

**Dauphin Island Sea Lab  
Discovery Hall Programs  
Marine Science - Summer High School Program**



**SUMMER 2016: June 19 – July 15, 2016**

Discovery Hall Programs (DHP) Marine Science class is an intensive 4 week exploration of marine science for students in grades 9-12. During this academic class, students participate in lectures and discussions, individual and group assignments, laboratory and field exercises, written and practical exams, oral presentations and field projects. Members of DHP's year-round staff of professional educators teach the course. The goal of this course is to allow students to gain a better understanding and appreciation of the marine world. Students also gain an understanding of marine science as a possible career choice.



During the 4 weeks of the course, students live on the Dauphin Island Sea Lab campus in a well-supervised setting and participate in over 150 hours of academic activities. Course topics covered include marine vertebrate and invertebrate animals, marine plants, taxonomy and identification of species, estuarine ecology, salt marsh ecology, oceanography, barrier island dynamics, beach and dune ecology, plankton communities and human-ocean interactions. Field activities include weekly trips aboard the Sea Lab's research vessel, the *Alabama Discovery*, trips to local salt marshes, to barrier island shores, a behind-the-scenes tour at an aquarium and an overnight snorkeling trip. Students work with sampling gear such as plankton nets, otter/shrimp trawls, seine nets, bottom grabs and instruments that sense water quality characteristics. Other activities include dissections, identification labs, GPS mapping and an individual research project. The Alabama State Department of Education has approved this class and recommends that schools grant participating students credit towards an Advanced or Standard high school diploma.



The Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL) is the marine research and education facility for the State of Alabama. As such it houses academic faculty conducting research on many aspects of marine science in local and far off areas. During the summer, DISL also serves undergraduates of 22 colleges and universities with a 12 week summer session of college courses. DISL is home to the *Estuarium*, an aquarium that focuses on the local waters of Mobile Bay and the Gulf of Mexico. This academic setting is very conducive to an immersive and fun experience in marine science.

**COURSE ADMISSION & PREREQUISITES:** High school students who have completed (by summer) grades 9-12 are eligible to apply. A course in general biology is strongly recommended, but not required. Selection is based on interest, teacher recommendations, grades and a personal essay.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** DHP is offering 1 full scholarship for students interested in a research experience immediately following completion of the class. Please see the website for details and requirements.

**APPLICATION FEE: \$50 - non-refundable;** checks made payable to the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. This fee does not apply to the program's cost. **Any application fee postmarked after April 4, 2016 will be accepted as non-refundable** even in the event a student's application file is incomplete.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 4, 2016** or until all positions are filled.

**PROGRAM COST: \$2200 – includes tuition, housing, meals, lab fees and field trip costs.** If accepted, a **deposit of \$1000 must be paid prior to May 20** to reserve the student's enrollment. **The balance of \$1200 is due at check-in.** Program costs are non-refundable. If a student must withdraw prior to the beginning of the course, the deposit may be returned if notice of withdrawal is communicated to the DHP registrar in writing at least 7 days prior to check-in day.

Please see our website, [www.disl.org/marine-science-course-for-high-school-students](http://www.disl.org/marine-science-course-for-high-school-students) for more information.

*NOTE: DHP reserves the right to cancel the program if enrollment is inadequate.*