



## **Marine Science Student Interview**

**Name:** Courtney Hanby

**Undergraduate institution and program:** Louisiana State University; B.S. in Zoology, concentration in Marine Biology; minor in Chemistry

**What made you choose UNCW?**

I was accepted here and only here! But I have absolutely no regrets coming to UNCW! It's a great university in a wonderful town.

**What is the difference between marine science as a Masters program and something like Marine Biology, Chemistry or Geology?**

To me, Marine Science is a generalized program, in which you can specialize in the biology, chemistry, or geology aspects of the ocean environment.

**Describe your schedule, what is a normal week like at UNCW?**

It changes from year to year. The first year, most of my time during the week was spent attending class, keeping up with readings, and studying for exams. The second two years are much more concentrated on research, since class requirements are usually completed.

**How do you meet the cost of study?**

I had an RA my first year here, and then I was lucky enough to be accepted to the NSF GK-12 Fellowship for my second two years.

**What are your plans for after graduation?**

I hope to find a job that I enjoy in a place that I want to live in!

**What have been the highlights and low lights of the program so far?**

There were a few classes I could have lived without, but it's just part of the process. The program itself is relatively young, but it is continuing to grow and improve with time and can only get better.

**What advice do you have for students thinking of applying to the MS Marine Science program at UNCW?**

Do it! Coming from a fairly large city (New Orleans), I had to make a few adjustments when I got to the small town of Wilmington. It's a very different place than what I call home, but I truly enjoy being here and will miss it when I graduate and move away. The university itself is filled with lots of great people who are always willing to help a poor graduate student out, and I wouldn't trade this three-year experience for anything!