Department of Marine Biology

The MS and PhD degrees in Marine Biology are taught by marine biologists within the Texas A&M University System (TAMUS). The program is interdisciplinary, involving courses and linking faculty from the Texas A&M Colleges of Science (SCI), Agriculture and Life Sciences (COALS), Geosciences (GEOS), TAMU at Galveston (TAMUG) and TAMU-Corpus Christi (TAMUCC).

The goal of the Marine Biology Interdisciplinary graduate program is to attract high-quality students interested in one or a combination of the sub-disciplines of marine biology who wish to pursue careers in higher education, government, or private industry. The structure of the education provided by the program will ensure that highly qualified individuals will be sent into the job market or on to further education. Employment of graduates will be related to environmental and living resource regulation and management within all levels of government; industries related to or affected by resource utilization and management; and within all levels of academia, including teaching and conducting both basic and applied research.

The degree program will focus on independently supervised research complemented by formal coursework. Essential components of the program include the following:

- a highly diverse curriculum available on all three campuses;
- original, supervised scholarly research, to be written and formally defended as a paper, thesis or dissertation;
- efficiencies obtained by sharing the diversity of courses already offered at the three participating entities facilitated by distance learning technologies;
- all students will benefit from distance technologies by having access to various courses offered at the alternative campuses and the ability to interact with members of their committees and others from whom they are separated by distance.

Students will earn one of the following degrees:

- Master of Science, non-thesis option, with 36 total semester credit hours;
- Master of Science, thesis option, with 32 total semester credit hours including thesis; or
- Doctor of Philosophy, with a minimum of 64 total semester hours beyond the MS degree or a minimum of 96 total semester hours beyond the BS degree, including dissertation.

**Masters**

- Master of Science in Marine Biology

**Doctoral**

- Doctor of Philosophy in Marine Biology