

Associate in Marine Biology

Specialization in Faith-Based Ocean Conservation

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 75 hours (including 15 minor credit hours)

Program Description

The Associate in Marine Biology program with a Specialization in Faith-Based Ocean Conservation introduces students to the scientific study of marine life while emphasizing the Christian responsibility to steward God's creation. Students will explore ocean ecosystems, marine species, and environmental challenges alongside biblical teachings on care, justice, and sustainability.

Through coursework, research, and hands-on activities, students will engage with oceanographic science, habitat preservation, conservation strategies, and Christian ethics in environmental stewardship. This program empowers learners to integrate faith with action, preparing them for careers in conservation, education, and outreach.

Graduates may pursue work in marine research, education, nonprofit conservation efforts, or continue to bachelor's programs in environmental science, biology, or theology.

General Education Courses (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
GEN 101	English Composition I	3
GEN 102	English Composition II	3
GEN 103	College Algebra	3
GEN 104	Introduction to Psychology	3
GEN 105	Introduction to Sociology	3

Core Marine Biology Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIO 201	Introduction to Marine Biology	3

BIO 202	Marine Ecology and Biodiversity	3
BIO 203	Oceanography and Coastal Systems	3
BIO 204	Marine Invertebrates and Vertebrates	3
BIO 205	Marine Botany and Algae Studies	3
BIO 206	Coral Reef and Deep Sea Ecosystems	3
BIO 207	Marine Conservation Practices	3
BIO 208	Environmental Chemistry and Ocean Health	3
BIO 209	Scientific Research in Marine Environments	3
BIO 210	Marine Biology Capstone Project	3

Elective Courses (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIO 301	Faith-Based Environmental Ethics	3
BIO 302	Marine Mammals and Aquatic Animal Care	3
BIO 303	Underwater Photography and Marine Documentation	3
BIO 304	Coastal Community Outreach and Education	3
BIO 305	Marine Pollution and Restoration	3

Minor in Faith-Based Ocean Conservation (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FOC 401	Theology of Creation and the Sea	3
FOC 402	Ocean Stewardship in Scripture	3
FOC 403	Environmental Ministry and Advocacy	3
FOC 404	Christian Leadership in Conservation and Sustainability	3
FOC 405	Faith in Action: Community-Based Conservation Programs	3

Capstone Project (3 Credit Hours)

The Capstone in Faith-Based Ocean Conservation allows students to demonstrate their scientific understanding and faith integration by designing a conservation project. Sample capstones include:

- Creating a marine conservation curriculum for a Christian school.
- Partnering with a local church on a coastal cleanup and outreach event.
- Designing a multimedia presentation on faith and marine sustainability.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will:

- Understand core marine biology principles and ecosystems.
- Demonstrate stewardship in environmental science through a biblical lens.
- Advocate for sustainable practices and marine preservation.
- Communicate scientific knowledge in educational and ministry settings.
- Contribute to conservation efforts through education, service, and research.

Career Outcomes and Potential Pay Scale

Career Path	Average Salary (Annual)
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Marine Conservation Educator	\$42,000 - \$57,000
Environmental Outreach Coordinator	\$44,000 - \$60,000
Faith-Based Marine Science Teacher	\$45,000 - \$62,000
Coastal Program Assistant	\$43,000 - \$59,000
Church-Based Environmental Ministry Leader	\$46,000 - \$64,000