
Oceanography and Marine Studies

Administered by the
Department of Geological Sciences

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Faculty Committee for Marine Studies

Todd W. Anderson, Ph.D., Professor of Biology,
Director of Coastal and Marine Institute

Richard M. Gersberg, Ph.D., Professor of Public Health

Stephen A. Schellenberg, Ph.D., Professor of Geological Sciences
and Associate Dean of the Division of Undergraduate Studies

General Information

San Diego State University provides preparation for ocean-oriented careers by offering marine-related coursework, research opportunities and oceanographic experience within regular degree programs in the Departments of Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Economics, Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Geography, Geological Sciences, and the Graduate School of Public Health. Degrees in general oceanography or marine studies are not offered by the university. However, a Master of Arts or Master of Science degree may be earned as an Interdisciplinary Studies major (see the appropriate section in this bulletin).

Specific courses in oceanography (listed below) are offered with the cooperation of faculty from the participating departments. Advanced coursework and research in geological and physical oceanography are conducted in the Geological Sciences Department. Advanced courses and research in biological oceanography, marine biology, marine botany, marine ecology, and marine zoology are in the Department of Biology. The Graduate School of Public Health also offers a Master of Science degree with a concentration in Environmental Health Science with a focus on water and soil contamination and management of hazardous wastes. Marine-related coursework and research are offered in the Departments of Economics, Geography and in the College of Engineering. Students who require advising in these areas should inquire at the Coastal and Marine Institute or the appropriate department.

The Coastal and Marine Institute coordinates work in the area of marine studies and provides special supporting services to the faculty, staff, and students which includes student advising, assistance in research and publication, and a boat operations and research diving program. The director of the Coastal and Marine Institute reports to the dean of the College of Sciences. (For additional information, refer to College of Sciences in Part One.)

Courses Acceptable for Oceanography and Marine Studies

Refer to Courses and Curricula and Regulations of the Division of Graduate Affairs sections of this bulletin for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

Biology Courses (BIOL)

Adviser: Todd W. Anderson, Ph.D.

BIOL 515 Marine Invertebrate Biology (4)
BIOL 517 Marine Ecology (4)

Economics Course (ECON)

ECON 696 Experimental Topics (3)*

Civil Engineering Courses (CIV E)

CIV E 632 Computational Hydraulics and Hydrology (3)
CIV E 641 Advanced Foundation Engineering (3)

Geography Courses (GEOG)

Adviser: Douglas A. Stow, Ph.D.

GEOG 592. Intermediate Remote Sensing of Environment (3)
GEOG 592L. Intermediate Remote Sensing of Environment
Laboratory (1)
GEOG 670 Environmental Conservation Theory (3)
GEOG 770 Seminar in Environmental Conservation (3)

Public Health Courses (P H)

Adviser: Richard M. Gersberg, Ph.D.

P H 634 Environmental Protection (3)
P H 639 Water Quality Investigation (3)

* Acceptable when of relevant content.
