

Doctor Of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Marine Science

Course Requirements

(42 Credit Hours)

Core Curriculum (15-16 credits)

Fundamentals (8 or 9 credits)

Choose 4 Courses from List:

MSCI 501A (2) – Physical Oceanography
MSCI 501B (2) – Chemical Oceanography
MSCI 501C (2) – Marine Geology
MSCI 501D (2) – Biological Oceanography
MSCI 501E (2) – Env Chem/Tox/Pathobiology
MSCI 501F (2) – Marine Fisheries Science
MSCI 521 (3) – Advanced Marine Geology (instead of MSCI 501C, but not both)

Interdisciplinary (2 credits)

MSCI 503 (2) – Interdisciplinary Research in Estuarine & Coastal Systems

Quantitative (3 credits)

Choose 1 Course from List:

MSCI 504 (3) – Fundamentals of Statistical Methods & Data Analysis
MSCI 554 (3) – Principles of Numerical Computing
MSCI 556 (3) – Statistics & Data Science

Seminar (2 credits)

Note: Seminar course may be repeated.

MSCI 515 (1) – Seminar

Students will be updated with specific instructions on how to register for seminar prior to the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

Dissertation (9-12 credits)

MSCI 599 (9-12) – Dissertation

Required Advanced Electives (15 credits)

Any SMS course $\geq 550^*$

General Electives (0-3 credits)

Any SMS course $\geq 500^*$

Based on your course plan, up to 3 credits of electives may be required.

*Determined in consultation with the Advisor and the Committee. With the permission of the Advisor and Associate Dean, up to 9 credits of relevant graduate-level coursework outside of MSCI, including courses at W&M and ODU, may be counted towards the degree. In addition, excess credit hours from an MS degree at VIMS can also be applied with PhD committee approval.