

FLAGLER COLLEGE

COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE PROGRAM



FLAGLER
COLLEGE

THE COAST IS YOUR LAB.

Study coastal ecosystems where science happens on the water, working alongside faculty to protect our coast while building the skills and experience to launch your future.



MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

There's a certain kind of student who thrives at Flagler, and it's often the one a bigger system overlooks. Some of our best students don't test well on standardized tests, but they're capable, hardworking, genuinely curious, and they ask the best questions in class. They flourish here. I have a catchphrase for it: joining in, not weeding out.

You can't study coastal environmental science by staying in a classroom the whole time. On any given day you might find my class hiking the maritime forest and mapping gopher tortoise burrows, analyzing erosion out on the beach, or taking water samples from a boat. And with no graduate students here, that work is yours, which means my recommendation letter can speak directly to your strengths.

I'm excited to welcome you to the program! If you have any questions, our admissions team is ready to help.



Dr. Melissa Southwell
*Professor &
Program Coordinator*

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☎ (904) 829-6481

WHY CES AT FLAGLER COLLEGE?

RESEARCH THAT BELONGS TO YOU

Get the lab time, research experience, and faculty mentorship often reserved for graduate students at larger universities, giving you the experience and faculty relationships that strengthen graduate school applications.

CLASSES OUT ON THE WATER

Marine Biology, a required course for every CES major, holds its labs out on the water, not in a classroom. Coursework here means fieldwork, not just theory.

SKILLS THAT TRANSLATE TO A JOB

Courses in Geographic Information Systems and scientific computing build technical skills you can point to directly in a job interview, not just describe from a transcript.

100%

**LABS TAUGHT BY PROFESSORS
WHO KNOW YOUR NAME**

SIGNATURE CES EXPERIENCES

CAPSTONE SYMPOSIUM

Every spring, Science Week culminates in the Capstone Symposium, where as a senior you will present your full research mini-thesis to peers, faculty, and family.

STUDY ABROAD SUSTAINABLY

Dive coral reefs in Bermuda, protect sea turtles and mangroves in Belize, or study coastal sustainability in Zanzibar. We are always adding new and exciting trips to fuel your intellectual curiosity around the world.

NATIONAL RESEARCH PLACEMENTS

CES students have landed competitive National Science Foundation (NSF) summer research fellowships at Notre Dame, in Louisiana, and in South Florida.

FIND YOUR PEOPLE FAST

Two organizations that pair well with the CES major: Green Beans Environmental Club builds sustainable habits on campus and in the community, while Dive Club offers you the chance to become SCUBA certified.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

“I spent my summers growing up on the beach in Ocean City, N.J., where my interest in protecting coastal environments began. My passion grew during my first year at Flagler, as I became surrounded by students and faculty with the same interests. Collaborating and sharing ideas with a community of people who share my interests has been incredibly inspirational.”

– Carly Shaw ‘24

“My Flagler College experience was amazing, insightful, and filled with gratitude. My passion is and always has been learning about and protecting the ocean. When I chose to come to Flagler, I was thrilled to find out that a coastal environmental science major was being offered. I started learning about everything there is to know about our oceans and how science can be used to protect them.”

– Francisco Ramirez ‘25

PREPARING FOR GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

THESE COURSES BUILD THE FOUNDATION FOR WHATEVER COASTAL SCIENCE PATH YOU PURSUE NEXT:

- » Geographic Information Systems
- » Evolutionary Biology
- » Science Communication
- » Field Methods
- » Marine Biology
- » Environmental Science
- » General Chemistry I & II

Faculty advisors work closely with students to tailor coursework for professional school admissions.

WHERE GRADUATES END UP

CES GRADUATES BUILD CAREERS ACROSS COASTAL SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION:

- » Harrison Hobbs, now a Ph.D. student at the University of Florida, studies the connection between water quality and seagrass health.
- » Maya Weikert ‘23 interned with the Surfrider Foundation, meeting legislators to advocate for conservation.
- » Regional employers include the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Alligator Farm, and St. Johns County’s coastal restoration program.

87%

**OF FLAGLER GRADUATES SAY THEIR
CURRENT JOB REQUIRES THE SKILLS
THEY LEARNED IN THEIR DEGREE**



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