

**Core Curriculum (13-15 Credits)**

*Students must pass all Batten School & VIMS core courses with a B- or better.*

**Fundamental Core (6-7 credits)**

Choose three courses from the following options:

- MSCI 501A – Physical Oceanography (2)
- MSCI 501B – Chemical Oceanography (2)
- MSCI 501C – Marine Geology (2)
- MSCI 501D – Biological Oceanography (2)
- MSCI 501E – Aquatic Health (2)
- MSCI 501F – Fisheries Science (2)
- MSCI 521 – Adv. Marine Geology (3)

*(in lieu of MSCI 501C, but not both)*

**Interdisciplinary Core (2 credits)**

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

**Quantitative Core (3 credits)**

Choose one course from the following options:

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

**Science Communication Core (2-3 credits)**

*Complete MSCI 505 during first year, preferably in semester of matriculation:*

- MSCI 505 – Fundamentals of Science Communication (1), **and**

Choose one course from the following options:

- MSCI 506 – Scientific Communication Skills (2)
- MSCI 508 – College Science Teaching (1)
- MSCI 509 – Communicating Science to Diverse Audiences (2)
- MSCI 548 – Scientific Illustration (1)

**Batten School & VIMS Electives (7-9 Credits)**

Any Batten School & VIMS grad course ≥ MSCI 500 (except courses used to fulfill the core curriculum)

**Internship (4 Credits)**

*The internship provides the opportunity for experiential learning with an organization that is engaged in marine or environmental science-oriented program or activities.*

- MSCI 597 – Internship (4)

**Capstone (6 Credits)**

*The capstone is an independent research project that is designed to apply integrated marine science knowledge to an issue in management, policy, law, business, or education. Projects are co-advised by a Batten School & VIMS faculty member and an individual from the relevant professional field.*

- MSCI 598 – Capstone (2-6)

**Expanding Your Curricular Options**

With the permission of the M.A. Program Director and Batten School & VIMS Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, up to six credit hours of relevant non-Batten School & VIMS graduate-level coursework, including courses on the Williamsburg campus or through cross-registration agreements with other institutions (e.g., Old Dominion University), may be counted as electives toward the degree.

# M.A. in Marine Science

32 Credit Hours

## Course Sequencing Suggestions – Based on Fall Matriculation, 24-Month Timeline

*Full-time enrollment requires at least 9 credit hours during fall or spring.*

### Year 1 – Fall Semester

- Fundamentals – 1 course (2-3 cr)
- Quantitative – 1 course (3 cr)
- MSCI 505 (1 cr)
- Electives (2-3 cr)

### Year 1 – Spring Semester

- Fundamentals – 2 courses (4 cr)
- MSCI 503 (2 cr)
- Science Communications (2 cr)
- Electives (1 cr)

### Year 2 – Fall Semester

- MSCI 597 (4 cr)
- MSCI 598 (2 cr)
- Electives (3 cr)

### Year 2 – Spring Semester

- MSCI 598 (4 cr)
- Electives (0-2 cr)

**Note:** May need additional coursework (3-5 cr) to maintain full-time enrollment.

## Course Sequencing Suggestions – Based on Fall Matriculation, 18-Month Timeline

*Full-time enrollment requires at least 9 credit hours during fall or spring.*

### Year 1 – Fall Semester

- Fundamentals – 2 courses (4-5 cr)
- Quantitative – 1 course (3 cr)
- MSCI 505 (1 cr)
- Electives (2 cr)

### Year 1 – Spring Semester

- Fundamentals – 1 course (2 cr)
- MSCI 503 (2 cr)
- Science Communications (2 cr)
- Electives (4 cr)

### Year 2 – Fall Semester

- MSCI 597 (4 cr)
- MSCI 598 (6 cr)
- Electives (1-2 cr)