Master of Science (M.S.) in Marine Science 
Course Requirements
(32 Credit Hours)

Core Curriculum (13-14 credits)

**Fundamentals (6 or 7 credits)**
Choose 3 Courses from List:

- MSCI 501A (2) – Physical Oceanography
- MSCI 501B (2) – Chemical Oceanography
- MSCI 501C (2) – Marine Geology
- MSCI 501D (2) – Biological Oceanography
- MSCI 501E (2) – Env Chem/Tox/Pathobiology
- MSCI 501F (2) – Marine Fisheries Science
- MSCI 521 (3) – Advanced Marine Geology (instead of MSCI 501C, but not both)

**Interdisciplinary (2 credits)**

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

**Quantitative (3 credits)**
Choose 1 Course from List:

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

**Seminar (2 credits)**
Note: Seminar course may be repeated.

- MSCI 515 (1) – Seminar

Students will be updated with specific instructions on how to register for seminar prior to the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester.

**Thesis (6 credits)**

- MSCI 599 (1-6) – Thesis

**Required Advanced Electives (9 credits)**

- Any SMS course > 550*

**General Electives (3-4 credits)**

- Any SMS course > 500*

Based on your course plan, up to 4 credits of electives may be required.

* Determined in consultation with the Advisor and the Committee. With the permission of the Advisor and Associate Dean, up to 6 credits of relevant graduate-level coursework outside of MSCI, including courses at W&M and ODU, may be counted towards the degree.