



Dear Students,

We are looking forward to your participation in the Marine Science Scholars Program at Western Washington University's Shannon Point Marine Center (SPMC) this fall. Thank you for your patience as we have been working to get more clarity on how it will be possible to offer the program this year. We think we have enough certainly at this point that we can share the planned schedule. This does remain subject to change as guidance from the State of Washington evolves in the coming months.

- Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup>: Students arrive at SPMC, move into SPMC dorms.
- September 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> (Monday –Friday): MSS programming and experiential learning
- Saturday September 18<sup>th</sup>: Students move into on campus dorms (transportation to campus provided)
- Throughout fall quarter your MSS cohort will meet weekly with your instructors and participate in several weekend field trips

The Shannon Point course will include intensive study of local marine environments and the organisms that live there. Dr. Jim Cooper will be the primary instructor though many other SPMC faculty and staff will be involved in the course. The course is part of your regular Fall Quarter registration. If you will be attending [WWU Summerstart](#), you should register for BIOL 110. This 4-credit course will include not only the one-week program at Shannon Point, but also a weekly, one-hour long meeting as a group with the primary faculty on the main campus as a follow-up and several Saturday sessions during the quarter. You should also be aware that if you decide to register for more than 18 credits (14 credits in addition to MACS 110) for Fall Quarter, you will be charged for the extra credits. Students who do not attend Summerstart will attend [Fall Advising and Orientation](#) to complete your campus orientation, academic advising, and class registration process.

You should plan to arrive at SPMC on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. If you intend to fly, the best connection is through Sea-Tac International Airport in Seattle. [Bellair Airporter Shuttle](#) service provides transportation directly from the airport to Anacortes. We can meet you at the shuttle stop and bring you to the Marine Center. Please note that reservations on the airporter are required and you should specify the destination as the **Old Salts Deli/Skyline** stop in Anacortes. *You should reserve a seat on the shuttle at your earliest convenience.* Please let us know your travel plans so we can follow your itinerary on September 12<sup>th</sup> and meet you at the shuttle.

You will be in shared dorm rooms at SPMC until September 18<sup>th</sup> when we will arrange to transport you to the main campus for your check-in at housing.

This fall, the WWU On-Campus Housing would like for students to schedule their move in times to their dorms in advance. The ["Move In App"](#) opens August 16<sup>th</sup> at 9am. Please schedule a time 11am or later on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

You are encouraged to bring to SPMC only what you will need for the one-week course. You may ship additional items to WWU as outlined on the University Residences [website](#). Alternatively, you may find it useful to have family members or others meet you on campus the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup> with your additional

personal items. Finally, if none of these options will work, you may bring everything with you to SPMC on the 12<sup>th</sup> and we will store it and transport it to campus with you. However, if that is your plan, I suggest that you ship most of it to us in advance, given that the Airporter shuttle has limited space for luggage and will charge fees for extra items.

Attached is a list of things **required** to bring with you as well as those we would *recommend* you bring. Typically, the days are warm in September, but the nights are always cool, and the water is cold! The recommended list addresses these realities. If you have a laptop, I encourage you to bring it, although you need not purchase one specifically for this course.

During your one-week stay at SPMC, meals will be provided. As indicated in the Marine Scholar Award Letter, SPMC will cover part of the room and board costs and the other portion will be covered by each student participating in the course. This year, the amount to be paid by each student for the housing and dining fee will be \$325 (reduced from \$550 for two weeks). The Housing & Dining fee will be added to your student account upon registration for MACS 110: Marine Habitat Diversity. *If you have special dietary needs, please let us know **before July 31st** and we will make the necessary arrangements.* If you have other special needs, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Thank you for your interest in WWU and SPMC. We are looking forward very much to your arrival in Anacortes in September and to working with you during your tenure at Western. The best way to provide us information or ask questions is by e-mail addressed to Debbie Arthur ([arthurd2@wwu.edu](mailto:arthurd2@wwu.edu)).

Sincerely,



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