

Module 1: What is Oceanography?

Topic 4 Content: Careers and Universities in Oceanography Notes



Let's get started. If you're interested in pursuing a career in biological, chemical, geological, or physical oceanography, you're in luck! In fact, over 200 colleges and universities offer degrees in at least one of the four branches of oceanography. In this lesson, we'll explore several programs available in the North Carolina and Virginia region. Click the red star on one of the three portals to begin.

Biological Oceanography or Marine Science

Eighty-nine colleges and universities in the United States offer undergraduate degrees in biological oceanography or marine science.

Chemical and Physical Oceanography

Forty-seven colleges and universities in the United States offer undergraduate degrees in chemical and physical oceanography. Typically, it takes four years to complete an undergraduate degree in chemical and physical oceanography.

Geological Oceanography

Seventy-one colleges and universities offer undergraduate degrees in the geological sciences. If you're interested in this field, keep in mind that you'll need to earn a master's degree in an oceanography-related field.

Image source: NOAA

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Biological Oceanography or Marine Science Programs

Click on each star to visit some of the programs in biological oceanography or marine science offered in this region.

The College of William and Mary

School of Marine Science

Williamsburg, Virginia

<http://www.wm.edu/as/marinescience/index.php>

University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Department of Biology and Marine Biology

Wilmington, North Carolina

<http://www.uncw.edu/bio>

Hampton University

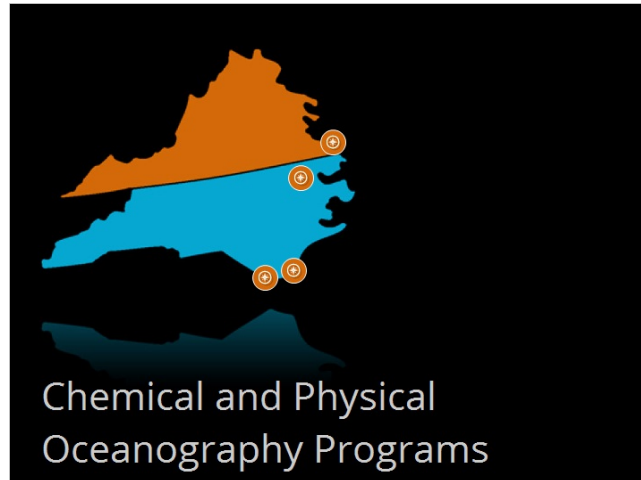
The Department of Marine and Environmental Science

Hampton, Virginia

<http://science.hamptonu.edu/mes>

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Chemical and Physical Oceanography Programs

Click on each star to visit some of the programs in chemical and physical oceanography offered in this region.

Old Dominion University

Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

Norfolk, Virginia

<http://www.odu.edu/oeas>

North Carolina State University

Department of Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences

Raleigh, North Carolina

<http://www.meas.ncsu.edu>

University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Department of Physics and Physical Oceanography

Wilmington, North Carolina

<http://www.uncw.edu/phy>

Cape Fear Community

College Marine Technology Program

Wilmington, North Carolina

<http://cfcc.edu/martech>

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Geological Oceanography Programs

Click on each star to visit some of the programs in geological oceanography offered in this region.

Old Dominion University

Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

Norfolk, Virginia

<http://www.odu.edu/oeas>

Washington and Lee University

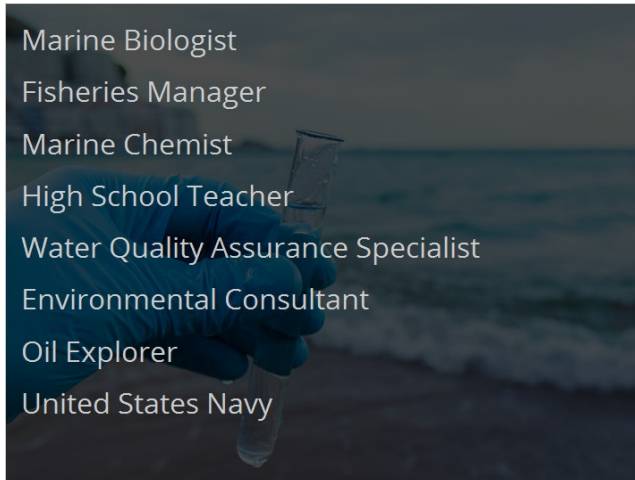
Geology Department

Lexington, Virginia

<http://www.wlu.edu/x12376.xml>

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So, what's next? If a degree in an oceanography-related field sounds appealing, you should tell your school guidance counselor about your interests. She or he can guide you to the high school courses you should take that will help prepare you for further studies in oceanography, as well as provide assistance in selecting the right undergraduate programs for your particular field of interest.

Once you complete your education at a college or university, you'll have many possible career options from which to choose. You may become a marine biologist, a fisheries manager, a marine chemist, a secondary school teacher, a water quality assurance specialist, an environmental consultant, an oil explorer, or you could even work for the United States Navy. Of course, these are just a few of the exciting career opportunities that await you.