Marine Science

WHY STUDY MARINE SCIENCES AT UMAINE?
The University of Maine's School of Marine Sciences is one of the largest marine research institutions in the United States with more than 50 faculty — all of whom hold Ph.D. degrees. Faculty and student research activities include the fields of aquaculture, oceanography, public policy and marine biology, biotechnology, geology and archeology. In addition to the Gulf of Maine, research is conducted throughout the world's oceans, from the Arctic and the tropics to the Antarctic.

Educational opportunities in the school are varied and include programs of study leading to bachelor of science, master of science and doctor of philosophy degrees. Hands-on experience is an integral part of all School of Marine Sciences programs and numerous undergraduate research internships are available.

The Darling Marine Center is the marine laboratory of the University of Maine. Located on the beautiful coast in Walpole, Maine, the center functions year-round as an international research and educational facility for marine faculty and students. Educational opportunities exist at all degree levels, with special courses during May Term and in the summer.

Semester by the Sea is a unique in-residence program for undergraduates at the Darling Marine Center. The field-intensive program is designed to allow in-depth exposure to marine ecosystems and a variety of marine organisms.

OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM
The School of Marine Sciences offers excellent preparation for a broad range of careers, as well as a solid foundation for entry into graduate programs. Students receive an interdisciplinary education in marine sciences and may specialize by earning a concentration in marine biology, marine physical sciences or aquaculture. Students are encouraged to participate in Semester by the Sea at the Darling Marine Center and are also required to conduct independent research projects in their senior year under the supervision of university faculty.

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM
The School of Marine Sciences offers a marine biology graduate program that includes opportunities for research on all major phyla found in the ocean. Although much of our research is conducted on local organisms and systems, many faculty conduct fieldwork in diverse locations around the world, utilizing tools ranging from submarines to molecular techniques.

Marine biology faculty emphasize:
• Population biology and genetics, with both pure and applied perspectives
• Ecology from organism to the ecosystem level
• Invertebrate zoology, phycology, physiology, biochemistry and marine molecular biology
• Systematics, including morphological and molecular dimensions

Master's and Ph.D. Degrees in Oceanography:
The School of Marine Sciences master’s program features exposure to a broad field of core oceanography courses, working in your area of interest, with research culminating in a thesis. The doctorate program educates students in oceanography and provides an intensive research experience in preparation for a scientific career. The program builds skills in written and oral scientific communication.

Oceanography faculty emphasize:
• Biological-physical interactions in the ocean
• Benthic oceanography and ecology
• Marine biogeochemistry
• Physical oceanography
• Fisheries oceanography
• Environmental oceanography — the human interface with the ocean
• Ocean observation, modeling and prediction
The School of Marine Sciences offers an innovative master’s degree in marine policy. The interdisciplinary program is designed to produce master’s-level students who are well-trained in the management of marine resources, and conversant in the languages of both the social and natural sciences. Faculty are actively engaged in state and regional policy, and vigorously involve students in their research.

Dual Master’s Degrees in Marine Policy and Marine Sciences: The Marine Sciences and Policy degree program is intended for students interested in the application of science and public policy in government agencies, nongovernmental organizations or industry. This dual degree features a three-year course of study resulting in two master’s degrees — one in a marine science (either oceanography or marine biology) and one in marine policy. The Marine Sciences and Policy Program is based on the idea that good conservation requires:

- Sophisticated understanding of the role and limits of science in the policy process
- Equally sophisticated understanding of the institutional processes necessary to resolve communal dilemmas
- Wide dissemination of knowledge among resource users and others concerned with the management of marine resources

STUDENT SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS
Students are encouraged to join the Marine Science Undergraduate Club and SCUBA Club. They also have opportunities to participate in such travel experiences as Coral Reef Ecology, travels to Belize or Bonaire on spring break, and studying abroad in Australia, Hawaii and New Zealand. Our students also have received credit for traveling for a semester on a schooner or ocean liner as part of other academic programs.

NEBHE PROGRAM
Applicants to this program who reside in Connecticut, Massachusetts or Vermont are eligible for reduced tuition (in-state plus 50 percent) under the New England Regional Student Program, administered through the New England Board of Higher Education (nebhe.org).

HOW DO I APPLY?
Visit umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.