



MASTER CUSTOMS SPECIALIST (MCS) COURSE OUTLINE

PART 1: Classification | Modules 1-3

Module 1: Explanatory Notes

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: World Customs Organization (WCO)
- Lesson 2: The Explanatory Notes
- Lesson 3: Reading the Explanatory Notes
- Lesson 4: Using the Explanatory Notes
- Explanatory Note Example 1
- Explanatory Note Example 2
- Explanatory Note Example 3
- CONCLUSION

Module 2: Binding Rulings

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Who Can Request a Ruling?
- Lesson 2: Submission of Ruling Requests
- Lesson 3: Tariff Classification Rulings
- Lesson 4: Country of Origin Rulings
- Lesson 5: Marking Rulings
- Lesson 6: Valuation Rulings
- Lesson 7: Carrier Rulings
- Lesson 8: Samples
- Lesson 9: Issuance of Rulings

Module 3: General Rules of Interpretation (GRIs)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: General Rule 1
- Lesson 2: General Rule 2
- Lesson 3: General Rule 3
- Lesson 4: General Rule 4
- Lesson 5: General Rule 5
- Lesson 6: General Rule 6



PART 2: Compliance | Modules 4-7

Module 4: Bonds, Sureties, and Powers of Attorney

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Bonds
- Lesson 2: Bond Types
- Lesson 3: Other Bonds
- Lesson 4: Bond Sufficiency
- Lesson 5: The Surety
- Lesson 6: Customs Bond Intermediaries
- Lesson 7: Powers of Attorney

Module 5: Country of Origin/Rules of Origin

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Which Country of Origin Rules Should You Use?
- Lesson 2: Substantial Transformation
- Lesson 3: Preferential Rules of Origin
- Lesson 4: Country of Origin Marking
- Lesson 5: Exceptions to Marking Requirements
- Lesson 6: Goods Made in the USA
- Lesson 7: Fines and Penalties

Module 6: AD/CVD

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Antidumping and Countervailing Definitions
- Lesson 2: World Trade Organization (WTO)
- Lesson 3: WTO and Antidumping
- Lesson 4: WTO and Subsidies (CVD)
- Lesson 5: WTO and AD/CVD
- Lesson 6: AD/CVD Determination
- Lesson 7: Case Administration
- Lesson 8: Reading an AD/CVD Case
- Lesson 9: Finding Applicable Cases
- Lesson 10: Import Requirements
- Lesson 11: Post Entry: Refunds, Liquidation and Bills
- Lesson 12: Broker Considerations



Module 7: Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Global Dangers of Counterfeits
- Lesson 2: Priority Trade Issue
- Lesson 3: Enforcement Efforts
- Lesson 4: Global Partners
- Lesson 5: Restrictions on Importation of Gray Market Articles
- Lesson 6: SCENARIO 1
- Lesson 7: Counterfeit Marks
- Lesson 8: SCENARIO 2
- Lesson 9: Protecting Your IPR

PART 3: Mitigation Guidelines | Modules 8-10

Module 8: Protests

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Regulatory Guidelines
- Lesson 2: What Can Be the Subject of a Protest?
- Lesson 3: Who Can File a Protest?
- Lesson 4: Critical Timeframes
- Lesson 5: What Must Be Included in a Protest?
- Lesson 6: Filing a Protest
- Lesson 7: Amending a Protest
- Lesson 8: Decision Timeline
- Lesson 9: Accelerated Disposition
- Lesson 10: Application for Further Review
- Lesson 11: Denial Remedies

Module 9: Prior Disclosures

- Lesson 1: What is a Prior Disclosure?
- Lesson 2: Prior Disclosure Provision Requirements
- Lesson 3: Disclosure of the Circumstances of a Violation
- Lesson 4: Tender of Actual Loss of Duties, Taxes, and Fees
- Lesson 5: Filing a Prior Disclosure
- Lesson 6: Maximum Penalties *Without* Prior Disclosure
- Lesson 7: Maximum Penalties *With* Prior Disclosure
- Lesson 8: SCENARIO



Module 10: CBP Forms 28 and 29

- Lesson 1: CF 28 – *Request for Information* Overview
- Lesson 2: Reasons CBP May Issue a CF 28
- Lesson 3: When Should a CF 28 NOT Be Used?
- Lesson 4: How to Respond to CF 28 Forms
- Lesson 5: Consequence for Not Responding to a CF 28
- Lesson 6: CF 29 – *Notice of Action* Overview
- Lesson 7: Responding to a CF 29 Which PROPOSES Action
- Lesson 8: Responding to a CF 29 Which TAKES Action

PART 4: Valuation | Modules 11-13

Module 11: Incoterms

- Lesson 1: What are Incoterms?
- Lesson 2: Incoterms 2020
- Lesson 3: Important Terms to Know
- Lesson 4: Incoterms Groups

Module 12: Transaction Value - Related Party Transactions

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Special Rules for Related Parties
- Lesson 2: Circumstances of Sale Test
- Lesson 3: Substantiating a Circumstances of Sale Claim
- Lesson 4: Test Values Test
- Lesson 5: Applicability of the Test Values Test
- Lesson 6: Transfer Pricing Studies
- Lesson 7: Transaction Value
- Lesson 8: Additions to Price Paid or Payable
- Lesson 9: Exclusions from Transaction Value

Module 13: Assists

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Assist Identification
- Lesson 2: Assist Investigation
 - SCENARIO 1
 - SCENARIO 2



- Lesson 3: Assist Valuation
 - EXAMPLE 1
 - EXAMPLE 2
 - EXAMPLE 3
- Lesson 4: Assist Apportionment
 - EXAMPLE 4
- Lesson 5: Assist Documentation
- CONCLUSION

PART 5: Admissibility Requirements | Modules 14-21

Module 14: Admissibility

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Examination of Imported Merchandise
- Lesson 2: Restrictions and Prohibited Merchandise
- Lesson 3: Prohibition Against Forced Labor
- Lesson 4: Sanctions and Embargoes

Module 15: Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Importation of Food
- Lesson 2: Importation of Drugs
- Lesson 3: Importation of Medical Devices
- Lesson 4: Importation of Radiation-Emitting Devices
- Lesson 5: Importation of Cosmetics
- Lesson 6: Importation Procedures
- CONCLUSION

Module 16: U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: APHIS
- Lesson 2: FSIS
- Lesson 3: The Lacey Act
- Lesson 4: Invasive Pests
- Lesson 5: Plants and Plant Products
- Lesson 6: Meat, Poultry, and Eggs



Module 17: U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
- Lesson 2: Motor Vehicles
- Lesson 3: Motor Vehicle Equipment
- Lesson 4: FAA and Aircraft
- Lesson 5: Hazardous Material

Module 18: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: TSCA and Chemical Substances
- Lesson 2: Pesticides and Devices
- Lesson 3: Ozone-Depleting Substances
- Lesson 4: Vehicles and Engines

Module 19: Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Mandatory Standards
- Lesson 2: Voluntary Standards
- Lesson 3: Standards Not Stated
- Lesson 4: Recalls
- Lesson 5: Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act (CPSIA)
- Lesson 6: Testing and Certification
- Lesson 7: Tracking Labels and Product Registration
- Lesson 8: Import Enforcement

Module 20: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: CITES
- Lesson 2: Migratory Birds
- Lesson 3: Injurious Wildlife
- Lesson 4: Lacey Act
- Lesson 5: Importing
- CONCLUSION



Module 21: Quota Processing

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Absolute Quota
- Lesson 2: Tariff Rate Quota
- Lesson 3: Tariff Preference Levels
- Lesson 4: eCERT
- Lesson 5: Entry Requirements

PART 6: Transportation | Module 22

Module 22: Cargo Insurance

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Incoterms and Cargo Insurance
- Lesson 2: Where to Obtain Cargo Insurance
- Lesson 3: Types of Insurance Coverage
- Lesson 4: How Much Insurance Should I Obtain?
- Lesson 5: Insurance Certificate

PART 7: CATAIR | Module 23

Module 23: CATAIR

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Reading the CATAIR
- Lesson 2: Application
- Lesson 3: Glossary
- Lesson 4: Status Codes
- Lesson 5: Appendices
 - Appendix A – Cross Reference
 - Appendix B – Valid Codes
 - Appendix C – Tariff Abbreviations
 - Appendix D – Metric Conversion
 - Appendix E – Valid Entry Numbers
 - Appendix F – Duty Calculations
 - Appendix G – ACE ABI Condition Codes and Narrative Text – Reference Information
 - Appendix H – Census Warning Messages and Override Codes



- Appendix I – Hold Harmless Agreement
- Appendix N – Disposition Codes
- Appendix P – FTZ Error Codes
- Appendix S – ISF Error Codes
- Appendix T – In-bond Common Errors
- Lesson 6: Other Important Documents

PART 8: Management | Module 24

Module 24: Trusted Trader/Security

- INTRODUCTION
- Lesson 1: Goals
- Lesson 2: Trusted Trader Benefits
- Lesson 3: Implementation Phases
- Lesson 4: Timeline
- Lesson 5: Joining the Program