

OCEAN STUDIES - BA

The Bachelor of Arts in Ocean Studies provides students with an interdisciplinary understanding of the oceans. The ocean covers just over 70% of the earth's surface and societal dependence (e.g. transportation of goods, role in weather and hazards, primary source of food for many parts of the world, etc.) on the ocean is only increasing. Students will combine their oceanographic knowledge with a university approved minor to enhance their expertise in critical areas of the expanding Blue Economy.

The Bachelor of Arts in Ocean Studies curriculum will 1) provide students with an interdisciplinary understanding of the oceans; 2) provide students with the communication skills to articulate the problems and the solutions to issues relating to the stewardship of one of earth's greatest resources, the ocean; and, 3) emphasize critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
CHEM 119	Fundamentals of Chemistry I	4
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric	3
MATH 140	Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences	3
OCNG 251	The Blue Planet - Our Oceans	3
OCNG 252	The Blue Planet - Our Oceans Laboratory	1
OCNG 101	Succeeding in Oceanography	1
Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

CHEM 120	Fundamentals of Chemistry II	4
MATH 142	Business Calculus	3-4
or MATH 151	or Engineering Mathematics I	
PHYS 201	College Physics	4
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Semester Credit Hours		14

Second Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
OCNG 203	Communicating Oceanography	1
PHYS 202	College Physics	4
STAT 303	Statistical Methods	3
Minor ²		3
General elective ¹		2-3
Semester Credit Hours		14

Spring

COMM 203	Public Speaking	3
or COMM 205	or Communication for Technical Professions	
OCNG 330	Geological Oceanography	3
OCNG 340	Chemical Oceanography	3

American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)	3
Minor ²	3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Third Year

Fall

OCNG 320	Biological Oceanography	3
OCNG 411	Global Oceanography	3
Creative arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts)		3
Minor ²		3
Oceanography elective ³		3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring

OCNG 303	Professional Communication in Oceanography	3
OCNG 443	Oceanographic Field and Laboratory Methods	3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)		3
Minor ²		3
Technical elective ⁴		4

Semester Credit Hours 16

Fourth Year

Fall

Social and behavioral sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences)	3
Minor ²	3
Oceanography elective ³	6
General elective ¹	3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring

GEOS 405	Environmental Geosciences	3
Government/Political science (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science)		3
Language, philosophy and culture (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture)		3
Oceanography elective ³		3
Technical elective ⁴		4

Semester Credit Hours 16

Total Semester Credit Hours 120

¹ Select any courses from 100-499 not used elsewhere. (Except AERS 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/aers/>); ASCC 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/ascc/>); ENGL 103; KINE 198, KINE 199; MATH 102, MATH 142, MATH 150, MATH 151, MATH 171; MLSC 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/mlsc/>); NVSC 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/>))

nvsc/); SOMS 100-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/soms/>); STAT 211, STAT 302, STAT 303).

² All students must complete a university approved minor for this degree

³ Select from any OCNG 300-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/ocng/>) class not required for the degree, GEOS 442/GEOG 442, GEOS 443.

⁴ Select from ATMO 201, ATMO 203, ATMO 210, ATMO 251, ATMO 300-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/atmo/>); BESC 314, BESC 320, BESC 357, BESC 367, BESC 401, BESC 402, BESC 403, BESC 431; BIOL 111, BIOL 112, BIOL 206, BIOL 213, BIOL 214, BIOL 300-399 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/biol/>); CHEM 200-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/chem/>); ECCB 300/ENTO 300, ECCB 304, ECCB 403, ECCB 448; GEOG 312, GEOG 330, GEOG 352/GEOL 352, GEOG 361, GEOG 390, GEOG 392; STAT 300-399 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/stat/>); OCNG 300-499 (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/course-descriptions/ocng/>); RWFM 306, RWFM 309/VTPB 301, RWFM 404, RWFM 405, RWFM 408, RWFM 443, RWFM 447; WFSC 425.