

4.

Opportunities/ Facilities

The Senior College Marine Studies Teacher works with local providers and TAFE to allow students to access resources and experiences otherwise unattainable. Students will SCUBA dive on the Solitary Islands with Jetty Dive, which supplies all equipment and boat journeys as part of the course.

Maritime Operations is delivered in association with TAFE so students will have the opportunity to undertake practicals on the Cougar Cat, a commercial fishing charter vessel.

Working with both Jetty Dive and TAFE, The Senior College runs a Year 11 excursion to the University of Queensland Heron Island Research Station each August. Qualified students will be able to SCUBA dive and undertake some maritime operations skills whilst on the Island.



5.

Career Opportunities

The oceans cover 70 per cent of the surface of the earth and offer a range of career and lifestyle options related to the marine sciences and maritime operations.

The oceans are some of the most poorly understood ecosystems on the planet and offer some of the greatest opportunities for recreation, study, work and travel. This massive natural resource is also under constant pressures of our modern society. With complex matters such as fishing, aquaculture, tourism, resource extraction, waste management and global climate change, the need for highly trained marine science and maritime operations professionals continues to grow.

Students exiting this course have the opportunity to:

- Engage in further study at University or TAFE - Marine Biology, Ecology, Environmental Science, Anthropology, Marine Engineering, Ecotourism, Seafaring Master Class 1-5.
- Ocean seafaring - Work in the maritime industry on commercial vessels.



Marine Studies

YEAR 11 & YEAR 12 COURSES



COFFS HARBOUR
SENIOR COLLEGE

1.

Why do Marine Studies?

The Marine Studies Syllabus offers a broad range of options related to Marine Science and Technology.

Two major components of the course are SCUBA diving and Maritime Operations. Competence in SCUBA diving increases awareness and appreciation of the marine environment, a useful attribute for students who wish to undertake further study in marine science.

SCUBA diving allows students to spend time identifying marine species and investigating marine ecologies. Maritime Operations is a comprehensive course in its own right, developing vocational competence in commercial boat handling, navigation, shipboard safety and seamanship.

By the end of the course, a student of Marine Studies will have developed an appreciation of the marine environment and its workings. They will have become skilled in operating in this environment.

2.

Course Description (structure/delivery)

YEAR 11 COURSE

This is a complete course. Students exit with 2 units at the end of Term 3 in Year 11.

- Open Water or Advanced SCUBA accreditation
- Statement of Attainment or Certificate II Maritime Operations with North Coast TAFE (opening the way to a Coxswain's Certificate)
- Radio Operators Licence.

YEAR 12 COURSE

Students can resume Marine Studies in Year 12 (beginning in Term 4 of Year 11).

- Advanced SCUBA accreditation or specialty dive course leading to Master Diver
- Certificate II Maritime Operations
- First Aid Certification
- Recreational Boat Licence.

3.

Due to the fact that many of the areas of study are facilitated by outside educational providers, there are costs and extensive time commitments required as part of this course.

The cost of the Open Water SCUBA course is approximately \$500 for tuition, resources and 6 dives.

The Maritime Operations course is free to students who are not undertaking any other vocational training through TAFE.

In order to complete the SCUBA and Maritime Operations components of the course, significant practical components need to be undertaken. This entails a number of part and whole day excursions onto and under the ocean.

In order to complete the Maritime Operations course and receive Certificate II, students may elect to attend additional classes with TAFE in the evenings at the Coffs Harbour Senior College Campus.

The undertaking of the SCUBA course requires a certain level of health and fitness. Asthmatic students are strongly recommended to seek medical approval before they enrol in this course.