Consistently recognized as a higher education “best value,” UNCW is committed to quality and affordability.

The University of North Carolina Wilmington, the state’s coastal university, is internationally recognized for excellence in coastal and marine sciences. Its location, with convenient access to the Atlantic Ocean, Intracoastal Waterway and coastal habitats, is ideally suited to experiential learning and field research and attracts students from around the globe.

UNCW’s Strategic Plan emphasizes integrating academics, research and engagement with the greater community to help students reach their potential. The university’s nationally recognized coastal and marine sciences programs embrace that objective with many opportunities for student-led research, engagement and community service that also prepare them for meaningful careers after graduation.

Areas of study in coastal and marine sciences span a wide range of academic disciplines, 11 departments and all colleges of the university, encouraging interdisciplinary studies by marine science majors and non-majors alike. Coursework includes traditional physical, life and environmental sciences as well as specialized topics in coastal policy, geography, economics and health and human services.

Widely recognized for contributions in their respective fields, coastal and marine sciences faculty members are teachers and mentors as well as scholars whose grant-funded research is relevant to today’s coastal and ocean concerns.

Support Coastal and Marine Sciences at UNCW:

Join the Bluefish Society
910.962.2408

Take a virtual tour of the Center for Marine Science:
uncw.edu/cms

For more information about coastal and marine sciences at UNCW:

UNCW Center for Marine Science
5600 Marvin K. Moss Lane
Wilmington, NC 28409
910.962.2301

uncw.edu/marinesciences
UNCW's coastal and marine sciences offer a multitude of opportunities for experiential learning through research, internships and service projects that reach far beyond the classroom. As undergraduates, students are challenged to understand the dynamic ocean environment and to take on contemporary problems and policy questions affecting coastal communities and the oceans.

Students may choose among undergraduate options in the sciences, business, education and public and international affairs, as well as interdisciplinary tracks. UNCW offers a Ph.D. in marine biology and Master of Science degrees in marine biology, marine science and coastal and ocean policy, in addition to options in traditional disciplines.

Faculty scholars and student researchers in UNCW's coastal and marine sciences programs conduct research of regional and global significance, including the effects of rising ocean waters and the continuous movement of shorelines, water quality, natural resource management, marine mammal strandings, sustainable fisheries, biotechnology, aquaculture and basic science understanding of oceans.

They contribute their knowledge to coastal management agencies and regional partnerships, and share expertise with colleagues around the world through their participation in national and international professional organizations and research partnerships.

Specialized facilities and labs on the main UNCW campus and at CREST Research Park are tailored to support research in the basic understanding of oceans, fisheries, aquaculture, marine life studies, water quality, coastal habitats, oceanography, geology and biotechnology.

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