History 305W/405:
The Maritime Atlantic World in the Age of Sail,
1450-1850

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Office Hours: Wed. 2:00-4:00 or by appt.

Scope of Course: The study of European expansion into Africa and the Americas between the ages of Discovery and Revolution has taken many forms. Some historians have pursued their investigations topically (slavery, migration, economic development, gender, class formation, etc.) while others have focused on particular colonies or regions, often with nationalistic, political or cultural motivations. Indeed, considerably more attention has been devoted to those colonies and regions that became the United States than elsewhere, due primarily to the fact that this country has produced so many historians. This course breaks with past tradition by shifting the focus of inquiry to the Atlantic Ocean itself, as the geographic center of an expanding European world. Rather than treat the ocean as peripheral while studying the settlement of the Atlantic coast, we will be primarily concerned with activities that took place upon its watery face, delving into the lives of the thousands of mariners who were catalysts in identity formation, migration, and economic development. Adopting a transnational and cross-culturally comparative and connective approach, we will focus particularly on three topics: migration (forced and free), maritime activities (seafaring, shipping, and fishing), and commerce (port cities and merchant
communities), admittedly with a bias toward an expanding British Empire in the 17th and 18th centuries. By the end of this course, you will hopefully appreciate the centrality of the sea and maritime enterprises to the histories of Africa, Europe, and the Americas.

This is an intensive research history seminar. It carries a heavy reading load and will demand much from you in class discussions. Because this class is designed to address areas normally neglected by traditional survey courses, it also assumes a basic knowledge of colonial American history. If you feel you need a primer or refresher on early American history, Donald Meinig, *The Shaping of America: Atlantic America, 1492-1800* (New Haven, 1986) and Alan Taylor, *American Colonies* (New York, 2001) offer excellent overviews. In addition to learning about the Atlantic World and maritime culture, you will gain experience in teaching by leading a class discussion. You will also improve your critical thinking skills by writing summary papers each week and completing a substantial primary research paper on a topic of your choice.

Class Participation: You are expected to attend every class, read the assigned material, and come prepared to talk about what you have read. In addition, each of you will help me lead one class discussion of core reading. The student(s) who leads discussion will meet with me a few days before class to discuss strategies for encouraging a lively debate. Your class participation grade, based on your discussion leadership and activity in the seminar, is worth twenty percent (20%) of your grade. Unexcused absences will cause your class participation grade to suffer.

Writing Assignments: The rest of your grade is based on reaction papers (20%) a short research paper (10%) and work leading to your final research paper (50%).

**Reaction Papers:** On weeks 3-6 and 8-12, you will write a single-spaced, single-page critical reaction paper addressing the assigned reading, due at the beginning of the class in which the readings are discussed. These papers should succinctly summarize the issues that each author addresses and evaluate the persuasiveness of arguments and evidence. Reaction essays turned in late on the day of class will be marked down half a grade, and for each day late thereafter another half-grade will be deducted, so have your papers ready on time! Given the intensity of this course, I will allow you to skip turning in TWO reaction papers during the semester, but this does not absolve you from doing the reading and participating in discussion. The SEVEN reaction papers you turn in over the course of the semester will constitute 20% of your grade.

**Short Research Paper:** Due in class on Oct. 26, you will research and write a 4-6 page (double-spaced) essay on some aspect of “Leisure and Fun in the Maritime Atlantic.” This topic encompasses a broad range of possible topics: drinking & tavern culture; dating, sex, and courtship; plays, novels, poetry, and reading; craft activities (knitting, scrimshaw, etc.); dancing (types of dance and venues for dancing); seafaring traditions and superstitions; sport, games, and gambling; songs and music (esp. popular ballads, sea shanties, and musical performances); foods (typical shipboard fare and formal dinners) and entertaining
jokes, stories, and satires in almanacs and newspapers. In writing this paper, your purpose is mainly to inform and amuse, rather than to argue a particular thesis. Extra class participation credit will be given to those who perform or introduce the class to some aspect of their topic. This short paper is worth 10% of your grade.

Final Research Paper: You will also write one long paper (15-20 pages) that explores a specific subject or relevant theme relating to the Maritime Atlantic World using mainly primary sources or a substantial collection of documents and secondary material. Your success will largely depend upon your ability to conduct research independently, analyze documents, and creatively write up your findings.

By Friday, Sept. 11: meet with me to discuss potential topics.
By Friday, Oct. 9: register a specific topic with me.
October 19: submit a 1-2 page paper PROSPECTUS and annotated bibliography (see Storey, Writing History (3rd ed.), p. 22-24, for criteria.
Nov. 2: submit a paper OUTLINE and status report of research & writing progress to date.
November 23: full draft of research paper due. IT WILL BE GRADED
Nov. 30-Dec. 4: schedule an individual meeting with me to collect your evaluated draft and discuss ways to further improve your work.
Tuesday, Dec. 15: final revised paper due, with no exceptions.

Collectively, your research paper is worth fifty percent (50%) of your grade but the steps in the developmental process will be weighted as follows: the written prospectus identifies your topic choice, provides a bibliography listing primary and secondary sources, and gives an overview of your research progress thus far. This will be graded and is worth 5% of your research paper grade. On Nov. 2, you will turn in an outline of your developing paper and identify within the outline (or an accompanying statement) the sections that are researched, researched and written, or still in need of work. The outline is worth 5% of your research paper grade. A full-text, properly referenced draft of your research paper is due on Nov. 23 and is worth 10% of your grade. This should NOT be a “rough draft” and will be graded as if it is your final submission. You will get back detailed comments and suggestions to guide you in making further refinements and improvements and we will discuss the paper in individual meetings on the week of Nov. 30-Dec. 4. Your revised, final version of your research paper is due on Dec. 15 and is worth the final 30% of your research paper grade. Late submissions for any of these compulsory assignments will be penalized a grade per day. I advise you to work steadily throughout the semester and submit complete and polished assignments on or before their due dates.

Research Presentations: During our last class meeting, we will hold a mini-conference in which you will each make a short presentation of your research to your peers and field questions about your research methods and findings. Your presentation and your performance during Q&A will form part of your class participation grade.
REQUIRED TEXTS: (available at the U. of R. Bookstore)
Greg Dening, *Mr Bligh's Bad Language: Passion, Power and Theater on the Bounty* (1992)
David Hancock, *Citizens of the World* (Cambridge, 1995)
Lisa Norling, *Captain Ahab Had A Wife* (Chapel Hill, 2000)

(STRONGLY) RECOMMENDED TEXTS:
Michael Jarvis, *In the Eye of All Trade* (Chapel Hill, 2010)
Capt. Charles Johnson [Daniel Defoe?], *A General History of the Pyrates* (Dover, 1999)

In addition to the above texts, we will be watching the movie *Master and Commander* in a common screening (or on your own) prior to our Nov. 2 class discussion.

U. of R. Writing Center: Over the course of the semester while developing your reaction and research papers, you are certainly allowed and very much encouraged to work with writing tutors and specialists in the College Writing Center ([http://writing.rochester.edu/center.html](http://writing.rochester.edu/center.html), Rush Rhees G-121). They will help you to improve your prose and organization and can serve as ideal readers/sounding boards as you develop your research projects. As a fortune cookie I once opened stated, “Good writing is clear thinking made visible.” The writing center staff will help you to achieve this - if you work with them.

Rush Rhees Research Librarians: You are also encouraged to consult Alan Unsworth early and often while developing your research paper. He can help you at all stages of the research project, especially in finding relevant source materials. You can contact him via the Reference Desk or by email/phone: aunsworth@library.rochester.edu/x59298.

Technology Failures: I find it funny how often hard drives crash right before scheduled tests and paper due dates. I am actually quite handy at data recovery (laptops and desktops). In order to get an excused extension in the event of your suffering a catastrophic computer failure, please bring your afflicted computer to my office so that I can attempt to recover your lost files or, if I can’t, we can work out a reasonable extension timetable.
Setting Course:

Each week we will read a mix of articles, books, and excerpted primary sources. All assigned material will be available either for purchase in the UR bookstore or online at this course’s web-page. If you are unable to access/download e-reserve readings, please contact me and I can give them to you on a flash drive or as attachments. DOWNLOAD PROBLEMS do NOT absolve you from doing the reading, since there are paper copies of all the assigned texts within Rush Rhees Library available the old-fashioned way: actually reading them on paper!

**Key to Reading Assignments:**
* = Core/Required Reading
R = on Reserve/Electronic Reserve
P = Primary Source

**Week I (Aug. 31) Casting Off: Course Overview and Oceanic History**

Signing On, Navigating the Semester, Forming Watches, Library Tour

Recommended:
*A GOOD GENERAL OVERVIEW: America and the Sea: A Maritime History* (Mystic, CT, 1998)

Sept. 7 - LABOR DAY, NO CLASS, but meet with me individually this week to discuss your interests and possible paper topics

**Week II (Sept. 14) Atlantic Worlds: Concepts, Circulations, Migrations**


* R David Eltis, “Free and Coerced Transatlantic Migrations: Some Comparisons,”
*R Alison Games, “Atlantic History: Definitions, Challenges, and Opportunities” American Historical Review 111 (2006), 741-757

* R Michael Jarvis, In the Eye of All Trade (2009), 1-9


*R/P EXCERPT from Janet Schaw, Journal of a Lady of Quality (1774), 19-77

Recommended:

David Armitage and Michael Braddick, eds., The British Atlantic World, 1500-1800 (New York, 2002)


Daniel Finamore, ed., Maritime History as World History (Gainesville,, 2004)


Allan Greer, The People of New France (1999)
James Horn, “Servant Emigration to the Chesapeake in the Seventeenth Century,” in Tate and Ammerman, eds., The Chesapeake in the Seventeenth Century: Essays on Anglo-American Society (New York, 1979), 51-95 and Adapting to a New World (Chapel Hill, 1996)


Lyle McAlister, Spain and Portugal in the New World, 1492-1700 (New York, 1984)


Anthony Pagden, Peoples and Empires: A Short History of European Migration, Exploration, and Conquest, from Greece to the Present (New York, 2001)


Week III (Sept. 21) Seafaring and Seafarers I

* Marcus Rediker, Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea, all

*R Jesse Lemische, “Jack Tar in the Streets” William and Mary Quarterly 3rd ser., XXV (1968), 371-407


Recommended:

PLAY Sid Meier’s Pirates! videogame (Digital Humanities Center; Digital History Lab to familiarize yourself with different types of ships and sailing, naval warfare, and Caribbean geography. Much of the game is a sanitized caricature of violent and brutal pirate life (see Week XI) and has some sexist elements, but provides some useful insights. Also, the dancing is fun. Alternatively, play Assassin’s Creed IV: Black Flag for a less geographically correct but realistically bloody and violent simulation with more authentic colonial landscapes but quite inaccurate portrayals of historical pirates. (I have quite a collection of other pirate video games
on various platforms in the Digital History Lab, Rush Rhees 445, if you have even more time to kill … ha - get it?)


Timothy Runyan, ed., *Ships, Seafaring and Society: Essays in Maritime History* (Detroit, 1987)

**Week IV (Sept. 28) Seafarers II: Contesting Jack Tar**

*R Michael Jarvis, *In The Eye of All Trade*, 119-184*


Recommended:

(P) Richard Henry Dana, Jr., *Two Years Before the Mast* (Boston, 1840)

And other sailors’ memoirs in the “suggested sources” appendix to this syllabus

**Oct. 5: NO CLASS – WORK ON YOUR TOPIC PROPOSALS!**

**Week V (Oct. 12) Middle Passages and Slaves at Sea: African Diasporas**

*R Jeffrey Bolster, *Black Jacks: African American Seamen in the Age of Sail.* (Cambridge,
Mass., 1997), 1-43

* David Hancock, *Citizens of the World*, 172-220

* Herbert Klein, *The Atlantic Slave Trade* (Cambridge, 2010), all


**Recommended:**

(P) *The Transatlantic Slave Trade Database*,
http://www.slavevoyages.org


David Cecelski, *The Waterman’s Song: Slavery and Freedom in Maritime North Carolina* (Chapel Hill, 2001)


Neville Hall, “Maritime Maroonage,” in *Slave Society in the Danish West Indies: St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix*, chap. 7


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**Week VI (Oct. 19) Port Communities, Maritime Societies**

**RESEARCH TOPIC PROSPECTUS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIES DUE!**


*R Jarvis, “A Seafaring People,” in *Eye of All Trade*, 257-317

*Lisa Norling, *Captain Ahab Had A Wife*, all


*(P) J. Hector St. John De Crevecoeur, “Description of the Island of Nantucket” in *Letters from an American Farmer* (1783/1997), 83-113
Recommended:


Alejandro de la Fuente, *Havana and the Atlantic in the Sixteenth Century* (Chapel Hill, 2009)


Christine Heyrman, *Commerce and Culture: The Maritime Communities of Colonial Massachusetts, 1690-1750* (New York, 1984)

Franklin Knight and Peggy Liss, eds., *Atlantic Port Cities: Economy, Culture and Society in the Atlantic World, 1650-1850* (Knoxville, Tenn., 1991)


**Week VII (Oct. 26) Interdisciplinary Approaches to Maritime History:**

**Gender, Sexuality, Identity, Material Culture**

SHORT PAPERS DUE

NO REACTION PAPER THIS WEEK

*P - SELECTION of Sea Shanty lyrics: analyze and interpret the stories told (lessons taught?) and likely social functions of these songs


PLUS BE PREPARED TO GIVE A SHORT ORAL REPORT ON YOUR RESEARCH PAPER TOPIC.
Recommended:


Steven Banks, *The Handicrafts of the Sailor* (London, 1974)


Charles Firth, *Naval Songs and Ballads* (London, 1908)


Stan Hugill, *Shanties from the Seven Seas* (Mystic, CT., 1994)


Simon Newman, “Reading the Bodies of Early American Seafarers,” *William and Mary Quarterly* 3rd ser. LV (1998), 59-82

(P) Catherine Petroski, ed., *A Bride’s Passage: Susan Hathorn’s Year Under Sail* (Boston, 1997)


W.B. Whall, *Sea Songs and Shanties* (New York, 1974)
Week VIII (Nov. 2) Naval Service
RESEARCH TOPIC OUTLINES & STATUS UPDATE DUE

*WATCH Master and Commander (Class Screening on Sunday, Nov. 1; also available on Reserve in Art & Music Library, Rush Rhees).


* R/P EXCERPTS from Olaudah Equiano, Interesting Narrative, 49-75 (1757-1763) and Nathaniel Fanning, Fanning’s Narrative (1778), 1-23.

Recommended:

Robert Albion, Forests and Sea Power (1926)


Duncan Crewe, Yellow Jack and the Worm (1984)

Michael Duffy, Soldiers, Sugar, and Seapower: The British Expeditions to the West Indies and the War against Revolutionary France (Oxford, 1987)

William Fowler, Rebels Under Sail (1976)


Carla Phillips, Six Galleons for the King of Spain: Imperial Defense in the Early Seventeenth Century (Baltimore, 1992)


Neil Stout, The Royal Navy in America, 1760-1775 (1973)

David Syrett, The Royal Navy in European waters during the American Revolutionary War (1998)

Barbara Tuchman, The First Salute (1988)


Week IX (Nov. 9) Maritime Environments and Commons


*R Jarvis, “Working the Atlantic Commons,” in Eye of All Trade, 185-256

Recommended:

Jennifer Anderson, Mahogany: The Costs of Luxury in Early America (Cambridge, 2012)


Mark Kurlansky, Cod: A Biography of the Fish that Changed the World (New York, 1998)

Christopher Magra, The Fisherman’s Cause: Atlantic Commerce and Maritime Dimensions of the
American Revolution (Cambridge, 2009)

(P) Herman Melville, Moby Dick, or The Whale (New York, 1851)

Peter Pope, Fish into Wine: The Newfoundland Plantation in the Seventeenth Century (Chapel Hill, 2004)


Week X (Nov. 16) Pirates and Piracy


* David Cordingly, Under The Black Flag: The Romance and Reality of Life Among the Pirates (New York, 1996), all


*Re-read Rediker, ch. 6.

* (P) EXCERPTS from Johnson, General History of the Pyrates: Bartholomew Roberts, Edward Low & John Evans

Recommended:


Arne Bialuschewski, “Black People under the Black Flag: Piracy and the Slave Trade on the West Coast of Africa, 1718-1723” Slavery and Abolition XXIX (2008), 461-475


Kenneth Kinkor, “Black Men under the Black Flag,” in *Bandits at Sea: A Pirate Reader*, 195-210

Kris Lane, *Pillaging the Empire: Piracy in the Americas, 1500-1750* (New York, 1998)

Marcus Rediker, *Villains of all Nations: Atlantic Pirates in the Golden Age* (Boston, 2005)

Robert Ritchie, *Captain Kidd and the War against the Pirates* (Cambridge, Mass., 1986)


(P) Robert Louis Stevenson, *Treasure Island* 

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**Week XI (Nov. 23) Atlantic World Merchant Networks**

**RESEARCH PAPERS DUE IN CLASS**

* David Hancock, *Citizens of the World*, 1-275

* EXCERPTS from 18th c. Colonial Merchants’ Letterbooks: Henry Laurens (South Carolina), Alexander Hamilton (St. Croix), Gerard Beekman (New York)

Recommended:

(P) Frances Mason, ed., *John Norton and Sons, Merchants of London and Virginia* (Richmond, 1937)


David Hancock, *Oceans of Wine* (New Haven, 2009)


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**Week XII (Nov. 30) Cultural Maritime History**

Greg Dening, *Mr. Bligh’s Bad Language: Passion, Power and Theater on the Bounty*, all.

Meet with me individually this week to collect and discuss your paper

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**Week XIII (Dec. 7) Journey’s End: Paying Off and Final Presentations**

**Tuesday Dec. 15: REVISED PAPERS DUE by 5 p.m.**

Don’t let this happen to you! ➔ Work on your Paper Steadily Throughout the Course!
Getting Started: Useful Primary Sources

2015: Many of the primary sources below are now available in digital editions through the UR’s subscription to the Hathi Trust (formerly Google Books), Early English Books Online (EEBO) and the Eighteenth Century Collection Online (ECCO) databases. Although these texts are word-searchable, you risk distorting meaning and destroying historical and literary context by “cherry picking” evidence and examples this way! When using electronic resources of all kinds, I urge you to read most or all of your chosen text as if it were an original paper source, magically spirited to you from obscure foreign archives instantaneously to your desk!

Deciphering handwriting in manuscript material:

Bibliographies:
Benjamin Labaree, A Supplement to Naval and Maritime History (Mystic, Conn., 1988).

Document Collections:
Calendar of State Papers, Colonial Series & East Indies, 1600-1750s. DA 15
Richard B. Morris, ed., Select Cases of the Mayor’s Court of New York City, 1674-1784 (Wash. D.C., 1935)
Samuel Purchas, Hakluytus Posthumus, or Purchas His Pilgrimes. 20 vols. (Glasgow 1905-7) G159.P98p
Dorothy Towle, Records of the Vice Admiralty Court of Rhode Island, 1716-1752 (Wash. DC, 1936).
KB575.A18r

See also various individual publications of the Hakluyt Society, 1848-present: G161.H15w and the Naval Records Society, DA70.A1 N3p

Sailors’ Logs and Memoirs
John Barnes, ed., Fanning’s Narrative: Being the Memoirs of Nathaniel Fanning, an Officer of the Revolutionary Navy, 1778-1783 (New York, 1912).
Matthew Bishop, The Life and Adventures of Matthew Bishop of Deddington in Oxfordshire: Containing
an Account of Several Actions by Sea, Battles and Sieges by Land, in which he was Present from 1701 to 1711 (London, 1744) FILM .E34 reel 4957, no. 3
Amasa Delano, Narrative of Voyages and Travels, in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres: Comprising Three Voyages round the World; Together with a Voyage of Survey and Discovery, in the Pacific Ocean and Oriental Islands (Boston 1817 [Rare Books], 1970 reprint) G440.D33n
Joshua Gee, Narrative of Joshua Gee of Boston, Massachusetts, while Captive in Algeria (Hartford, 1943)
George Shelvocke, A Privateer’s Voyage Round the World (London, 1726; reprint NY 1930).
Nathaniel Uring, Voyages and Travels of Captain Nathaniel Uring (London, 1726; 1928) FILM .E34 reel 2148, no. 02

NB: There are many additional memoirs for British naval officers and 19th century seamen not listed here.

Classic Sea Literature
William Bligh, Mutiny on the H.M.S. Bounty
Joseph Conrad, Typhoon, Nigger of the Narcissus, Lord Jim
James Fenimore Cooper, Ned Myers, Sea Witch, The Spy, Afloat and Ashore
Daniel Defoe, Robinson Crusoe and Captain Singleton
Rudyard Kipling, Captains Courageous
Herman Melville, White Jacket, Redburn, Moby Dick, Billy Budd
Edgar Allan Poe, Benito Cerino
Robert Louis Stevenson, Treasure Island

Piracy and Privateering

Philip Ashton, Ashton’s memorial. An history of the strange adventures, and signal deliverances, of Mr. Philip Ashton, who, after he had made his escape from the pirates, liv’d alone on a desolate island for about sixteen months, &c.: With a short account of Mr. Nicholas Merritt, who was taken at the same time (Boston, 1725)


**Slavery, Slave Narratives, and Africa**


Anthony Benezet, *A Short Account of that part of Africa Inhabited by the Negroes...* (Philadelphia, 1762) FILM .A6314 Reel 15


Anna Falconbridge, *Two Voyages to Sierra Leone during the years 1791-2-3* (London, 1794) FILM .G6185 no. 16044.


F. Spilsbury, *Account of a Voyage to the Western Coast of Africa Performed by His Majesty's Sloop Favourite, in the year 1805* (London, 1807), FILM .G6185 no. 19502

**Migrant Voyage Accounts**


**Merchant Papers**


Philip Hamer et. al.,eds. *The Papers of Henry Laurens* (1746-1792) 16 vols. (Columbia, SC, 1968-
Samuel Sewell, *Diary of Samuel Sewall. 1674-1729.* 3 vols. (Boston, 1878-1882)
St. George Tucker Collection (1771-1826), mss. letters in Swem Library; MICROFILM.
HF3025.W58b

**Company Papers:**
Royal African Company
Hudson Bay Company Papers
Virginia Company Papers, 1606-1625, 4 vols., – print (F229.v81r) and digital/online
Providence Island Company papers (microfilm)

**Newspapers**
ALL North American colonial newspapers available on microfilm or micro-card, Rush Rhees Library, 2nd floor.
MANY North American colonial newspapers (1690-1850+) available in searchable/downloadable format through *America’s Historical Newspapers* database (Rush Rhees Library homepage, databases)
*Virginia Gazette* (1728-1800) available through Colonial Williamsburg Foundation website:
[http://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/BrowseVG.cfm](http://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/BrowseVG.cfm)

**Other Miscellaneous Sources**
Naval Office Shipping Lists (British Colonial ports) on Microfilm, Rush Rhees
BRITISH RECORDS RELATING TO AMERICA IN MICROFORM series, Rush Rhees

18th century Dutch Port Records for St. Eustatius, St. Martin & Curacao (Microfilm) available from Prof. Jarvis but in Dutch!
Recommended Web-page and Electronic Resources

Maritime Bibliographies:  
http://pc-78-120.udac.se:8001/WWW/Nautica/Bibliography/Bibliography.html

Maritime History Documents:  
Maritime History Archive (Memorial Univ.): http://www.mun.ca/mha/  
Maritime History on the Internet: http://ils.unc.edu/maritime/mhiweb/webhome.shtml  
Maritime History Virtual Archives: http://pc-78-120.udac.se:8001/WWW/Nautica/Nautica.html  
PORT/National Maritime Museum (UK): http://www.port.nmm.ac.uk/

Maritime Journals: Mariner’s Mirror, American Neptune  
International Journal of Maritime History: http://www.mun.ca/mhp/ijmh.htm  
Journal for Maritime Research: http://www.jmr.nmm.ac.uk/

Modern Piracy Sites:  

Selected Maritime Museum Directories and Sites:  
International Directories: http://www.maritimemuseums.net/  
http://www.cus.cam.ac.uk/~mhe1000/marmus.htm  
http://www.icmmonline.org/search.html  
http://www.schoonerman.com/mari.htm

Mariner’s Museum (VA): http://www.mariner.org/  
Mystic Seaport (CT): http://www.mysticseaport.org/nf-home.htm

Colonial NEWSPAPERS:  
Virginia Gazette (1732-1800), available in electronic searchable format: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (www.history.org)  
America’s Historical Newspapers, available via UR Electronic Databases webpage

Shanties, Broadsides, Folklore:  
Individual Titles: www.mudcat.org  
HMS Rose: http://www.rendance.org/shanty/  
Songs of the Sea: http://www.contemplator.com/sea/

Underwater Archaeology:  
Archaeology on the Net: http://www.serve.com/archaeology/uwater.html  
Nautical Archaeology/Texas A&M: http://nautarch.tamu.edu/
Sailing Vessels of the 18th-c. Atlantic:

Brig: two masts (fore and main) with square sails on both masts. A brig is basically a shortened ship without a mainmast. A brigantine was a variation of a brig in that it had square sails only on the foremost.

Snow: same as a brig but with a small pole mounted about a foot behind, or abaft, the mainmast for carrying the spars, or gaff-rigged sail, on that mast.

Ketch: similar to a ship, but without a foremast. A ketch is similar to a brig, except it has a main and mizzenmast instead of a fore and mainmast. But the masts are placed further aft on the hull. Ketches were usually employed as warships with masts in place of the foremast, and until about 1700 as ocean fishing boats.

Sloop: single-masted vessel with either square or fore and aft sails. A sloop was either a brig or a gaff-rigged ship with a bowsprit, its mast being stepped at a sharper angle than the masts, which did not have a bowsprit.

Schooner: two-masted vessel with fore and aft sails. Some carried additional small square sails on the foremast and were called "topsail schooners." At first glance, a topsail schooner would appear similar to a brig or brigantine, but, on closer examination, the sharp sail rake or shape of the schooner's masts and the narrower flush-decked hull would be apparent.