Marine Science draws on a range of disciplines to advance our understanding of the functioning and management of the oceans. Our students have a diverse range of ethnic backgrounds including Māori and Pacific people, and come from all over New Zealand and around the world.

What you will learn
Marine Science is the scientific study of the oceans and combines research areas in aquaculture, coastal processes, fisheries science, marine biology, marine conservation, marine ecology, marine geology, ocean management and oceanography to explore the marine habitat. Alongside learning about the theory of Marine Science, you will have the opportunity to develop practical skills in research design and analysis of the marine environment.

Leigh Marine Laboratory
Marine Science is centred at the Leigh Marine Laboratory, which offers unique opportunities in marine research. Facilities include a 16m research vessel and several smaller boats, diving support, a flow-through seawater system for tank experiments, onsite accommodation for students and visitors, a library and access to the University's online resources, aquaculture facilities, a meteorological station and well-equipped laboratories.

Choosing a subject
With so many options it's sometimes hard to choose what you want to study, but we've got you covered. You can study a double major with our Bachelor of Science to gain a broader base of skills and knowledge.

Complementary majors include:
- Biological Sciences
- Earth Sciences
- Environmental Science
- Geography
- Mathematics
- Statistics

You don’t have to have taken any particular subject at high school to study Marine Science with us. However biology, chemistry, geography, physics, mathematics or statistics will provide you with helpful background knowledge. You'll also use written and oral communication skills, so high school English is a useful subject too.