The PhD in Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology (EEMB) program provides students with advanced course work and training in ecology, evolution, and marine biology. Students admitted with a master’s degree must take two semesters of colloquium. Transcripts detailing their previous course work will be submitted upon arrival to their dissertation committee and the marine and environmental sciences graduate committee to determine whether additional course work is required. The dissertation committee may require the student to pursue additional course work as needed to provide the necessary background for their program of study. Additional course work may also be required depending on the student’s performance on written qualifying and oral examinations.

Students must pass three examinations during the course of their graduate studies:

1. A written examination consisting of questions posed by the student’s written examination committee.
2. An oral examination by the student’s dissertation committee consisting of an oral presentation and defense of the student’s dissertation proposal and including questions about the research areas that the student proposes to work in.
3. A defense of the student’s written dissertation consisting of a public seminar, public question-and-answer period, and private defense of their work to their dissertation committee. Dissertation committees consist of at least four Northeastern faculty and one external faculty member.

A cumulative GPA of 3.000 is required for graduation. All PhD students are required to have at least one first-authored publication submitted to or accepted in a peer-reviewed journal prior to their defense. The PhD will be awarded following submission of a dissertation, approved by the candidate’s dissertation committee, to the College of Science.

**Program Requirements**
Complete all courses and requirements listed below unless otherwise indicated.

**Milestones**
Qualifying examination  
Annual review  
Candidacy  
Dissertation committee  
Dissertation proposal  
Dissertation proposal defense  
First-author publication  
Dissertation defense

**Requirements**

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EEMB 8986</td>
<td>Research</td>
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<td>Complete the following (repeatable) course twice:</td>
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<td>EEMB 7100</td>
<td>Colloquium</td>
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**Dissertation**
Complete the following (repeatable) course twice:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EEMB 9990</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
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**Program Credit/GPA Requirements**
2 total semester hours required