



**Murdoch**  
UNIVERSITY

Perth | Dubai | Singapore

**DATE**

Monday 26 June –  
Tuesday 18 July 2017

**LOCATION**

Murdoch University and  
Coral Bay, Western Australia

**PRICE**

AUS\$6,580

**CREDIT VALUE**

3 Murdoch Credit Points

# Tropical Marine Biology Short Course

## Overview

Murdoch University has an outstanding reputation for Marine and Environmental Science – we were the first university in Australia to offer Environmental Science and the first in Western Australia to offer Marine Science.

Murdoch University is home of the Centre for Fish and Fisheries Research, with links to the Western Australian Marine Science Institute (WAMSI). Murdoch also owns and operates the Coral Bay Research Station, located on the World Heritage-listed Ningaloo Reef.

The Tropical Marine Biology intensive short course covers three main areas:

- The diversity and physical processes of Western Australia's marine habitats
- A focus on coral reef environments; the biodiversity of reef organisms
- Biological processes, with a focus on coral reef ecosystems.





## Coral Bay and the Ningaloo Marine Park

Coral Bay is located 1131km north of Perth and is located within the Ningaloo Marine Park.

Coral Bay's great appeal is its access to the 280km Ningaloo Reef which lies close to the shore and forms a protected natural lagoon, ideal for people wishing to fish, snorkel, scuba dive or explore the reef.

Lying just north of the Tropic of Capricorn, the waters are warm for most of the year and the beaches, like most of the beaches on the Western Australian coast, are white, undisturbed and beautifully clean.

Coral Bay lies near the middle of the Ningaloo Marine Park which runs along the coast from Ref Bluff (150km to the south) to Bundegi on North West Cape, just north of Exmouth. It includes all the coastline of the Cape Range National Parks as well as Point Cloates.

The Marine Park was declared in 1987 in an attempt to protect Western Australia's largest coral reef and control public access to it. It is a unique area because it is here that the Australian continent is closest to the continental shelf and the reef is backed by a dry landmass, resulting in very clear water. The Ningaloo Coast was listed as a World Heritage Area in 2011.

The reef boasts more than 250 hard coral species, and more than 470 species of fish. It is one of the world's most pristine coral reefs and much more accessible than the Great Barrier Reef.

## Course structure

- A 10-day intensive field camp to Coral Bay
- 15 hours of theory classes at the Murdoch campus (lectures and videos taught in blocks)
- 2 laboratory classes and computer workshops
- One tutorial

## Assessment

Credit Value: 3 Murdoch Credit Points

- Tutorial participation (10%)
- Theory examination (30%)
- Group presentations (30%)
- Final project reports (30%)

## Fees

The cost of the course is AU\$6,580 and includes:

- 10-day field trip to Coral Bay
- Fully serviced apartment on campus at Murdoch University Student Village while in Perth
- Accommodation during field camp
- All food while away in Coral Bay
- Airport pickup
- Glass Bottom Boat Tour while in Coral Bay
- Charter Boat Wildlife Cruise (potential whale spotting)
- Snorkelling trip
- Snorkelling equipment (if not bringing own)

To apply for this course visit  
[murdoch.edu.au/tropical-marine](http://murdoch.edu.au/tropical-marine)

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The information contained in this publication was correct as at February 2017, but is subject to amendment without notice. The University reserves the right to cancel, without notice, any units or courses if the number of students enrolled in these falls below limits set by the University.