MARINE SCIENCE/GEOLOGY MAJOR, BS

Students pursuing a marine science degree typically demonstrate a strong interest in some aspect of the marine environment and in the sciences in general. High school preparation should include a solid background in mathematics and introductory biology and/or chemistry.

Department of Biological Sciences
1324 Science and Engineering Complex
bsc.ua.edu
marinescience@as.ua.edu

Department of Geological Sciences
202 Bevill Building
geo.ua.edu
geology@as.ua.edu

Admission into the Major

Students are expected to formally declare both majors no later than the fourth semester of full-time enrollment (or at 61 semester hours for transfer students). Students can declare a major by completing the Change of Major/Minor Application online under the Student tab of myBama.

Special Opportunities

During the summer semester, a large suite of marine science courses is offered at the Dauphin Island campus of the Alabama Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium.

The major in marine science/geology requires the successful completion of the following courses outside the major:

- MATH 125 or Calculus I
- MATH 145 Honors Calculus I
- MATH 126 or Calculus II
- MATH 146 Honors Calculus II
- ST 260 Statistical Data Analysis

Total Hours 92

Grade Point Average

A 2.0 grade point average in each major is required for completion of the degree. Please see the Grades and Grade Points section of this catalog for an explanation on grade point average calculations.

Upper-level Residency

A minimum of 12 hours of 300- and 400-level courses in each major must be earned on this campus.

Required Minor

Marine science/chemistry does not require a minor.

Additional Major Requirements

Students are not permitted to count the same required major courses toward completion of a second major or minor. Students may count required ancillary courses for one major toward the requirements of another major. Students are responsible for ensuring that they have met all University, College, major and minor requirements. However, each student must meet with an adviser in the major department for academic planning and to be approved for registration each semester. College advisers are also available for additional assistance with minor, College and University requirements.

A dual major in Marine Science and biology/chemistry/ geology prepares students for a wide variety of employment opportunities in environmentally related fields, industries concerning utilization of marine resources, biotechnology, policy and education.
Types of Jobs Accepted
Recent graduates have worked in entry-level positions in government agencies, ecotourism (e.g., SCUBA divemasters, whale or dolphin watching boats), and K-12 education. A large number of graduates enter professional school (e.g., medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, pharmacy) or graduate school (Master's degree, Doctor of Philosophy [Ph.D.]).

Jobs of Experienced Alumni
Marine biologist, marine geologist, conservation specialist, laboratory technician, teacher, professor, aquaculture industry specialist, oceanographer, environmental consultant, marine animal veterinarian.

Learn more about opportunities in this field at the Career Center