

## The Qualified Seaman Bar Award

The Qualified Seaman Course is meant to provide an overview of the aids to navigation, rules of the road, seamanship, safety, piloting, charts, safe boat handling, and boat operation.



Details supporting the course outline are found in the technical sections of the Sea Scout Manual. Courses taught by Americas Boating Club and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary cover these topics. IOWLS Lesson Plans can be used to cover several of the sections. IOWLS materials can be found at [seascout.org/adult-training/iowls](http://seascout.org/adult-training/iowls).

### Section One—Aids to Navigation

1. Aids to navigation
2. The buoyage system
3. Use of various buoys
4. Storm warnings—publications and charts
5. Other storm warnings
6. Daymarks on vessels
7. Dredges, moored vessels, and towing
8. Daymarks, beacons, minor lights, and ranges
9. Intracoastal waterway markings, buoys, and aids
10. Lightships and lighthouses
11. Government publications—tide tables, Notice to Mariners, etc.

### Section Two—Rules of the Road

1. Purpose of rules of the road
2. Danger zone, right of way
3. Sound signals
4. Lights
5. Orders to the helmsman

### Section Three—Seamanship

1. Lookout
2. Bearings, reporting
3. Taking soundings
4. Marlinspike seamanship
5. Types and use of anchors

### Section Four—Safety

1. Necessary equipment
2. Hazards
3. Hull inspection
4. Firefighting
5. Proper fueling
6. Life jackets
7. Charts
8. Weather

9. Man overboard drill—class project
10. Grounding
11. First aid

### **Section Five—Piloting**

1. The compass—description and use
2. Operating by visual aids
3. Working a course

### **Section Six—Charts**

1. Definition of charts
2. Orientation and dividers
3. Chart symbols
4. Speed, distance, and time

### **Section Seven—Safe Boating**

1. Operation
2. Principles of sailing
3. Powerboat operation

### **Section Eight—Operating a Boat**

1. Demonstrate proper operation of a sailboat or a powerboat.
  - a. Safety checklist
  - b. Emergency procedure
  - c. Handling lines
  - d. Correct anchoring
  - e. Use a chart—lay out a course
  - f. Operate the boat in a proper manner and make a correct landing.