# MASC Student Timeline

## Optional Early Summer Semester
- Take elective course(s) either at IMS or in Chapel Hill
- Meet and interact with Marine Sciences faculty
- Begin preliminary research project

## 1st Fall Semester
- Take MASC Core Course(s) (Typically **MASC 504** and/or **MASC 506**)
- Request waiver from any Core Course(s) taken elsewhere (1st week of semester)
- Take **MASC 705 How to Give a Seminar** (This is a pre-requisite for **MASC 706**)
- Take elective advanced courses
- Meet and interact with Marine Science faculty

## 1st Spring Semester
- Take Core Course(s) (Typically **MASC 503** and/or **MASC 505**)
- Take elective advanced courses
- Take **MASC 706** and present an interdisciplinary seminar (May be delayed until the following year)
- Meet with interim Advisory Committee (required Spring meeting) and establish permanent Advisory Committee
- Meet and interact with Marine Science faculty

## 2nd Fall Semester
- Complete Core Courses
- Take **MASC 705**, if not completed
- Take **MASC 706** and present an interdisciplinary seminar, if not completed
- Take elective advanced courses
- Conduct research
- Meet with Advisory Committee (Required Fall meeting)

## 2nd Fall Semester
- Complete Core Courses
- M.S. students take written comprehensive exam
- Conduct research
- Meet with Advisory Committee (Required Spring meeting)

## Thereafter
- M.S. students present a research seminar
  (Well before thesis defense or prior to M.S. By-Pass request)
- Request M.S. By-Pass, if applicable
- **Ph.D. students take comprehensive exam**
- Research to completion of degree
- Meet with Advisory Committee every Fall and Spring Semester
- Present Final Seminar and defend thesis or dissertation