Christopher Nolan

+1 (206) 300 2890 chris@practicalnavigator.org

Summary

A skilled professional mariner and educator. I enjoy leading teams of women and men to accomplish common goals.

Education

Oregon State University

Corvallis, Oregon

Master's Degree

Graduated June 2016

P.S.M.(Professional Science Master's Degree) in Fisheries and Wildlife Administration

United States Naval War College

Newport, Rhode Island

Graduated October 2019

Joint Military Operations, Strategy and War, and Theater Security Decision Making Modules

United States Coast Guard Academy

New London, Connecticut

Bachelor's Degree

JPME Phase One

Graduated May 2002

B.S. (with Honors) in Marine and Environmental Science; Chemical and Physical Oceanography Specialties

Employment History

Sea Education Association

Falmouth, Massachusetts

Assistant Professor, Nautical Science

June 2015 - Present

Ship captain and lecturer in nautical science and leadership for post secondary study abroad organization. Programs are a semester in length and are accredited through Boston University for up to 18 credits. Programs combine classroom learning with oceanographic research cruises aboard a 134' tall ship featuring a modern laboratory and engineering plant. In addition to teaching, the captain is responsible for vessel operations, compliance with regulatory agencies, crew training, and voyage planning.

USCG Pacific Area Alameda, California

Chief, International and Combatant Commander Planning

May 2014 - June 2015

Responsible for converting higher policy and strategic direction into operational planning guidance for all international Coast Guard missions in the Pacific theater. Coordinated Department of Defense and International response operations plans for USCG Pacific Area.

USCGC Jefferson Island (WPB 1340)

Portland, Maine

Commanding Officer

June 2010 - June 2012

Complete responsibility for training, budget, well being, and discipline for 110', \$8m ship and 18-member crew. Conducted fisheries law enforcement and search & rescue from Canadian border to New Jersey.

USCG Barque Eagle

New London, Connecticut

Operations Officer and Navigator

May 2008 - June 2010

Coordinated all training, cutter navigation, and public relations for 295' barque-rigged tall ship. Managed up to 60 crew and 135 trainees and coordinated all port logistics for numerous domestic and foreign port visits.

USCG District Fourteen Honolulu, Hawaii

Command Duty Officer July 2006 - May 2008

Managed all Coast Guard tactical operations and search & rescue response in 12.2 million square mile area of responsibility in central Pacific Ocean.

USCGC Dorado (WPB 87306)

Crescent City, California

Commanding Officer

June 2004 - June 2006

Complete responsibility for training, budget, well being, and discipline for 87' \$5m ship and 12-member crew. Conducted fisheries law enforcement and search & rescue from Puget Sound to San Diego.

USCGC Alex Haley (WMEC 39)

Kodiak, Alaska

First Leiutenant

July 2002 - June 2004

Conducted fisheries law enforcement and search & rescue in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea. Supervised 35 personnel and \$120k annual operating budget for deck and weapons maintenance & training. Leading fisheries law enforcement boarding officer for ensuring at-sea compliance with commercial fishing and safety regulations.

Books

EAGLE SEAMANSHIP: A Manual for Square Rigger Seamanship, 4 Ed. Co-Author. Naval Institute Press, 2010. The leading reference for tall ship sailors, and the training book for all cadets and officer candidates from the United States Coast Guard who sail aboard USCGC EAGLE.

Films

Transatlantic: A Voyage of Discovery (2017). Producer, Cinematographer, and Editor. 37 minute documentary feature a voyage of change and discovery among a group of students and educators sailing across the Atlantic Ocean on a 134' tall ship. Winner of the Grand Prize at the 2017 International Maritime Film Festival.

Training Manuals

The Cutterman's Guide to Navigation Problems. Self Published. A 287-page manual for solving all navigational mathematics expected of mariners at the 1600-ton oceans level of U.S. Merchant Mariner training.

The Cutterman's Guide to Maneuvering Boards. Self Published. A 57-page manual for solving maneuvering board problems found in marine navigation circumstances.

The Cutterman's Guide to Basic Celestial Navigation. Self Published. A 90-page manual for achieving proficiency in celestial navigation.

Video Training Series

Fundamentals of Celestial Navigation. Self Published. An 11 part video series featured on YouTube with over 400k views. Fundamentals of the Maneuvering Board. Self Published. A four part video series featured on YouTube.

Awards

Coast Guard Commendation Medal (four awards) for meritorious service in 2006, 2008, 2010, and 2012 aboard various USCG units.

Coasts Guard Achievement Medal (one award) for exceptional performance in 2004 aboard USCGC Alex Haley.

Education Service Officer of the Year, 2003. Awarded for dramatically improving off-duty education processes for enlisted personnel while serving as first lieutenant of USCGC Alex Haley.

U.S. Coast Guard Environmental Sustainability Award, 2010. Awarded for making significant contributions to reductions in fuel, water and consumable materials waste while serving as commanding officer of USCGC Jefferson Island.

Numerous team awards for exceptional performance.

Professional Licenses

Master, less than 3000 Gross Tons (STCW).

Officer in Charge of a Navigational Watch, less than 3000 Gross Tons (STCW)

Master, less than 1600 Gross Registered Tons of Sail, Motor, and Steam vessels upon all Oceans.

Qualified USCG Merchant Mariner Assessor, up to 3000 Gross Tons.

Advanced Marine Firefighting

Vessel Security Officer

Radar Observer (Unlimited Tonnage)

Advanced Radar Plotting Aids (ARPA) and Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (ECDIS) certified.

Wilderness First Responder Medical Certified

Advanced Open Water Diver (PADI)