



# CofC in the British Virgin Islands

## BIOLOGY

July 8- July 22, 2019

**PROGRAM FEE- \$3,928\***

\*(Subject to change & does not include tuition)

**Students take one of the following courses:**

**BIOL 250: Field Studies in Coral Reef Biology- 4 cr.**  
(for non-majors)

**OR**

**BIOL 453: Field Studies in Coral Reef Biology- 4 cr.**  
(for majors)

This course introduces undergraduate students to the organismal biology, ecology, and conservation of the Caribbean coral reef ecosystem in the British Virgin Islands. The emphasis is placed on field methods and labs, including SCUBA-based field experiments that provide hands-on experience and contribute to ongoing research projects. Lectures cover the biodiversity, systematics, and population and community-level ecology of predominant species of macroalgae, fishes and invertebrates and are paired with onboard or in-water lab exercises. The program is conducted aboard an 80 foot Burger yacht that will serve as our new teaching and research platform. Each day the class sails to a new island in the archipelago to investigate and explore new habitats, and receive practical training in the nautical sciences and SCUBA that prepare them to be a competent member of a research crew or field team. The program is conducted in collaboration with a 501(c)3 organization called the Marine science And Nautical Training Academy (MANTA, [www.manta-online.org](http://www.manta-online.org)).

## Why Participate in a CofC Summer Study Abroad Program?

- Go abroad with CofC faculty and fellow CofC students for 1 to 5 weeks during the summer term
- Earn CofC credit towards your major, minor, general education, or elective requirements
- Most, if not all, travel logistics arranged by the College (program fee and arrangements vary by program)
- Pay CofC in-state tuition or reduced out-of-state tuition
- Scholarships ranging from \$500-\$1,500 available through the Center for International Education; additional scholarships available through other CofC departments
- You may be eligible for additional financial aid during the summer term
- Come home with a lifetime of memories and the strong desire to go abroad again!

## Faculty Information:

CofC in British Virgin Isles Program Director:  
Dr. Rusty Day- [rusty.day@manta-online.org](mailto:rusty.day@manta-online.org)

## To Learn More:

Visit us online:

<http://international.cofc.edu>

Visit us in person:

207 Calhoun Street, Charleston, SC 29424

Call us:

(843)953-7661

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COLLEGE of  
CHARLESTON

CENTER FOR  
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

# College of Charleston Summer 2019 British Virgin Islands

## Program Dates:

**July 8 - 22, 2019**

## Program Fee:

**\$3,928\***

(\*subject to change and does not include tuition or round-trip airfare)



## Program Courses: (students choose one course)

**BIOL 250 + Lab: Field Studies in Coral Reef Biology-4 cr. (non-majors)**

**BIOL 453 + Lab: Field Studies in Coral Reef Biology-4 cr. (majors)**

## Program Information:

Students study the biology, ecology, and conservation of the Caribbean coral reef ecosystem. The emphasis is placed on field methods and labs, including field experiments that contribute to ongoing research projects. The program is conducted aboard an 80 foot luxury Burger motoryacht that serves as the accommodations, transportation, classroom, and research platform. Each day the class will cruise to a new island in the archipelago of the British Virgin Islands to investigate new habitats. Students also receive practical nautical training (seamanship, navigation, small boat handling, knots) to better prepare them as deckhands aboard a research vessel, they will earn their PADI Open Water, Advanced, or Specialty Scuba certification, and gain hands-on research diving experience. Students are required to complete the classroom portion of PADI's diver training online prior to departure for the trip. The program is conducted in collaboration with the non-profit organization called the Marine science And Nautical Training Academy (MANTA, [www.manta-online.org](http://www.manta-online.org)).

Students participating in this course should expect the following conditions/activities: snorkeling, SCUBA diving, swimming, hiking, tropical summer heat, lifting scuba tanks, living aboard a boat, and prolonged physical activity.

## Program Director:

**Dr. Rusty Day, Biology Department/Grice Marine Lab, [dayrd@cofc.edu](mailto:dayrd@cofc.edu) or [rusty.day@manta-online.org](mailto:rusty.day@manta-online.org), 843 817-7791**  
Dr. Rusty Day is an Adjunct Professor of Biology at CofC and the Executive Director of MANTA. He has a diverse scientific background that includes tropical field ecology, fisheries, wildlife toxicology, and chemical tracers in marine organisms. Dr. Day has directed the BVI study abroad program since 2010 and is also a PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer, and licensed U.S. Coast Guard Captain.

## To Apply:

Applications can be found online through the Center for International Education's website, <https://cofc.abroadoffice.net>, as well as on MANTA's website (<http://manta-online.org/college-application/>). For further questions on the application process, please contact **Stephanie Leahy** at the Center for International Education, [leahys@cofc.edu](mailto:leahys@cofc.edu), 843-953-7823.

The Program fee of **\$3,928\*** includes a non-refundable \$50 application fee, lodging, meals, and medical insurance. **TUITION FOR THE COURSE AND ROUND-TRIP AIRFARE ARE NOT INCLUDED.**

Application deadline is **March 1, 2019**. Program fee will be posted to the student's MyCharleston account once the application has been submitted to, and approved by, the CIE. Scholarships of up to \$1500 are available to CofC students for study abroad. Eligibility is based on demonstrated financial aid and academic merit.