



2024 Marine Canvas Schedule



Skagit Valley College
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Website: cruiserscollege.org

For canvas class questions, email mike.reese@skagit.edu

Boat Canvas Bootcamp

Start your boat canvas journey with our 1.5 day entry level course.

Having quality canvas aboard your boat helps to protect your investment and make your time on the water as safe and enjoyable as possible. Professionally made marine canvas can be expensive, however, and many canvas shops have long waiting lists.

If you are interested in making or repairing your boat's canvas, join us for a 1½ day class aimed at orienting you on the tools and techniques needed to produce and repair quality marine canvas for your boat.

- Tools and equipment needed for boat canvas
- Fabric, hardware, and other materials used in marine canvas products
- Sewing machine setup and use
- Basics of measuring and patterning your project
Construction techniques
- Repair and maintenance of your canvas

The class is structured to be interactive with presentations followed by hands-on labs that cover key topics. Our time together culminates by using many of the techniques taught in class to make a small project to take home.

Date: March 2-3

Cost: \$249

Boat and Equipment Covers

Are you ready for the next step in your DIY boat canvas journey? Join us for our canvas covers class, where we'll discuss the design, patterning, and fabrication challenges when making boat and equipment covers. Techniques not covered in our boat canvas boot camp, including sewing darts, Hidden zippers for large panels, and drawstring pockets, will be reviewed

Date: March 23

Cost: \$149

Bimini Tops

Bimini Tops provide shade from the summer sun and shelter from those rainy spring and fall days. Bimini Tops are also the foundation for sailboat dodgers and boat enclosures. In bimini tops, we'll review all the elements necessary in designing and constructing a well-fitted and durable bimini top. Proper panel orientation, how to scribe and construct zipper pockets, and making accommodations for enclosure curtains will be discussed.

Date: March 23

Cost: \$149

Boat Upholstery

Marine upholstery is the art and craft of creating and repairing cushions, seats, covers, and other fabric-based items for boats. In this class, you will learn the fundamentals of marine upholstery, such as how to cut foam, install piping and zippers, and sew durable upholstery fabrics. You will also have the opportunity to work on a small cushion project with guidance from the instructor. By the end of this class, you will have a better understanding of the tools, materials, and techniques used in marine upholstery and will have a new skill that you can use to make your boat more beautiful, comfortable, and functional.

Date: TBD

Cost: \$149

Maker's Space

Here is your opportunity to tackle some canvas repair or construction projects using our equipment and larger project areas at the college. We know of no other opportunity in the country that allows you to fix or make marine canvas without a substantial investment in equipment and with a professional canvas fabricator standing by to answer your questions.

For additional information please check out our website:
cruiserscollege.org

Dates: 3/24, 4/21, 5/11, 5/12

Cost: \$149

Professional Workshops

Take your boat canvas skills to the next level. Join us for two weeks of boat canvas training aimed at those looking to pursue marine fabrication professionally.

Week 1: Fundamentals of Marine Canvas Fabrication: Covers, Cushions, and More.

Introduction to industrial sewing machines

- Thread selection and tension control
- Mastering various stitch types and applications
- Sewing techniques for marine canvas materials

The Basics of Marine Canvas:

- Properties and selection of marine canvas fabrics
- Hardware and components used in canvas fabrication.
- Basic design principles for attractive and functional products
- Safety considerations and proper tool and material handling techniques
- Constructing Professional Covers for Boats and Equipment:
- Measuring and templating techniques
- Patterning and layout strategies
- Cutting and sewing best practices for well fitted and durable covers
- Installation and finishing techniques for professional results.

Week 2: Advanced Marine Canvas Fabrication: Bimini Tops and Enclosures.

Constructing Bimini Tops:

- Frame construction and bending techniques for stainless steel tubing.
- Design and layout considerations for bimini tops
- Patterning, cutting, and sewing bimini tops.
- Installation and hardware attachment for secure and functional bimini tops

Enclosure Curtains:

- Design considerations for various enclosure configurations
- Patterning and fabrication of window panels and enclosures
- Installation techniques for a weathertight and functional enclosure

Date: July 15 - 26

Cost Per Week: \$2,000