SOEST UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

www.soest.hawaii.edu/soestwp/education/undergraduate/
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Note: All underlined content in this handbook is hyperlinked for your convenience.
WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL OF OCEAN AND EARTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SOEST) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT MĀNOA (UHM)!

LEARNING AT SOEST IS AS MUCH ABOUT REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE AS IT IS ABOUT CLASSROOM AND LABORATORY WORK.

Our students learn, in the lab and the field, from the scientific pioneers responsible for our collective understanding of major world phenomena and global problems—preparing students to be tomorrow’s leaders and change-makers. Our students graduate with in-demand technical and analytical skills and join a network of thousands around the world, all working to change the way we live on our planet. Our unique location allows students the opportunity to explore sciences right outside our door as well as within the rich, unique culture that is found here in Hawai‘i.
DEPARTMENTS & MAJORS

Department of Atmospheric Sciences
B.S. – Atmospheric Sciences

Department of Earth Sciences
B.S. – Earth Sciences
B.A. – Environmental Earth Science

Department of Oceanography
B.S. – Global Environmental Science

SOEST undergraduate

Note: There are many undergraduate degree options/ tracks to choose from! Please see the degree plan chart for more information.
Our unique position as a world-class university located in the middle of the Pacific Ocean has fueled our department's intent to focus on issues relating to the weather and climate of the tropical Pacific and Asian-Pacific regions.
DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES

www.soest.hawaii.edu/earthsciences/

Our mission is to identify and solve fundamental and applied problems in the Geosciences and Environmental Sciences; to acquire new knowledge about Hawai‘i, the Pacific Basin, and Earth; to serve society by teaching and training future geoscientists, teachers, and citizens; and to be a principal resource for objective Earth science expertise in Hawai‘i.
Our mission is to integrate undergraduate education with cutting-edge, oceanographic research, from local to global scales. Our island location and engaged community empowers us to address the natural processes and human activities that impact our coasts and watersheds, the food we eat, how we live and recreate along the coastline, 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 both on and in our ocean. Our educational programs inspire and nurture future oceanographers and environmental scientists.
All SOEST degree plans can be found on the program sheet website under: “School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology.” Additional information about the degrees that SOEST offers can be found on the SOEST admissions website.

### School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology

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<td>DEGREE</td>
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<td>WHAT IS IT?</td>
<td>The study of phenomena in the Earth's atmosphere, including both weather and climate</td>
<td>The study of environmental Earth science and Earth's surface processes geared toward students who plan to enter the environmental and geotechnical fields</td>
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<td>WHAT WILL I STUDY?</td>
<td>Fundamentals of mathematics, physics, and chemistry, leading to upper division atmospheric sciences topics, such as tropical meteorology</td>
<td>Chemistry, physics, and mathematics foundations leading up to a combination of upper division environmental geoscience topics and more applied topics such as hydrogeology, geospatial information systems, and environmental geochemistry</td>
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<td>WHAT ARE THE INTRO COURSES I WILL TAKE?</td>
<td>ATMO 101L, ATMO 200 Scientific Programming</td>
<td>ERTH 101/L, ERTH 200</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Calculus I, II, III, &amp; IV</td>
<td>Calculus</td>
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<td>PHYS 170/L &amp; 272/L</td>
<td>PHYS 151/L &amp; 152/L</td>
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<td>CHEM 161/L &amp; 162</td>
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Please refer to the [UHM Catalog](#) and [Program Sheets](#) for specific course numbers & more information.
SOEST BAM Program

DEPARTMENTS & MAJORS

Department of Atmospheric Sciences
B.S. + M.S. – Atmospheric Science

Department of Earth Sciences
B.A. – Environmental Earth Science + P.B.C.T.E. – Teacher Education

Department of Oceanography
B.S. – Global Environmental Science + M.P.H. – Public Health
B.S. – Global Environmental Science + M.S. Finance
B.S. – Global Environmental Science + M.U.R.P. – Urban & Regional Planning
B.S. – Global Environmental Science + P.B.C.T.E. – Teacher Education
ADMISSIONS

What we'll learn:

01 Applying to a major in SOEST
02 Rainbow Warrior Checklist
03 Degree plans
04 Placement exams
05 How to register for courses
06 Navigating STAR
New and transfer students can apply directly into SOEST at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa by indicating a major within SOEST on their admissions application. Students wishing to transfer into SOEST from another major must have at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA and may also indicate a major in SOEST on the application to enter the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology. Transfer students can use the transfer credit database created by the UH admissions office to see which credits are eligible for transfer from their previous institution(s).
RAINFOREST WARRIOR CHECKLIST

Submit intent to enroll and tuition deposit
Submit final documents
Pay for tuition
Submit health clearance
Get oriented and stay connected

manoa.hawaii.edu/admissions/accepted/
For new and transfer students, placement exams should be taken before meeting with an advisor in order for the advisor to best guide a student through course planning.

Every SOEST degree requires chemistry and mathematics courses. Placement exams are required and are designed to place students into the appropriate level course that will give them the foundational knowledge needed to succeed. The placement exams should be completed before the start of the first semester if the student has not already taken college calculus and chemistry. More information about each placement exam can be found under the “New and Transfer Students” section on our SOEST SAS website.

**MATH PLACEMENT EXAM**

**CHEMISTRY PLACEMENT EXAM**
Registration is done through STAR-GPS, an easy-to-navigate website that allows students to take control of their own academic pathways. STAR enables students to do the following:

- View which courses they need to complete in order to obtain their degree
- Search for classes at any University of Hawai‘i campus
- Register for classes that count directly towards their degree/program
- Maintain a visual calendar of the classes they are choosing and how they fit together
- Directly integrate their class schedules into Google Calendar
- Easily switch classes using the add/drop function
- Access their own transcripts and related academic information

star.hawaii.edu/studentinterface/
### Navigating STAR GPS

**Academic Essentials**
- Displays, explains, and keeps track of all of the student's major and graduation requirements.
- Helps students explore what it might look like if they changed majors. The Academic Essentials and GPS Registration tabs temporarily reflect the possibilities.

**Transcripts**
- Shows students' unofficial transcripts. Students can order an official transcript from the Office of the Registrar.
- Outlines the student's academic plan. This is also where the student can register for courses.

**What If Journey**
- Links to the STAR scholarships online application where students can apply for University of Hawai’i scholarships.

**GPS Registration**
- Displays, explains, and keeps track of all of the student's major and graduation requirements.
- Shows students' unofficial transcripts. Students can order an official transcript from the Office of the Registrar.
- Helps students explore what it might look like if they changed majors. The Academic Essentials and GPS Registration tabs temporarily reflect the possibilities.

**Scholarships**
- Outlines the student's academic plan. This is also where the student can register for courses.
- Links to the STAR scholarships online application where students can apply for University of Hawai’i scholarships.

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*Note: For help with STAR-GPS, students can meet with an academic advisor or visit the HELP website. Registration dates and times are published on the Registration Timetable.*
ACADEMIC ADVISING

SOEST values and promotes cooperative relationships between academic advisors, faculty advisors, and students through the implementation of a collaborative personal education plan that is consistent with students’ goals.

Students can schedule an appointment to speak with an advisor through our SOEST Student Academic Services (SAS) website. Click the blue “Schedule an Appointment” button to log into STAR Balance using your UH username and password, or guest log-in.

www.soest.hawaii.edu/soestwp/education/undergraduate/advising/
To obtain an undergraduate degree from SOEST, students must satisfy:

(a) General Education Core requirements,
(b) Focus requirements, and
(c) requirements of the student’s specific academic major.

Consulting an academic advisor can help a student select courses that might simultaneously satisfy more than one requirement.

Please note that Hawaiian Language/ Second Language courses are not required for any of the majors in SOEST, but may be required for many other majors outside of SOEST.
USEFUL WEBSITES
for Incoming & Transfer Students
HELPFUL RESOURCES

- MyUH
- AP/IB Credits
- Laulima
- Credit Transfer
- Financial Aid
- UHM Catalog
OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

Campus Center Information & ID Office
Student Housing Services
UH Mānoa Dining Services
UH Mānoa Bookstore
University Health Services

Academic Support Services
- Sinclair Library Student Success Center
- UH Mānoa Learning Assistance Center
- NatSci Learning Emporium
- UH Mānoa Writing Center

Student Support Services
- TRIO Student Support Services
- International Student Services
- KŌKUA Office for Students with Disabilities
- Counseling & Student Development Center

Learn more at: SOEST SAS Student Resources → Helpful Resources at UH
WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU!

Please contact SOEST Student Academic Services if you have any further questions or need additional assistance.

Visit us on campus at HIG Room 131B
Email us at soestsas@hawaii.edu
Call us at (808) 956-8468