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Marine Science

What does a marine science major study?

Marine Science at Coastal Carolina University is an interdisciplinary field where students receive diversified training in marine science by taking courses in marine biology, marine chemistry, marine geology, and physical oceanography. Upon completion of the core courses, students are encouraged to select an area of emphasis that may include: marine biology, coastal geology, marine analytical technology, marine/environmental chemistry or ocean/atmosphere dynamics.

Why study marine science at Coastal Carolina University?

- Coastal Carolina University has the largest undergraduate marine science program on the east coast.
- State-of-the-art facilities include a newly remodeled lecture/laboratory complex, computer research labs and research vessels. The University also owns part of a pristine barrier island called Waties Island, used for course activities and student research, and houses the Burroughs & Chapin Center for Marine and Wetland Studies, where students and faculty work on a wide range of projects including coastal geology, watershed/environmental quality, and environmental education.
- Internship opportunities are available at sites such as Ripley's Aquarium, Huntington Beach State Park, Myrtle Beach State Park, and other organizations across the nation.
- Off-site field courses for students include coral reef ecology held in Discovery Bay, Jamaica, and shark biology at the Bimini Biological Field Station in the Bahamas.
- Exchange programs provide an opportunity to spend a semester abroad at Deakin University in Australia or Plymouth College and Nene University in England.
- Students who are residents of Academic Common Market states (AL, AR, DE, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, OK, TN, VA and WV) may qualify for in-state tuition rates.

What are some career options for marine science majors?

- Marine scientist for federal, state and local government agencies, and private industry
- Environmental educator with aquariums, schools, parks, and tourism industries
- Teacher
 - Aquarist/trainer
- Scientific technician
 - Aquaculturist
- Land-use resource planner
 - Wildlife research scientist

What kind of courses do marine science majors take?

MSCI 331	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) & Remote Sensing
MSCI 375	Biology of Marine Mammals
MSCI 376	Sea Turtle Biology
MSCI 402	Environmental Chemistry
MSCI 445	Coastal Processes
MSCI 473	Biology of Sharks
MSCI 475	Marine Ecology
MSCI 477	Ecology of Coral Reefs

Whom can I contact for more information?

- Eric Wright, Ph.D., chair of the department, 843-349-2945 or ewright@coastal.edu
- Susan Soucy, administrative assistant, 843-349-2262 or soucy@coastal.edu
- You can also find more information at www.coastal.edu/marine.