Info About UH Mānoa

UH Mānoa is a land, sea, space, and sun grant research university of international standing with pioneering research and strengths in various areas. These include, but are not limited to: tropical agriculture, tropical medicine, oceanography, astronomy, linguistics, education, cancer, genetics, electrical engineering, volcanology, evolutionary biology, comparative philosophy, comparative religion, Hawaiian studies, Pacific Islands & Asian area studies, and Asian and Pacific region public health. The Mānoa valley serves as a backdrop for a unique and inviting campus. It includes an authentic Japanese tea house and garden located on the East-West Center grounds, a Korean Studies center that is a replica of a Korean king’s throne hall, and Ka Papa Lo‘i O Kānewai, a Hawaiian cultural research and outreach program centered on the cultivation of Hawaiian taro. UH Mānoa is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Why pursue a PhD in Oceanography here?

The mission of the PhD in Oceanography program and Department is to integrate graduate education with cutting-edge, oceanographic research from local to global scales. Our graduate students have a wealth of opportunity to learn in unique settings while taking advantage of our research vessels, modern oceanographic instrumentation, and state-of-the-art laboratories. Our students work alongside acclaimed researchers and are engaged in diverse projects that encompass the physics, geology, chemistry and biology of the ocean, from the tropics to the poles and from above the sea surface to deep within the seafloor. Although our activities span the globe, we are at home in the islands and are committed to serving and affirming the unique community and culture of Hawai‘i. Our island location and engaged community empower us to address the natural processes and human activities that impact our coasts and watersheds, as well as the climate and how it is changing. We do this by exploring topics that range from microbial communities to large-scale driving forces on our ocean. Our educational programs inspire and nurture future oceanographers and environmental scientists who have strong ties to the islands.

Faculty: Research Areas & Expertise

Our expert faculty are internationally recognized in the study of processes that shape and control the modern and past ocean, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary investigations. Distinctive areas of research and expertise include: Oceanic trace elements, Ocean-atmosphere interactions including gas and aerosol geochemistry, Marine biochemistry, Climate variability and prediction, theoretical modeling, and computer simulations. As well as, the biological structure and function of diverse marine habitats and ecosystems around the globe, from tropical to polar oceans, and from the air-sea interface to the deep-ocean crust and physical oceanographic processes, from small-scale internal waves to the general circulation of the oceans.

For individual faculty profiles, visit: https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/oceanography/ocn-faculty/
## ACADEMIC JOURNEY

### ENGAGE
**FIRST YEAR, MATRICULATION INTO PROGRAM**
- PhD in Oceanography: 25 credits total including 24 credits of coursework (unless received a MS degree in Oceanography at UHM), 1 credit of Dissertation Research.
- 6.5 years to degree with 37 students in the program
- Seminar requirement, computer requirement, and 30 days of field-and-ship time
- Additional statistics course for Biological Oceanography students

### NAVIGATE
**MIDWAY THROUGH PROGRAM**
- Additional course in physical chemistry for Marine Geology & Geochemistry students
- At least one advanced biogeochemistry course for Marine Geology & Geochemistry students

### COMMUNICATE
**PREPARATION TO GRADUATE AND GO FORTH**
- Meet with a committee of faculty every semester
- Publicly defend PhD dissertation
- Complete full written dissertation

## INVOLVEMENT

### Volunteer
- Volunteer at local communities that support oceanographic research and sustainability
- Participate in Annual Student Symposia
- Present your work at local and national conferences
- Na Kama Kai: Oceanography Graduate Student Organization
- Community-based classes
- Apply for travel awards, scholarships and other awards
- Professional societies

## KNOWLEDGE / SKILL BUILDING

### Tracks / Concentrations:
1. Biological Oceanography
2. Marine Geology & Geochemistry
3. Physical Oceanography
- Foundational knowledge and research
- Adopt responsible frameworks for work
- Tutoring and college-level teaching skills
- Demonstrate written and oral ability to place scholarly work within the complex phenomena in their own subdiscipline
- Participate on Annual Student Symposia
- Comprehensive Examination
- Engage in responsible and ethically conducted research from our cultural location in Hawai‘i and the Pacific
- Present your work at local and national conferences

## CAREER PLANNING

### Discuss
- Discuss career objectives and opportunities with graduate chair, your mentor(s) and alumni
- Expand community and professional network via conferences, seminars, and workshops with visiting professors
- Participate in job market workshops and plan for letters of recommendation
- Regularly update curriculum vitae and develop portfolio (published work, research experience, awards received)
- Maintain communication with Oceanography Office to receive the latest notices of employment opportunities around the world

## Links
- Program Website: [https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/oceanography/grad-school-admission/](https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/oceanography/grad-school-admission/)
- Funding Opportunities: [https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/oceanography/funding-financial-aid/](https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/oceanography/funding-financial-aid/)
- Previous Research by Graduates: [https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/oceanography/phd-dissertations/](https://www.soest.hawaii.edu/oceanography/phd-dissertations/)
- Contact Information for Program:
  - Department of Oceanography
  - University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
  - School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST)
  - 1000 Pope Road, Marine Sciences Building (MSB) Room 205
  - Honolulu, HI 96822 USA
  - Tel: (808) 956-7633 • Fax: (808) 956-9225
  - Email: uhmocean@hawaii.edu

Where graduates go after completing their degree?
Many graduates obtain postdoctoral positions at the University of Hawai‘i or other institutions. Others obtain work at education institutions in different capacities, or at State and Federal government offices and laboratories, as well as private Oceanographic industries.

Career Options:
- State/Federal Offices and Labs
- Educational Institutions
- Environmental Societies
- Private Industry and Legal Firms
- Magazines / Book Publishers