

SUMMER SPRINGBOARD
Look Inward. Go Upward.

Marine Science + Ecology Infosheet

New student admissions for Summer 2026 are open.

2-Week Course

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.

Program Highlights

- Study the ocean environment including the various types of marine ecosystems
- Explore various marine vertebrates and invertebrates and their anatomy through through field trips and direct contact with marine life.
- Learn and understand key ecological concepts to understand the interactions between marine species and their environment
- Develop skills to monitor and assess the health and biodiversity of marine ecosystems, including sampling methods, data analysis, and interpretation.
- Apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills to address the complex challenges facing our oceans and marine life today.

Academic Program Overview

Roughly 70% of the Earth's surface is covered by our oceans, of which more than 80% remains unmapped, unobserved, and unexplored. There is a vast and diverse amount of marine life and ecosystems found in our oceans those both discovered and researched, and those still wading in the depths.

Summer Springboard's course in Marine Biology will offer students the opportunity to explore these various marine life and ecosystems, and more, through quality instruction and hands-on activities. Students will explore the anatomy of select marine life, learn about the different habitats they live in and the ways their ecosystems interact, study various threats facing our oceans and marine life today, and hear from leading experts in the field.

Excursions

Course excursions include whale watching, the Maritime Museum, Maritime on the Move harbor exploration/beach activities, and more.

2027 Dates

UC Santa Barbara

- Session 1: July 18 - July 30

Instructors

Julia Cox
Julia is a PhD student studying marine ecology at UC Santa Barbara. She is broadly interested in how human activities influence ecosystems, and how scientific research can help us understand and manage natural resources. she worked as a research assistant for Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, where she spent many weeks at sea studying life in the ocean twilight zone.

Tuition Information:

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes**: optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price**: $5,798

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for $125 per day
- **Price**: $3,298

Supplements:

- **Application fee**: starting at $99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Marine Science Course Supplement Fee**: $250 (mandatory)
- **Tuition Protection Plan**: Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click here for more info.

Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday - Friday. During week two, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Afternoons in both weeks are dedicated to students' preferred College Readiness Workshops (CRW), True You, and Academics in Action, with Academics in Action including academic excursions, guest speakers, and course-related activities, such as an instructor-led project or student-led, independent study.

Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival
12PM	Lunch
1:30PM	Academics in Action or Recreational Activity
3:30PM	CRWs, True You, or Academics in Action
5-5:15PM	Commuter Student Departure
6PM	Dinner
7PM	Clubs
10:30PM	Night Checks

Schedule above is a sampler; real schedules may vary based on program and academic track.

More info on Airport Transfer

More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service

Apply Now!

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