HOW TO APPLY

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Mission: The Department of Oceanography conducts innovative research and education programs that enhance our understanding of the ocean, and address 21st century challenges and opportunities for Hawaii and the blue planet.

Faculty: The Department currently has 35 graduate faculty. An additional 25 faculty from outside the Department also have graduate faculty status in Oceanography.

Oceanography Graduate Program: The Graduate Field of Study in Oceanography was established in 1962. The Department currently has 49 graduate students from 13 countries. M.S. and Ph.D. degrees are offered in:
- Biological Oceanography
- Marine Geology & Geochemistry
- Physical Oceanography

Global Environmental Science Undergraduate Program: The Department also administers the Global Environmental Science (GES) program, which offers a B.S. degree. GES was established in 1998 and currently has 70 students.

Research Funding: The department receives over $9 million per year in external research funding. Major sources of funding include:
- National Science Foundation
- UH Foundation
- NASA
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Office of Naval Research

Research Activities: Department of Oceanography scientists study the processes that shape and control the modern and past ocean, with an emphasis on interdisciplinary investigations. Research in the department covers almost all areas of Oceanography, and includes studies on the following:
- Shipboard, autonomous vehicle and cabled observation programs
- 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
- Physical oceanographic processes, from small-scale internal waves to the general circulation of the oceans
- Oceanic trace elements
- Ocean-atmosphere interactions, including gas and aerosol geochemistry
- Marine biogeochemistry
- Ocean-seafloor interactions, including hydrothermal geochemistry/biogeochemistry and sediment-seawater exchange
- Land-ocean interactions, including estuarine biogeochemistry
- Climate variability and prediction
- Paleoceanography/paleoclimatology
- Theoretical modeling and computer simulations

Facilities: The department is housed in the 6-story, 72,000 sq. ft. Marine Science Building, along with additional space in other SOEST facilities. SOEST operates three ocean-going research vessels, the R/Vs Kilo Moana, the Ka'imikai-o-Kanaloa and Klaus Wyrtki from its marine operations center in Honolulu Harbor, as well as smaller nearshore vessels. The School maintains machine, electronics, and engineering shops, graphics, publication, and other support facilities.

SOEST: SOEST is a multidisciplinary school within the University of Hawai‘i, consisting of four academic departments, nine research institutes and other units conducting research and teaching about the Ocean, Earth and Planets. SOEST has approximately 240 faculty, 460 staff, 187 graduate students and an annual budget of $100M.