca.: University of California Press, 1990. Account of the ill-fated French Huguenot attempt to colonize Brazil; his account of the voyage home to France in 1556 is a classic among sea voyages gone bad: gushing leaks, a gunpowder explosion, near-capsizing, and slow starvation (sadly, none of the pet parrots and monkeys made it home, and most of the leather clothing items also got eaten).

Linschoten, Jan Huygen van. *Discours of Voyages into ye East & West Indies*. First English edition London, 1598; Amsterdam and Norwood, N.J.: Theatrum Orbis Terrarum, Ltd. and Walter J. Johnson, Inc., 1974. Linschoten was the Dutch skunk at the Portuguese tea party: He traveled throughout the East Indies as a Portuguese employee, then came home and wrote a book that was essentially a road map for Dutch and English interlopers in the Far East. Some material on Portuguese seafaring in the late 16th century, although Linschoten is more of a cultural geographer.

Little, George. *Life on the Ocean; or, Twenty Years at Sea*. New York: Richard Marsh, 1854. Memoirs of a merchant sailor and privateersman between 1807 and 1826.

Loomis, Hezekiah. *Journal of Hezekiah Loomis*. Louis F. Middlebrook, ed. Salem, Mass.: The Essex Institute, 1928. Daily journal of Loomis, a steward aboard the U.S. Navy brig *Vixen* in 1804.

Marteilhe, Jean. *Galley Slave*. Vincent McInerney, ed. Barnsley, Great Britain: Seaforth Publishing, 2010. The title kind of says it all. A rare survivor's account by Marteilhe, a French Huguenot imprisoned for his beliefs and sent to the galleys in 1707. After six years at the oars he was released in an amnesty in 1713 and went on to write this account.

Mitchell, Arthur Blackwell. *The Voyages of Arthur Blackwell Mitchell*. Priscila Bagg Donham and David Van Voorhis Wood, eds. Alna, Me.: Forfarshire Books, 2016. This is a memoir dictated by Mitchell three decades after the end of his career as a sailor. The book is a lively account of four years of voyaging, sometimes in the Atlantic but mostly in the Pacific, on the Glasgow-owned barque *Forfarshire*. A terrific insider's description of seafaring at the end of the age of sail, and of the hardworking but reckless lives of the barque's crewmembers. Mitchell was a man of his era (i.e. expect cringe-inducing references to the nonwhite peoples that he encountered).

Mitchell, Josiah A., Henry Ferguson, and Samuel Ferguson. *Longboat to Hawaii: An Account of the Voyage of the Clipper Ship Hornet of New York Bound for San Francisco in 1866*. Cambridge, Md.: Cornell Maritime Press, Inc., 1974. Tale of the burning of the *Hornet* off the Galapagos and the subsequent voyage by longboat to a landing in Hawaii.

Morrell, Abby Jane. *Captain's Wife: Narrative of a Voyage in the Schooner Antarctic, 1829, 1830, 1831*. Barnsley, U.K.: Seaforth Publishing, 2012. Account by the insightful Morrell of her life and times on an American whaling ship, commanded by her husband, during a voyage to the Pacific Ocean between 1829 and 1831.

Nagle, Jacob. *The Nagle Journal*. John C. Dann, ed. New York: Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1988. Terrific autobiography of Pennsylvanian who sailed in American privateers during the Revolutionary War, in the Royal Navy under Nelson, aboard East India Company ships, and in numerous merchant craft, all between 1775 and 1841.

Newton, John. *Slaver Captain*. Barnsley, U.K.: Seaforth Publishing, 2010. Newton went to sea as a young man and experienced hard times in the Royal Navy and as a junior crewman on a slaving voyage. He experienced a spiritual conversion in 1748 (i.e. found Jesus), but continued on in the slaving service for many years and only later in life recognized the cognitive disconnect in being a devout Christian who transported slaves for a living. He became a late-in-life convert to abolitionism. Fun fact: Newton is best known as the writer of the song *Amazing Grace*.

Nicol, John. *The Life and Adventures of John Nicol, Mariner*. New York: Farrar and Rinehart, 1936 (reprinted by Atlantic Monthly Press in 1997). Memoirs of British seaman, 1776-1822. Whew, this one is also a good read. Lots of great anecdotes and seafaring perils here.

Olmsted, Francis Allyn. *Incidents of a Whaling Voyage*. New York: D. Appleton and Co., 1841 (reprinted by Bell Publishing Co., New York, 1969). Description of a whaling voyage, 1839-1841.

Olmsted, Gideon. *The Journal of Gideon Olmsted* (Gerard W. Gawalt, ed.). Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1978. Facsimile of American privateersman's journal, 1777.

Phillips, Carla Rahn, ed. *Life at Sea in the Sixteenth Century: The Landlubber's Lament of Eugenio de Salazar*. James Ford Bell Lectures Number 24, University of Minnesota, 1987. Amusing account of the horrors of life at sea by a Spanish civil servant traveling from the old country to Hispaniola in 1573: "Lice, so large that some of them get seasick and vomit pieces of flesh from apprentice seamen."

Robinson, William. *Jack Nastyface*. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute Press, 1983. Memoirs of a British seaman concerning his impressment and service in the Royal Navy in the early 19th century. Considered a classic among sailor autobiographies.

Rogers, Woodes. *A Cruising Voyage Around the World*. New York: Dover Publications, Inc, 1970. Here's another one of the classics. Account of three-year voyage around world beginning

in 1708 by an English privateer. Along the way Rogers rescues the marooned sailor Alexander Selkirk (the real-life 'Robinson Crusoe') on the island of Juan Fernandez.

Samuels, Samuel. *From Forecastle to Cabin*. Seaforth Publishing, 2012. The memoirs of Samuels, who ran off to sea in the 1830s at age 11. He experiences all the usual dangers, privations, and hard usage of a common sailor, plus some unusual adventures (he and a companion claim to have rescued a woman from a harem in Constantinople). Samuels rose in his profession to become the master of several vessels, including the famous trans-Atlantic packet *Dreadnought*.

Savigny, J. B. Henri and Alexander Correard. *Narrative of a Voyage to Senegal*. Marlboro, VT: The Marlboro Press, 1986 [a reprint of the London edition of 1818]). The ho-hum title does not prepare the reader for the horrible story contained within. These are two eyewitness accounts, one of them by a naval surgeon (Savigny), of the 1816 wrecking of the French frigate *Medusa* on the western coast of Africa. One of the epic stories of death and (for a few) survival at sea, commemorated by the famous Théodore Géricault painting that now hangs in the Louvre.



Shaw, Frank Hubert. *White Sails and Spindrift*. New York: The Odyssey Press, 1947. One of my favorites, written by Shaw in the 1940s as a lively memoir of about his training as a sailor just as the big sailing ships passed from the scene. This one is a gold mine of incidents (those of you who have taken ANTH 610 will remember this as a required reading book).

Sokolow, Michael. *Charles Benson: Mariner of Color in the Age of Sail*. Amherst and Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2003. "What a miserable life a sea fareing life is" Benson wrote in 1862. A remarkably detailed and intimate journal of a free black American sailor in the middle decades of the 19th century. The book includes much interpretive text by Sokolow.

Spavens, William. *The Narrative of William Spavens, a Chatham Pensioner by Himself*. Introduction by N.A.M. Rodger. London: Chatham Publishing, 1998. Account of Spavens' seafaring career in the second half of the 18th century.

Teller, Walter, ed. *Five Sea Captains: Their Own Accounts of Voyages Under Sail*. New York: Athenaeum Publishers, 1960. Just as the title says: five narratives of 19th century mariners.

Tyng, Charles. *Before the Wind: The Memoir of an American Sea Captain, 1808-1833*. New York: Viking Penguin Group, 1999. A narrative of early 19th-century American pluck and industry: Tyng begins his career as a cabin boy on a voyage to China in 1808 and rises in the seafaring profession to be a captain and owner of two ships. There's wonderful stuff here: a description of the tattoos acquired as a sailor youth (and regretted as an adult); Tyng's purchase of a whole, mummified mermaid from Japan for \$500; and the memorable dead-goat-putrefying-in-a-vat-of-molasses incident (molasses which was subsequently sold to unsuspecting buyers).

Uring, Nathaniel. *The Voyages and Travels of Captain Nathaniel Uring*. London: Cassell and Company, Ltd., 1928 (First published 1726). Autobiography of Uring, from his first passage as a young lad on a collier in 1697 to his retirement from seafaring in 1721; accounts of merchant voyages to North American colonies, slaving in Africa, cutting logwood in Honduras, smuggling slaves to New Spain, commanding a West Indies Packet from England, trading in Mediterranean ports, trade in wine and brandy from Azores and Madeira to Lisbon and North America. Uring survived numerous shipwrecks and near-shipwrecks, frequent chases and occasional captures by French privateers and Barbary pirates. This guy saw it all.

Wetherell, John. *The Adventures of John Wetherel*. C.S. Forester, ed. London: Michael Joseph, 1954. A well-written, entertaining, and insightful account of a British sailor impressed into the Royal Navy in 1803. Wetherell has much to say on the subject of impressment and tyrannical treatment of sailors by naval officers. His ship *Hussar* wrecked on the coast of France in 1804 and Wetherell and his mates were confined in French prisons for the next ten years.

Williams, Frederick. *The Voyages of Frederick Williams*. Eleanor P. Cross, ed. Chesapeake, Virginia: Norfolk County Historical Society, 1972. Autobiography by Williams, of his seafaring life from 1818 to 1839. German-born merchant ship captain who sailed out of Norfolk, Virginia for most of his career. He was an eyewitness to the first transatlantic crossing by a steamboat, the American *Savannah*. There are also accounts of taking freed slaves back to Africa, various storms, and the general routine of early 19th century seafaring life.

Wright, Louis B. *A Voyage to Virginia in 1609*. Charlottesville, Va.: The University of Virginia Press, 1973. Two accounts of the loss of the English Galleon *Sea Venture* on Bermuda en route to Jamestown, Va.

