

BU MARINE PROGRAM

HONORS THESIS APPLICATION

The BU Marine Program is dedicated to teaching out students how to be scientists. For this reason, original research is central to attaining the Marine Science degree. While all Marine Science majors research experience during the Marine Semester, students wishing to attain Honors in the major are challenged to delve deeper in their exploration of marine science under the mentorship of a BUMP faculty member. The Honors candidate must more fully engage in scientific inquiry and the process of doing science as an independent researcher by enrolling in two consecutive semesters of directed research during the senior year (MR 401/402). In the course of the experience, Honors students learn first-hand the dedication, commitment and perseverance required to see a project to fruition. This experience provides excellent preparation for graduate training and/or professional careers.

To graduate with Honors in Marine Science, a student must

- **Complete 8 credits of original research (MR 401/402) during the senior year under the direction of a BUMP faculty member.** Students work with a faculty mentor to define and outline a research project, which is then submitted to the Director of the Marine Science Program for approval prior to registering for MR 401/402. The student is expected to spend a minimum of 12 hours per week engaged in laboratory or field research, including time spent analysing data and preparing an Honors Thesis. Students who take the Marine Semester in their senior year may complete MR 401 during the Marine Semester by replacing one block course with MR 401.
- **Author an Honors Thesis.** The thesis must be signed by the student's thesis committee and turned into the Director of the Marine Science Program.
- **Defend the Thesis before a committee consisting of their mentor and two other faculty**
- **Present a talk on their Marine Science Honors Research at the annual BUMP Honors Symposium.**

To graduate with Honors in Marine Science, a student must also:

- **Achieve a minimum grade of B+ in MR 401/402.** Grades are based on the student's laboratory or field research, the written thesis, and the defense.
- **Achieve a cumulative 3.5 GPA in Marine Science Courses.** (EE 144, BI 260, Marine Breadth courses, and Marine Semester Courses)
- **Achieve an overall cumulative 3.25 GPA.**

Project Title: _____

Student Information

Last Name

First Name

Email

UID

Anticipated Graduation Date (Month/Year)

Academic Advisor

Research Information

Please answer the following on an attached sheet:

1. State clearly the objective, plan of study, and rationale for the undergraduate research. Include a complete bibliography of readings to be completed. If coursework takes you off campus, state the location of the proposed coursework.
2. State concisely how this undergraduate research fits with your overall academic program, in relation to both previous work and future goals.

Expectations and Basis for Grade (to be completed by supervising faculty member)

Indicate the elements the student must complete, and the percentage of the final grade. Grade should total 100%. Faculty and student should agree to these expectations.

Element	Amount/Description	% Grade
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Compliance and Special Reviews

YES NO

IACUC

Laser

SCUBA/snorkeling/boats

International Travel

If you marked YES above, please describe any approval you have already obtained:

Signatures and Approvals

Supervising Faculty

Date

DSO (if needed)

Date

BUMP Director

Date

Other approver (if needed)

Date