

Meteorology (BS): Marine Sciences Concentration

The degree of Bachelor of Science in Meteorology is offered in the Department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. A concentration in Marine Science may also be chosen.

Meteorologists study a diverse array of topics, including climate, air pollution, environmental impacts, weather analysis and forecasting, remote sensing, atmospheric physics and interactions between the atmosphere and other components of the earth system. Our undergraduate students pursue careers in air quality, weather forecasting, meteorological research, broadcast meteorology and positions with the armed forces. The proximity of the Environmental Protection Agency center in nearby Research Triangle Park, the NC Department of Air Quality, a strong working relation with the local media, and the presence of the State Climate Office and a NWS forecast office on the NC State campus all provide our students with a broad range of internship and employment possibilities.

Contact

For more information about our meteorology programs, visit our website (<https://meas.sciences.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/programs/atmospheric-science/>) or contact:

Maggie Puryear

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Plan Requirements

Code	Title	Hours	Counts towards
Orientation			
COS 100	Science of Change ¹	2	
English / Communication			
ENG 101	Academic Writing and Research ²	4	
Select one of the following:		3	
ENG 331	Communication for Engineering and Technology		
ENG 332	Communication for Business and Management		
ENG 333	Communication for Science and Research		
Math / Statistics			
MEA 217	Introduction to Computing in the Geosciences ²	3	
or MA 116	Introduction to Scientific Programming (Math)		

or PY 251 or CSC 113	Introduction to Scientific Computing Introduction to Computing - MATLAB	
MA 141	Calculus I ²	4
MA 241	Calculus II ²	4
MA 242	Calculus III	4
MA 341	Applied Differential Equations I	3
Statistics Option (p. 2)		3
Chemistry / Physics		
CH 101	Chemistry - A Molecular Science ²	3
CH 102	General Chemistry Laboratory	1
PY 205 & PY 206	Physics for Engineers and Scientists I and Physics for Engineers and Scientists I Laboratory ²	4
Chemistry Option (p. 2)		4
Meteorology Core		
MEA 100	Earth System Science: Exploring the Connections	4
MEA 215	Introduction to Atmospheric Sciences	4
MEA 312	Atmospheric Thermodynamics ²	4
MEA 315	Mathematics Methods in Atmospheric Sciences ²	4
MEA 321	Fundamentals of Air Quality and Climate Change ²	3
MEA 412	Atmospheric Physics ²	3
MEA 421	Atmospheric Dynamics I ²	3
MEA 422	Atmospheric Dynamics II ²	3
MEA 443	Synoptic Weather Analysis and Forecasting	4
MEA 495	Junior Seminar in the Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences	1

Marine Science Concentration		
MEA 200	Introduction to Oceanography	3
MEA 210	Oceanography Lab	1
MEA 455	Micrometeorology	3
MEA 460	Principles of Physical Oceanography	3
MEA 462	Observational Methods and Data Analysis in Marine Physics	3
MEA 467	Marine Meteorology	3
Major Electives		
Geophysical Science Option (p. 2)		3
Approved Electives ³		9
GEP Courses		
GEP Humanities (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-humanities/)		6
GEP Social Sciences (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-social-sciences/)		6
GEP Health and Exercise Studies (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-health-exercise-studies/)		2
GEP Elective (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/)		3
GEP Global Knowledge (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-global-knowledge/) (verify requirement)		
World Language Proficiency (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/world-language-proficiency/) (verify requirement)		
Total Hours		120

¹ COS 100 is for new freshmen only. Transfer students will need to select a course from the GEP Interdisciplinary Perspectives course list

² A grade of C- or higher is required.

³ Approved Electives should be selected in consultation with advisor. In order to qualify for federal civil servant meteorologist positions (i.e. National Weather Service), you must satisfy the GS 1340 requirements. As a result the following courses are strongly recommended: PY208/209, MEA 443, MEA 444, and MEA 511.

Chemistry Option

Code	Title	Hours	Counts towards
CH 201	Chemistry - A Quantitative Science	4	
CH 220 & CH 222	Introductory Organic Chemistry and Organic Chemistry I Lab	4	
CH 221 & CH 222	Organic Chemistry I and Organic Chemistry I Lab	4	

Geophysical Science Option

Code	Title	Hours	Counts towards
MEA 101	Geology I: Physical	3	
PY 123	Stellar and Galactic Astronomy	3	
PY 124	Solar System Astronomy	3	
SSC 200	Soil Science	3	

Statistics Option

Code	Title	Hours	Counts towards
ST 311	Introduction to Statistics	3	
ST 370	Probability and Statistics for Engineers	3	
ST 371	Introduction to Probability and Distribution Theory	3	

Semester Sequence

Critical Path Courses -Identify using the code (CP) which courses are considered critical path courses which represent specific major requirements that are predictive of student success in a given program/plan. Place the (CP) next to the credit hours for the course.

This is a sample.

First Year

Fall Semester		Hours
CH 101	Chemistry - A Molecular Science (CP) ²	3
CH 102	General Chemistry Laboratory	1
MA 141	Calculus I (CP) ²	4
MEA 100	Earth System Science: Exploring the Connections (CP)	4
GEP Health and Exercise Studies (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-health-exercise-studies/)		1

COS 100	Science of Change ¹	2
Hours		15
Spring Semester		
Chemistry Option (p. 2)		4
ENG 101	Academic Writing and Research (CP) ²	4
MA 241	Calculus II (CP) ²	4
MEA 215	Introduction to Atmospheric Sciences (CP)	4
Hours		16
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
MA 242	Calculus III	4
MEA 321	Fundamentals of Air Quality and Climate Change ²	3
PY 205	Physics for Engineers and Scientists I (CP) ²	3
PY 206	Physics for Engineers and Scientists I Laboratory	1
MEA 217	Introduction to Computing in the Geosciences ²	3
Hours		14
Spring Semester		
MA 341	Applied Differential Equations I	3
MEA 312	Atmospheric Thermodynamics ²	4
MEA 315	Mathematics Methods in Atmospheric Sciences ²	4
Approved Electives ³		3
Hours		14
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
MEA 200	Introduction to Oceanography	3
MEA 210	Oceanography Lab	1
MEA 421	Atmospheric Dynamics I ²	3
Geophysical Science Option (p. 2)		3
GEP Elective (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/)		3
Statistics Option (p. 2)		3
Hours		16
Spring Semester		
Advanced Writing Elective (p. 1)		3
Approved Elective ³		3
MEA 412	Atmospheric Physics ²	3
MEA 422	Atmospheric Dynamics II ²	3
MEA 495	Junior Seminar in the Marine, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences	1
GEP Social Sciences (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-social-sciences/)		3
Hours		16
Fourth Year		
Fall Semester		
MEA 460	Principles of Physical Oceanography	3
MEA 455	Micrometeorology	3
GEP Humanities (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-humanities/)		3

GEP Health and Exercise Studies (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-health-exercise-studies/)		1
MEA 443	Synoptic Weather Analysis and Forecasting ¹	4
Hours		14
Spring Semester		
Approved Elective ³		3
MEA 462	Observational Methods and Data Analysis in Marine Physics ²	3
MEA 467	Marine Meteorology ²	3
GEP Humanities (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-humanities/)		3
GEP Social Sciences (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/undergraduate/gep-category-requirements/gep-social-sciences/)		3
Hours		15
Total Hours		120

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Career Opportunities

MEAS undergraduate degree programs provide talented students with the foundation of scientific knowledge required for careers in government, industry, or academia. Many students pursue graduate degrees after completion of an undergraduate degree in Meteorology.

Meteorology graduates enjoy careers in weather forecasting, air quality assessment, development of weather products and services, broadcast communications, and advanced research. Marine meteorologists study ocean-generated weather systems. Their research is yielding practical benefits such as refined prediction of storm surge, which has streamlined evacuation efforts during severe storms along the Carolina coast. Meteorology graduates with an air quality emphasis work for environmental firms, regulatory agencies, and in applied research. Study of air quality and how air pollution is transported and dispersed is a rapidly expanding field in the atmospheric sciences.

MEAS graduates play a key service role for the State of North Carolina, assisting in everything from forecasting severe storms and analyzing the impact of atmospheric pollutants on agriculture and our estuaries, to determining the effects of toxic waste disposal on quality of surface and ground water.

Career Titles

- Air Traffic Controller
- Airfield Operations Specialist
- Astronomer
- Atmospheric and Space Scientist
- Atmospheric, Earth, Marine, and Space Sciences Teachers
- Environmental Science and Protection Technician

- Geophysicist
- Meteorologist
- Oceanographer
- Outdoor Education Teacher
- Park Naturalist
- Pilot
- Postsecondary Teacher
- Technical & Scientific Publications Editor
- Weather Forecaster

Learn More About Careers

NCcareers.org (<https://nccareers.org/>)

Explore North Carolina's central online resource for students, parents, educators, job seekers and career counselors looking for high quality job and career information.

Occupational Outlook Handbook (<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>)

Browse the Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to view state and area employment and wage statistics.

You can also identify and compare similar occupations based on your interests.

Career One Stop Videos (<https://www.careeronestop.org/>)

View videos that provide career details and information on wages, employment trends, skills needed, and more for any occupation.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Focus 2 Career Assessment (<https://careers.dasa.ncsu.edu/explore-careers/career-assessments/>) (NC State student email address required)

This career, major and education planning system is available to current NC State students to learn about how your values, interests, competencies, and personality fit into the NC State majors and your future career. An NC State email address is required to create an account. Make an appointment with your career counselor (<https://careers.dasa.ncsu.edu/about/hours-appointments/>) to discuss the results.

Focus 2 Apply Assessment (<https://www.focus2career.com/Portal/Register.cfm?SID=1929>) (Available to prospective students)

A career assessment tool designed to support prospective students in exploring and choosing the right major and career path based on your unique personality, interests, skills and values. Get started with Focus 2 Apply and see how it can guide your journey at NC State.

American Meteorological Society (<http://www.ametsoc.org/>)

National Weather Association (<https://nwas.org/>)