Apply Today

A unique program combining field, classroom, and laboratory experience awaits you. Northeastern University's Three Seas Program can help you refine your scientific interests and instill a lifelong passion for research in marine biology.

Timing:
• Students are admitted for the spring and fall semesters: applications are received and reviewed on a rolling admissions basis

Requirements:
• One year of introductory biology and two biology electives (coursework in ecology and genetics recommended) are required
• Northeastern University undergraduates may submit an internal application found on the website allowing access to your transcripts, listing references and their contact information, and completing a personal essay
• External undergraduates may contact program staff for an external application to submit along with a personal essay, official college transcripts, two academic letters of recommendation, and an application fee
• SCUBA certification is strongly recommended, although not required
• Given the intense field-oriented curriculum and complex logistics of the program, a visit to the Marine Science Center in Nahant is advised

Any financial aid and undergraduate scholarships through Northeastern University may be used during Three Seas

Visit the Three Seas website and contact the program for more information!
www.northeastern.edu/threeseas

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“The Three Seas alumni are national leaders in marine science, and can be found in federal and state agencies concerned with the ocean, NGOs, and academic institutions. They make a difference every day and point to the great start provided by Three Seas. We’re proud of this legacy, and hope you want to join their ranks.”

—Marc Patterson, PhD
Faculty Head, Northeastern University Three Seas Program

Northeastern University
College of Science
Immersive, Inquiry-Based Science

For over thirty years, Northeastern University’s Three Seas Program has been the pathway for a select group of aspiring marine scientists to live, explore, collaborate, and work in the environments they are studying. The inquiry-based curriculum of the program seamlessly integrates lecture, lab, and field activities on-location in three distinct ecosystems.

The Three Seas Program is ideal for advanced undergraduates and first year graduate students working toward a Master of Science in Marine Biology degree with a strong interest in marine biology and ecology. Many Three Seas students have an undergraduate major of marine biology and find the Three Seas Program helps narrow their focus while also providing valuable contacts for graduate programs, research, and a career in marine science. The opportunity for undergraduates to work and study alongside graduate students is unique to Three Seas and highly advantageous; undergraduates gain exposure to graduate level research methods and higher echelons of critical analysis from their graduate colleagues.

High Caliber Faculty

Students have the unparalleled opportunity to learn from a faculty of renowned scientists actively conducting research programs in their marine specialties. Assembled from research laboratories in academia, government agencies, and the private sector, these gifted researchers are also experienced educators who have on average over 10 years teaching experience with the program.

Inquisitive, Independent Minds

Individuals accepted in the program work side-by-side with a select group of like-minded students from across the country and around the world—each passionate about marine biology, research-focused, fieldwork-oriented, and fiercely independent. Their learning, research, and field experiences help them refine and confirm career goals. They leave the program fully prepared to plan and execute marine research and well-equipped to embark on any path they choose.

Three Seas Program

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<td>NEW ENGLAND</td>
<td>Vibrant Research-Active Communities</td>
<td>Three Diverse Marine Ecosystems</td>
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<td>Northeastern University</td>
<td>Prevailing coastal currents provide exceptionally clean and stable seawater. Intertidal and subtidal communities are ideally suited for investigations of rocky shore ecology. An extensive field trip to the Maine coast provides the opportunity to experience variations in New England marine habitats.</td>
<td>Marine Botany</td>
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<td>Marine Science Center</td>
<td>Nahant, MA</td>
<td>Oceanography</td>
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<td>PACIFIC NORTHWEST</td>
<td>In the cold and well-mixed waters of Puget Sound, marine flora and fauna are exceptionally diverse. Rocky shores, mud flats, sandy beaches, kelp forests, and a range of subtidal environments provide a varied landscape for exploration, research, and discovery.</td>
<td>Marine Birds and Mammals</td>
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<td>University of Washington</td>
<td>Marine Botany</td>
<td>Physiological and Molecular Marine Ecology</td>
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<td>Friday Harbor Laboratory</td>
<td>Marine Invertebrate Zoology</td>
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<td>San Juan Island, Washington</td>
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<td>Experimental Design in Marine Ecology</td>
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<td>Diving Research Methods</td>
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<td>THE CARIBBEAN</td>
<td>This diverse tropical ecosystem and geographical location, with fringing coral reefs and lagoon, seagrass, and mangrove habitats, serves as classroom and laboratory on the Caribbean and on a Pacific coast field trip.</td>
<td>Biology of Corals and Coral Reefs</td>
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<td>Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute</td>
<td>Marine Birds and Mammals</td>
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<td>Bocas de Toro, Panama</td>
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<td>Ocean and Coastal Processes</td>
<td>Coral Reef Ecology</td>
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“Three Seas has been the single most valuable experience of my life. I’ve made connections that have helped me continue my learning experiences... This year has laid the foundation for everything I hope to do in my future.”
—Samantha Csik, Three Seas Alum

“It was a great experience! Learning in the environment and interacting with the organisms you are studying imprints more than any ephemeral exam could have taught me.”
—David Stein, Three Seas Alum

“Three Seas is a great program that I would recommend to anybody looking to gain more experience and a great opportunity to begin networking with respected scientists in the field. The program exposed me to notable scientists and allowed me to learn from them.”
—Meghan Wood, Three Seas Alum