The UNCW marine biology curriculum is a unique baccalaureate program in the university system. It includes a strong foundation of biology with an emphasis in marine biology at the junior and senior levels. Full use is made of the natural laboratory provided by the adjacent Atlantic Ocean through extensive field work in many marine biology and biology courses. The curriculum is flexible enough to meet the individual needs of the student enabling preparation for graduate studies or for teaching and research careers available to one with the baccalaureate degree.

A major in Marine Biology can be declared after completing 24 credit hours and BIO 201 and BIO 202, or equivalent courses, with a grade of ‘C’ (2.00) or better in both courses.

Core Requirements: (25 hours total)

_____ 201 Principles of Biology: Cells (4)
_____ 202 Principles of Biology: Biodiversity (4)

***BIO 201 and 202 are the prerequisite courses for all biology courses numbered 300 and above***

_____ 335 Genetics with lab (3) (1), prerequisites: BIO 201 and BIO 202
_____ Physiology, chosen from one of the following bullets:
   • 325 Molecular Biology of the Cell with lab (3) (1), prerequisites: BIO 201, BIO 202, and CHM 211/CHML 211
   • 340 Plant Physiology (4), prerequisites: BIO 201, BIO 202, and CHM 102
   • 345 Animal Physiology with lab (3) (1), prerequisites: BIO 201, BIO 202, and CHM 102
_____ 362 Marine Biology (4), prerequisite or corequisite: BIO 366
_____ 366 Ecology with lab (3) (1), prerequisite: BIO 201 and BIO 202
_____ 495 Seminar (1), prerequisites: BIO or MBY major; BIO 201, 202, 335, 366, and a physiology course

Applied Learning -- To satisfy the applied learning requirement for the B.S. in marine biology a student must successfully complete one of the following: honors in any science department (BIO 499, CHM 499, EVS 499, GLY 499, MAT 499, PSY 499, PHY 499); directed individual study involving hands-on experience in any science department (BIO 491, CHM 491, EVS 491, GLY 491, MAT 491, PSY 491, PHY 491); BIO 498 Internship, BIO 493 Teaching Practicum; formal student teaching experience taken for UNCW credit (e.g. EDNL 406, EDN 409, EDN 411); BIO 480 Field Studies; BIO 495 Senior Seminar.

Marine Biology Requirements (8 Hours) (prerequisite for all: BIO 362)
_____ 312 Marine Botany (4) or 313 Marine Phycology (4)
_____ 318 Invertebrate Zoology (4) or 357 Ichthyology and 357L Ichthyology Lab (3, 1)

Marine Biology Electives: a minimum of 13 hours chosen from courses numbered above 299 and not used to satisfy other requirements. At least one must be a laboratory course. >500 level courses may be chosen with permission of the instructor.

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No more than 10 hours may be counted from BIO 480, 491 (6 hr. max), 493 (2 hr. max), 498 (3 hr. max), and 499 (6 hr. max)

_____ Total elective hours

Collateral Requirements (29 Hours)

_____ Chemistry 101 (4)
_____ Chemistry 102 (4)
_____ Chemistry 211 and CHML 211 (3, 1) (prerequisite: CHM 102)
_____ OCN 150 Intro to Oceanography (3) (course has separate lab that is not required for this major)
_____ Physics 101 (co-requisite MAT 111) or 201 (co-requisite MAT 161) (4)
_____ Physics 202 (co-requisite MAT 111) or 202 (co-requisite MAT 162) (4)
_____ Mathematics 151 (3) or 161 (4)
_____ Statistics 215 (3)

A “C” (2.00 GPA) or better average in Biology courses numbered above 299 and an overall 2.00 GPA in all courses are required for graduation.

Last updated: 3/06/20