Degree Programs Offered

- BS/BA Biology
- BS Biology - Concentration in Molecular Biology
- BS Marine Biology
- BS Biology Teacher Education Program (Grades 9-12)
- MS Marine Biology

Student Body and Departmental Strengths

- >700 students majoring in biology (160-180 graduates annually)
- >180 students majoring in marine biology (25-35 graduates annually)
- >40 marine MS biology graduate students
- Emphasis on experiential learning:
  - >100 students complete independent research projects each year
  - >65 students complete a study abroad experience each year.
  - Recent programs sponsored by our department included trips to Bali (Dr. Dustan), British Virgin Islands (Dr. Day), Panama (Dr. Plante), Bahamas (Dr. Sotka), Germany (Dr. Korey), and Spain (Dr. Sotka)

Faculty and Staff

- 35 full-time faculty
- 3 visiting professors
- 8 permanent staff members
- New and continued external grant funding = $4.6M
- 76 research publications by faculty in 2021/2022
- 30 research publications annually with student coauthors

Facilities

- Four introductory teaching laboratories in Lightsey Center
- Recently renovated RITA Science Center
  - 18 advanced teaching laboratories
  - 27 student/faculty research laboratories
  - 5 lecture classrooms
  - 37 faculty/staff offices
- Two field laboratories at the Stono Preserve (1000+ acre field site)
- Grice Marine Laboratory
  - 4 marine biology faculty/student research laboratories
  - 2 teaching laboratories
  - 2 lecture classrooms
  - 15 faculty/staff offices
  - 5 rooms for overnight visitors with kitchen facilities
- Three environmentally-controlled greenhouses
- Hollings Marine Laboratory- shared federal research facility

Contacts for More Information

- **Department Chair:** Dr. Eric McElroy - RITA 247 - 843.953.5504 - mcelroye@cofc.edu
- **Associate Chair of Biology:** Dr. Melissa Hughes - RITA 217 - 843.953.5504 - hughesm@cofc.edu
- **Assistant Chair of Biology:** Dr. Courtney Murren - RITA 207 - 843.953.5504 - murrenc@cofc.edu
- **Undergraduate Marine Biology Advisor:** Dr. Gorka Sancho - GML 206 - 843.953.9194 sanchog@cofc.edu
- **Marine Biology Graduate Program Director:** Dr. Craig Plante - Grice 104 - 843.953.9187 - plantec@cofc.edu