

OCEANOGRAPHY (MS, PHD)

M.S. For students in the accelerated program, the Master of Science Plan B degree can be earned in a single year after finishing the B.S.

The Department of Marine Sciences offers graduate studies in the field of oceanography, leading to the degrees of Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science. The Master's degree is offered as a research-oriented Plan A (thesis) program, and as a course-based Plan B program. The Plan B program includes an accelerated (4+1) program for UConn undergraduates majoring in Marine Sciences. Entry into the Ph.D. program usually requires a Master's degree, but particularly well-prepared students may enter directly from a Bachelor of Science program.

The curriculum for the Plan B master's degree includes coursework in biological, chemical, physical and geological oceanography and an examination in the final year. Potential employers include non-governmental organizations, state and federal agencies, secondary and postsecondary educational institutions, and environmental consulting firms. This program may also provide preparation for more advanced graduate studies, although students interested in research are encouraged to apply for the Plan A (thesis-based) M.S.

Master of Science Plan A

Requires 21 credits of advanced coursework, including at least 12 credits of graduate MARN coursework, nine GRAD 5950 Master's Thesis Research credits, and completion of a research project, the results of which are reported in a thesis.

Master of Science Plan B

Requires 30 credits of advanced coursework, including at least 12 credits of graduate MARN coursework, and a final examination. No research project is required.

Although students decide on their coursework in consultation with their major advisor based on their academic background and research goals, the coursework is typically built around a two-tiered structure: four courses designed to provide a core understanding of the basic sub-disciplines of the field of oceanography, followed by a series of more specialized courses offered to meet the individual needs of the student.

Course	Title	Credits
MARN 5010	Biological Oceanography	3
MARN 5030	Chemical Oceanography	3
MARN 5050	Geological Oceanography	3
MARN 5065	Physical Oceanography	3

Doctor of Philosophy

Requires 30 course credits plus 15 credits of GRAD 6950 Doctoral Dissertation Research or GRAD 6960 Full-Time Doctoral Research in addition to six related area credits. Doctoral students who have already earned a Master's in the field of study or closely related field must earn 15 credits beyond the Master's plus 15 credits of GRAD 6950 Doctoral Dissertation Research or GRAD 6960 Full-Time Doctoral Research in addition to six related area credits.

Accelerated (4+1) Master of Science Plan B

Students pursuing a UConn undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Sciences can apply to use up to 12 credits of graduate coursework taken as an undergraduate towards both their B.S. and their