Master of Science in Marine Sciences

Experience a marsh front campus with marine labs, dock, and boats. Take courses and conduct research on coastal and ocean ecosystem health, environmental quality, fisheries, and oceanography.

The Master of Science in Marine Sciences (MSMS) program is the only one of its kind in Georgia with direct access to estuarine, coastal, and open-ocean research environments. The MSMS degree program prepares its graduates to address marine resource and coastal environmental issues through research, education, and outreach.

TESTIMONIAL:

"Before Savannah State University, I was a kid from St. Croix with a dream about one day becoming a marine biologist. Now, I'm the Caribbean Coral Conservation Manager for the leading conservation organization in the world."

~ Kemit-Amon Lewis, ’07
Caribbean Coral Conservation Manager, The Nature Conservancy

seriously impressive

Contact: Dr. Dionne Hoskins
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www.savannahstate.edu
Master of Science in Marine Sciences

TO APPLY:

MSMS program applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in a STEM field from an accredited institution. Completed admission applications are evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Grade point average of 3.0 or above preferred
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores
- Three letters of recommendation (academic and/or professional)
- Essay (500-1,000 words) detailing reasons for pursuing the MSMS degree
- Official transcripts from each college/university attended
- Identification and verification from a suitable research advisor
- A résumé that highlights work experience, professional/personal accomplishments
- An in-person interview is recommended

COURSEWORK:

The Master of Science in Marine Science's degree requires the completion of 36 semester hours of graduate course work, and a master's thesis, the equivalent of two years as a full-time student. Course work is organized into the following curriculum components:

- Core curriculum: 12 credit hours
- Master’s thesis I & II: 6 credit hours
- Elective requirements for Track 1, 2, or 3: 18 credit hours

- Required core for all tracks:
  - General Oceanography
  - Coastal Oceanography
  - Technical Writing and Communication
  - Research/Marine Science Seminar

More details available from program director.

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Interested students are encouraged to apply early.

- Fall:
  - May 15 - International Students & Graduate Assistantships
  - May 23 - Regular Admissions

- Spring:
  - October 1 - International Students & Graduate Assistantships
  - October 31 - Regular Admissions

CAREERS:

Graduates from the MSMS program have worked at:

- The Nature Conservancy’s Caribbean Program
- The Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta, Georgia
- Loggerhead Marinelife Center, Juno Beach, FL
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- United States Navy
- Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL
- Tennessee Aquarium, Chattanooga, TN
- National Zoo, Fairfax, VA
- Sea Turtle Program, Ossabaw Island, GA
- UGA Georgia Coastal Ecosystems
- Long Term Ecological Research (GCE-LTER)
- Grand Bahama Port Authority
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Florida Sea Grant, Gainesville, FL

Our students have also gone on to do doctoral research at numerous universities and institutes.

Collaborative partnerships & research programs:

- UGA Skidaway Institute of Oceanography
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- The Living Marine Resources Cooperative Science Center (LMRCSC)
- Savannah-Chatham County Public School System
- Consortium of Oceanographic Institutions
- NOAA’s Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary
- Coastal Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources
- Tybee Island Marine Science Center
- National and Southern Association of Marine Laboratories