

**School of the Earth, Ocean & Environment
College of Arts and Sciences
Impact**

Degrees/majors offered:

B.A. degree:

- Environmental Studies

B.S. degrees:

- Environmental Science
- Geological Sciences
- Geophysics
- Marine Science

M.S. degrees:

- Geological Sciences
- Marine Science

Professional degrees:

- Master of Earth & Environmental Resource Management (MEERM)
- MEERM/ J.D. dual degree

Ph.D. degrees:

- Geological Sciences
- Marine Science

Institutes & Centers:

- Belle W. Baruch Institute for Marine & Coastal Sciences
- Earth Sciences & Resources Institute
- Center for Elemental Mass Spectroscopy
- North Inlet-Winyah Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve & NERR Centralized Data Management Office
- South Carolina Earth Physics Project

Research Areas:

- Biogeochemistry & Geochemistry
- Climate Change
- Earth Systems
- Energy Resources
- Environmental Humanities
- Geophysics & Seismology
- Igneous Processes
- Marine Biology
- Oceanography & Coastal Processes
- Satellite Oceanography
- Sedimentology & Stratigraphy
- Society & Environment
- Sustainability
- Tectonics
- Water Resources

Research

School of the Earth, Ocean & Environment:

- 33 tenure track, 7 research, and 8 affiliate faculty
- External funding last 3.5 years: ~\$19.5million, 4th highest in CAS. Funding for 7 faculty with joint appointments is not included.
- 28 national/international faculty awards/fellowships, including 6 Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (see side-bar, next page)
- 2 Carolina Distinguished Professors; 1 College of Arts & Sciences Distinguished Professor, 1 McCausland Fellow
- Regional & local faculty research awards, last 5 years: 1 SEC Faculty Achievement Award, 1 Carolina Trustee Professor, 1 Educational Foundation Research Award, 6 USC Faculty Breakthrough Stars, 2 Faculty Breakthrough Leadership in Research Awards.
- 8 PhD degrees awarded in 2014-15.
- 1 Department of Energy Computational Science Graduate Fellowship, the first such award to a student at USC
- 5 Presidential Fellowship holders among current doctoral students.
- Spearheaded international graduate exchange programs, including with the University of Basra in Iraq.

Superior Student Experience

School of the Earth, Ocean & Environment:

The numbers:

- 22,638 total credit hour production in 2015: 21,377 undergraduate; 1,261 graduate. Up by 50%+ over 10 years.
- 489 majors in 5 undergraduate degree programs, fall 2015. Up by 7% over 2 years, and nearly doubled over 6 years.
- 90 undergraduate degrees awarded in 2014-15: 4 B.A., 86 B.S. 7th in number of undergraduate degrees among units within CAS.
- 24 graduate degrees awarded in 2014-15: 8 MEERM, 8 M.S., 8 Ph.D. 2nd in number of graduate degrees among units within CAS.
- 4 minor program degrees available.
- 16 Bachelor's Graduation with Leadership Distinction, spring 2016.
- 16 Carolina Core Foundational Courses
- 7 Integrative Carolina Core Courses for the Major
- 38 Honors College majors, 8 Honors Course sections

The awards:

- 18 Hollings Scholars over the past 3 years. Represents 75% of all the Hollings awarded to USC students. USC leads the nation in awardees.
- 3 Goldwater Scholars, 1 Truman Scholar, 1 Udall Scholar, 2014-16.

Specialized Facilities:

- Marine Wet Lab
- Organic Biogeochemistry Laboratory
- Radiochemistry Laboratory
- Rock Room
- Stable Isotope Laboratory

Faculty International/National Awards:

Fellows:

- American Association for the Advancement of Science: 6
- American Council of Learned Societies: 2
- American Geophysical Union: 3
- Association of the Sciences of Limnology & Oceanography: 2
- California Academy of Sciences: 1
- Society of Wetland Scientists: 1

Scholars/ Awards:

- Cox Visiting Professorship, Stanford University: 2
- Einstein Professorship, Chinese Academy of Science: 1
- Fulbright Scholars: 3
- James M. Blaut book award, Association of American Geographers: 1
- National Academies of Science/ Humboldt Foundation Kavli Award: 1
- National Humanities Center Fellow: 1
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars: 1
- Ocean Sciences Early Career Award, American Geophysical Union: 1
- Sulzman Award for Excellence in Education & Mentoring: 1
- William Mong Visiting Research Fellowship, Hong Kong University: 1

- 20 Discovery Day winners, spring 2016.
- 1 Distinguished Undergraduate Research Mentor, 1 Outstanding Faculty Advisor Awards, spring 2016;
- Last 5 years: 1 Mungo Distinguished Professor, 3 Mungo Undergraduate Teaching Awards.

The innovations:

- 45 study abroad students in 2014-15. Number has doubled over 5 years, and is twice the number expected based on the proportion of majors in CAS.
- Multiple field-based courses, including MayMester at Congaree National Park, Geology Field Camp, Marine Science 460.
- Beyond the classroom experiences: multiple internship opportunities including the Riverbanks Zoo internship, collaborations with Sustainable Carolina & Green Quad.
- 4 active award-winning student academic clubs
- NSF funded GeoScholars Program to increase minority undergraduate representation in the GeoSciences, including recruitment and retention.
- NSF funding to increase minority graduate representation in the GeoSciences, in collaboration with Claflin University (an HBCU)

Flexible Models for Access and Affordability

School of the Earth, Ocean & Environment:

- Accelerated Bachelor's/ Master's degree in Geological Sciences, in Marine Science and MEERM. Allows students to obtain a Bachelor's degree in their 4th year and a Master's degree in their 5th year.
- Courses offered at Ft. Jackson and evenings: 26 seats filled in Ft. Jackson courses, and 195 seats filled in evening courses over the past 3 academic years.

SC Economic and Overall Well-Being

School of the Earth, Ocean & Environment:

- One of 10 universities in the Advanced National Seismic System, through the South Carolina Seismic Network operated with USGS.
- Rapid Earthquake Viewer (rev.seis.sc.edu) and learning modules used in K-12 teaching; 6+ million "hits" and 5000 visitors/ month in 2015.
- Girls Go for IT, co-ed Dent Gets IT: middle school computer camp, school club support, with high participation by under-represented groups.
- Presentations by undergraduate marine sciences club to K-6 classrooms, including touch-tanks.
- Extensive participation as, e.g., science fair judges.
- Co-sponsor of regional symposia on water & food, climate adaptation, etc.
- Support for Gills Creek Watershed Association.
- Univ. Affiliate of National Council for Science and the Environment.