



Marine Biodiversity & Conservation



Master of Advance Studies Degree Program



Master of Advanced Studies - Degree Program Marine Biodiversity & Conservation

About the Program

The Master of Advanced Studies Degree in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation is a unique program of study equipping its graduates with the knowledge they need to improve conservation of marine biodiversity in the world's most diverse and threatened eco-regions through development of local capacity and science-based management tools. Led by the faculty of the Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation (CMBC) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO), it is designed to teach current and future professionals about marine ecosystems and global change from the scientific, economic and policy perspective, as well as provide important cultural and communications skills. Students in the program study full-time over a 12-month period, June through June each year to complete 48 graduate level units.

Biodiversity and Conservation

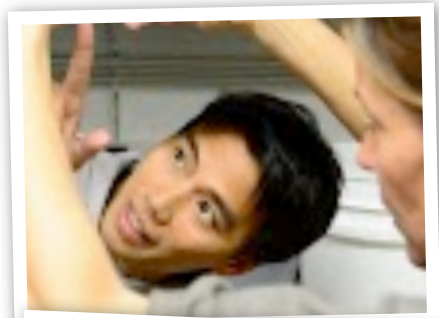
Although oceans cover 70% of the surface of the planet, marine organisms and ecosystems are far less well known than their terrestrial counterparts. Scientists estimate there may be millions of unknown species in the oceans, and they are just beginning to grasp the complex ways in which living organisms interact with one another, with their environments and with humans. A healthy and biologically diverse ocean is essential to the planet, as the oceans stabilize our atmosphere, regulate our climate and provide nutrition, recreation, pharmaceuticals, and much more.

Audience Served

The degree is most appropriate for applicants that have had 3 or more years post baccalaureate work experience. Potential applicants include marine resource managers in all regions of the world, practicing marine science professionals who wish to broaden their understanding and influence in the arena, science policy analysts and advocates, and natural scientists interested in obtain a more firm grounding in the public policy and economics of marine conservation.

"I learned to investigate issues from biological, cultural and social contexts to improve conservation success I'm now working on marine conservation in the Gulf of California, Mexico"

*--Laura Escobosa
Class of 2008*



Application and Admission

Visit <http://mbc.ucsd.edu> for deadlines and fees for submitting applications. Applications are reviewed each spring. Applicants are informed of admission decisions between April 15 and May 1. Approximately 16-20 students are admitted each year.

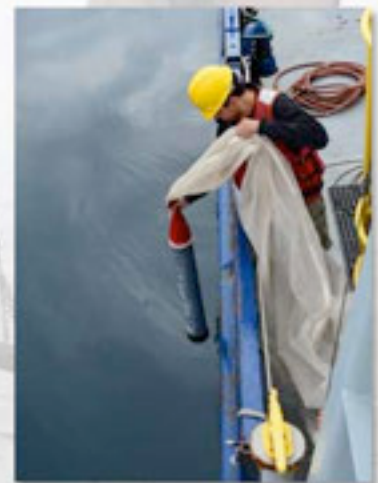
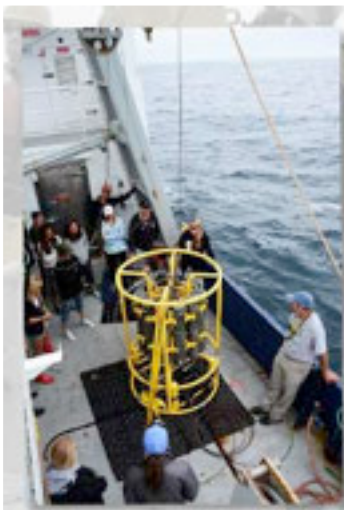
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Successful marine conservation requires an understanding of human impacts on ecological processes and the socio-economic needs in a community to design an effective program for protection and restoration of marine resources.



"Upon graduation I immediately began working in the Upper Gulf of California, Mexico, as part of an international effort to design a conservation plan for the world's most endangered marine mammal, the vaquita marina. I am now a Scholar in Residence at UC MEXUS and analyze current and past efforts involving the communities in the Upper Gulf, scientists, government and non-government groups working together towards conserving protected species like the vaquita marina and the totoaba, as well as managing regional fisheries. I also collaborate with CMBC's Gulf of California Marine Program in analyzing the impact of resource user participation in scientific research initiatives, as well as the impact conservation and resource management policies have on local communities. I feel fortunate to have had the support of ICF and other private donors, not only in terms of a scholarship, but also through their advice and feedback throughout the year. Without a doubt, this MAS program allowed me to gain a multidisciplinary perspective that is much needed when tackling conservation and management issues."

*-- Catalina Lopez
Class of 2006*



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Application Requirements:

- Possession of a bachelor's degree
- Undergraduate/post baccalaureate record (a minimum GPA of 3.0 in the last two year's of study, or equivalent, expected)
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Compelling statement of purpose, including a description of individual strengths and interest, how the program will benefit the applicant professionally, and potential ideas for the Capstone Project
- Three letters of recommendation
- TOEFL or TSE scores (English as a second language applicants only)

International Students

Our international students have received support from:

The International Community Foundation (ICF)

<http://www.icfdn.org/index.php>

UCMEXUS - CONACYT Collaboration

http://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/grant_collaborative.html

Consejo Nacional De Ciencia y Tecnologia (CONACYT)

<http://www.conacyt.mx/eng/home.html>

Fulbright International Fellowships

<http://foreign.fulbrightonline.org/>

Other international funding opportunities

Inter-America Development Bank/UNESCO/CIEES

<http://www.iadb.org>

The MAS program offers a limited number of scholarships of \$10,000 and under. These are awarded based applicants ability to increase the social, educational or economic diversity of the program and academic merit.

Program Fees

The MAS MBC is a self-funded masters degree program. Students pay per unit, in addition to campus registration fees. Course fees are billed quarterly. State residency requirements are waived.

Contact

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