



FREMANTLE
COLLEGE



Specialist Marine Studies Program

An underwater photograph showing a group of divers in the upper half and a sea turtle swimming in the middle. The background is a sandy seabed. A white curved graphic element is at the bottom.

Year 10 Coral Bay
Marine Camp

Our Program

Fremantle College's Specialist Marine Studies Program is one of only two Department of Education Approved Specialist programs in Marine Studies, and offers students the unique opportunity to be a part of the solution for our marine environment.

Available to students from Year 7 through to Year 10, our Specialist Marine Studies Program engages students through both practical and theoretical components, enabling them to make links between their topics of learning and the outside world. Students will challenge themselves, promote best practice, and build character, gaining a greater understanding of the complex issues that impact on our oceans and, in turn, our lives.

The Fremantle College Specialist Marine Studies Program is committed to developing an appreciative awareness of the interdependence of the marine environment and human involvement. The program seeks to encourage respect and concern for the Australian natural and cultural environment, and the continued search for models that are regenerative and sustainable.

With pathways available for both ATAR and General study in Year 11 and Year 12, the Specialist Marine Studies Program supports students to embrace all learning opportunities with a view to better themselves, the environment, and the community.



Our Curriculum

The Specialist Marine Studies Program curriculum is comprised of two comprehensive components of study that are interrelated throughout the duration of the course.

| Year Level | Specialist Marine Science | Specialist Marine Practical |
|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Year 7 | 4 periods per week | 2 periods per week |
| Year 8 | 4 periods per week | 2 periods per week |
| Year 9 | 4 periods per week | 2 periods per week |
| Year 10 | 4 periods per week | 4 periods per week |

Specialist Marine Science

In dedicated class sets, students' study of Science is explicitly linked to a marine context, encouraging curiosity and fostering their appreciation for the concerns, and the possibilities, within the marine environment.

Developed around the Western Australian Curriculum for Science and graded according to the SCSA Judging Standard for their year group, the course provides students with an enriched program that will challenge and extend. The Specialist Marine Science content involves four main areas of study:

- Biological Sciences
- Chemical Sciences
- Physical Sciences
- Earth and Space Sciences

Each Science area of study includes a diverse range of learning experiences:

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Specialised Marine Topics | Eg. Buoyancy, Global Warming, Ocean Acidification, Light Energy |
| Marine Labs | Eg. Ocean Spills Lab, Ocean Floor Model, Icebergs and Eggbergs Lab |
| STEM Marine Project | Eg. SUBS in Schools ROVs, Pasco Airbag Project |

Students will be equipped to broaden their study of the Sciences in Year 11 and Year 12, leading into further study at university or future employment.





Specialist Marine Practical

The Specialist Marine Practical classes are aligned to the Western Australian Curriculum for Physical Education, offering students a unique, hands-on educational experience with a focus on the marine environment.

Beginning in our college swimming pool and transitioning to the sparkling waters of the Indian Ocean, our students are immersed in an aquatic journey that highlights the principles of water safety and marine conservation. They will develop an appreciation for sustainability and discover how to protect and restore the biodiversity within marine ecosystems.

Across the four years of the program students will be engaged in a variety of practical units including:

Water Safety

Sailing

Fishing

Snorkelling

Power Boating

Camp Crafts

Paddle Sports

SCUBA Diving

Sustainability/Leave No Trace

Additionally, students in the Specialist Marine Studies Program have the opportunity to complete Endorsed Programs, which are recognised within a student's attainment of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) in Year 12. Programs offered through the Specialist Marine Practical course include:

- Western Australian Recreational Skippers Ticket
- PADI Open Water Diver
- Bronze Medallion



Opportunities

The Specialist Marine Studies Program has strong links within the local community. These partnerships are ever-growing, support our program and provide students with additional guidance and opportunity, enabling them to visualise future career pathways. Links include:

- Fremantle Ports
- Universities and TAFE
- CSIRO
- Maritime Industry
- Australasian Maritime Association

Each year students are involved in excursions, incursions and camps, engaging them to reflect upon and utilise the knowledge and skills gained in the program.

We know that when we protect our oceans
we're protecting our future... Bill Clinton



Our Facilities

Fremantle College is uniquely located on the doorstep of the pristine Indian Ocean, with unparalleled access to the beaches, river, ports and maritime industry. Our connection to this location allows students within the Specialist Marine Studies Program to engage with real-world learning, merging school content with genuine experiences.

Our state-of-the-art Maritime Trade Training Centre provides students with a dedicated space to build upon their STEM skills within a marine context. Learning spaces, wet areas, industry-quality machinery and engine models enable students to actively engage in hands-on learning that is relevant and transferable.

The Olympic size swimming pool within the grounds of Fremantle College supports students' skill development and confidence, and is the ideal backdrop for activities designed to enhance team building and cooperation.

Purpose-built Marine Science labs are equipped with the tools necessary for problem solving, inspiration and reflection. Qualified Marine Science teaching staff work alongside the students, creating a culture of excellence, positive relationships and respect for the marine environment.





Applying for Specialist Marine Studies

Selection into the Specialist Marine Studies Program is highly sought after and competitive. Places are offered on the basis of each applicant's performance in the selection requirements specific to the program, which include an interview, review of academic achievement and evidence of swimming ability.

Academic achievement is assessed based on school reports and NAPLAN data. As an enrichment and extension program it is necessary for students to be able to access the curriculum at the required pace.

Students are required to have achieved a minimum Level 8 in the Department of Education Swimming and Water Safety Continuum to be considered for this program. The Specialist Marine Studies Program is a high cost offering and fee payment is compulsory.

For further information on our Specialist Marine Studies program please contact Fremantle College on (08) 9338 8900 or via email: fremantle.college@education.wa.edu.au





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