

MSc Marine Science (P/T) -OS 502

1. Objectives

Mauritius, being an island which has an Exclusive Economic Zone of 1.9 million Km², with an additional 396,000 Km² shared jointly with the Republic of Seychelles, has a vast potential for exploitation of ocean resources. There is a pressing need to boost up existing ocean sectors and to develop new ones as emphasized by the Ocean Economy Road Map, for a sustainable future. The identified ocean clusters appear promising for the island's economy; however, it is evident that there is limited skilled manpower in the field of Ocean and Marine Science.

The Department of Marine and Ocean Science, Fisheries and Mariculture (MOSFM) offers to play an important role in capacity building by offering this postgraduate course in Marine Science to support the ocean economy. Marine Science is an interdisciplinary field with potential to contribute significantly to our island's food supply, tourism, mineral resources, renewable energy resources and shipping industry.

This programme aims at providing learners with an in depth knowledge in the areas of marine science, their importance, associated threats, sustainable use and management.

The flexible MSc Marine Science programme adopts a blended learning approach comprising core and elective modules that can be studied full-time or part time. Course modules are delivered with a mix of traditional face- to- face lectures and online study options to allow maximum flexibility to learners especially those already in service. The core modules address the requirements for a sound base in the field of marine science; whilst, the elective modules permit learners to focus on specific areas of their interests. In addition, learners will have the opportunity to undertake a research project in an area of interest to the field of Marine science.

Upon completion, those already in employment will have acquired a strong knowledge on various aspects of Marine Science, which will boost them up in their own professional development, as well as in promoting sustainable development of our island; whereas, young graduates wishing to make a career in this field, will be equipped to play key roles in the development of the Ocean Economy.

2. General Entry Requirements

Successful completion of an undergraduate degree with

- at least a Second Class or 50%, whichever is applicable or
- a GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent, from a recognized higher education institution.

OR alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius.

3. Programme Requirements

BSc(Hons) in any of the following fields: Marine Science and Technology, Biology, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Physics, Agriscience and Technology, Agriculture with specialization in Aquaculture, Chemical and Environmental Engineering or equivalent qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius.

4. Programme Duration

The Programme is offered either on a full-time (F/T) or a part-time (P/T) basis. The duration of the Postgraduate Programme should normally not exceed 2 years (4 semesters) for F/T and 4 years (8 semesters) for P/T.

| | Normal | Maximum |
|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Master's Degree (F/T): | 1 Year | 2 Years |
| Postgraduate Diploma (F/T): | 1 Year | 2 Years |
| Master's Degree (P/T): | 2 Years | 4 Years |
| Postgraduate Diploma (P/T): | 2 Years | 4 Years |

5. Minimum Credits Required for the Award

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Master's Degree: | 37 |
| Postgraduate Diploma: | 24 |
| Postgraduate Certificate: | 15 |

Breakdown as follows:

| | Core Taught Modules | Research Project | Electives (minimum) |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Master's Degree: | 24 credits | 10 credits | 3 credits |

6. Continuous and written Assessment of Modules

Each module will carry 100 marks and will be assessed as follows (unless otherwise specified):

- Written Exams

All 3- credit Modules will be assessed by a **2 hr written exam paper**

All 6-credit Modules will be assessed by a **3 hr written exam paper**

The weighting will be **70%** for written examinations: **30%** for continuous assessment. The continuous assessment may be based on laboratory works, and/or assignments and should include at least 1 class test per module.

An overall total of **40%** for combined continuous assessment and written examination components would be required to pass a module, without minimum thresholds within the individual continuous and written examination.

The Research Project carries 10 credits.

Submission Deadlines for research project:

- First Draft: End of July of Final Academic year.
- Final copy: last working day of August of Final Academic Year.

7. Research Seminar

This includes mini-projects, oriented-discussion, coached group-work, presentations and other structured activities associated to enhancing the communication skills, interpersonal skills, teamwork, the professional and personal attributes of the students. Research seminars will be included in modules in which assignments form part of the coursework.

8. List of Modules – MSc Marine Science

(L= Lectures; P=Practical)

| Code | Module Name | L+P | Credits |
|------------------|---|---------|---------|
| CORE | | | |
| MMS 4001Y (1) | Marine Science | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4002Y (1) | Marine Biodiversity and Conservation | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4003Y (1) | Marine Pollution and Ecotoxicology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4004Y (1) | Marine Biotechnology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4005Y (1) | Marine Microbiology and Parasitology | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4000Y (1) | Research Project | - | 10 |
| ELECTIVES | | | |
| MMS 4006Y (1) | Ichthyology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4007Y (1) | Marine Aquaculture and Entrepreneurship | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4008Y (1) | Marine Instrumentation and Research Methods | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4009Y (1) | Marine Geology and Geophysics | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4010Y (1) | Marine Resources and Law of the Sea | 37.5+15 | 3 |

And/or any new modules offered by the Department

NOTE: NOT ALL ELECTIVES MAY BE ON OFFER. The choice rests with the Department MOSFM.

9. Programme Plan – MSc Marine Science Full-Time (F/T)

Year 1

| Code | Module Name | L+P | Credits |
|------------------|---|---------|---------|
| CORE | | | |
| MMS 4001Y (1) | Marine Science | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4002Y (1) | Marine Biodiversity and Conservation | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4003Y (1) | Marine Pollution and Ecotoxicology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4004Y (1) | Marine Biotechnology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4005Y (1) | Marine Microbiology and Parasitology | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4000Y (1) | Research Project | - | 10 |
| ELECTIVES | | | |
| MMS 4006Y (1) | Ichthyology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4007Y (1) | Marine Aquaculture and Entrepreneurship | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4008Y (1) | Marine Instrumentation and Research Methods | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4009Y (1) | Marine Geology and Geophysics | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4010Y (1) | Marine Resources and Law of the Sea | 37.5+15 | 3 |

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For the MSc Award, students have to complete ALL core modules, research project and ANY one (1) elective offered by the Department.

10. Programme Plan – MSc Marine Science Part-Time (P/T)

Year 1

| Code | Module Name | L+P | Credits |
|------------------|---|------------|----------------|
| CORE | | | |
| MMS 4001Y (1) | Marine Science | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4002Y (1) | Marine Biodiversity and Conservation | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4003Y (1) | Marine Pollution and Ecotoxicology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| ELECTIVES | | | |
| MMS 4006Y (1) | Ichthyology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4007Y (1) | Marine Aquaculture and Entrepreneurship | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4008Y (1) | Marine Instrumentation and Research Methods | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4009Y (1) | Marine Geology and Geophysics | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4010Y (1) | Marine Resources and Law of the Sea | 37.5+15 | 3 |

Year 2

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------|----|
| MMS 4004Y (1) | Marine Biotechnology | 37.5+15 | 3 |
| MMS 4005Y (1) | Marine Microbiology and Parasitology | 75+30 | 6 |
| MMS 4000Y (1) | Research Project | - | 10 |