The Pacific Northwest coast is one of the most majestic and beautiful coastlines in the world. It is also one of the best-studied by marine biologists. We will travel throughout the region, making an in-depth study of the biology that lives along its shores, from sea stars to sea lions. See this video tour that includes many of the sites we will visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pouXKvwrfor

We will use the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB), located in Coos Bay, Oregon, as our home base for much of the trip. Students will visit rocky, sandy, and muddy shores to study the ecology of these systems in depth. The focus of this program will be on field research. Students will gain knowledge and experience in research methods in marine biology/ ecology, and will participate in research projects directed by Dr. Griffen. The program will be ideal preparation for those considering graduate school in marine biology, but is open to all interested students.

DATES
1 May–17 June 2023 (approx.)

HOUSING
Students will reside in dorms at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, with some camping and hotel stays.

COURSES OFFERED
Students are required to enroll in 6 credit hours during the spring term program, including the following:

BIO 399—Academic Internship (3 credits). This course will focus on field methods for studying marine biology.
BIO 559R—Marine Ecology (3 credits). This course will focus on advanced topics in marine ecology.

Participants may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program director and ISP.
COST
$2,800–3,300

Includes Latter-day Saint undergraduate full tuition (increased cost for graduate and non-Latter-day Saint students), housing, travel to and from the program in university vans, travel within the region for field studies, meals in the OIMB cafeteria during the portion of the trip while we are stationed at the OIMB, entrance fees, and equipment rental.

Does not include airfare (for students who elect not to travel to and from the program in university vehicles), preparation course tuition, or personal expenses. Students will cover some of their own meals, including on weekends and on field trips and during the last weeks of the trip when we will no longer be at the OIMB.

PREPARATION
A prerequisite is Ecology (BIO 350). This course provides the basic background required to undertake the in-depth study during the field program.

Students are required to participate in additional evening meetings that will be held as an additional course (IAS 201R) during the second block of winter semester 2023. Part-time and non-BYU students will need to pay an additional tuition fee for enrolling in the prep class. Accompanying spouses need to be credit-bearing participants on the program. Spouses will also need to apply online and take the preparation course.

Students must meet all country- and program-specific COVID and health requirements for travel.

FUNDING SOURCES
Regular BYU tuition scholarships, Pell Grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to this program. Students who submit the financial aid section of the ISP application and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB) will be considered for a study abroad scholarship. Academic departments and colleges may assist with scholarships and grants.

University funding is available to help fund experiential learning. Contact Dr. Griffen for details.
Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may also assist (see http://kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships).

APPLICATION PROCESS
Students must be 18 years of age or older to participate. Complete the online application at kennedy.byu.edu/isp-apply. A nonrefundable $35 application fee is required; applicants will be interviewed once the application is complete. Students will be notified via e-mail of their acceptance into the program. The first payment is due upon acceptance.

Application Deadline: 15 December 2022

FACULTY
Dr. Blaine Griffen is the faculty director of the program. Dr. Griffen is an associate professor in the Department of Biology at Brigham Young University. Feel free to contact him with any questions you have.

blaine_griffen@byu.edu

INTERESTED STUDENTS CAN ALSO CONTACT
International Study Programs
101 HRCB
isp@byu.edu
801-422-3686
http://kennedy.byu.edu/isp

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS
ISP reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost estimates due to conditions beyond its control.