

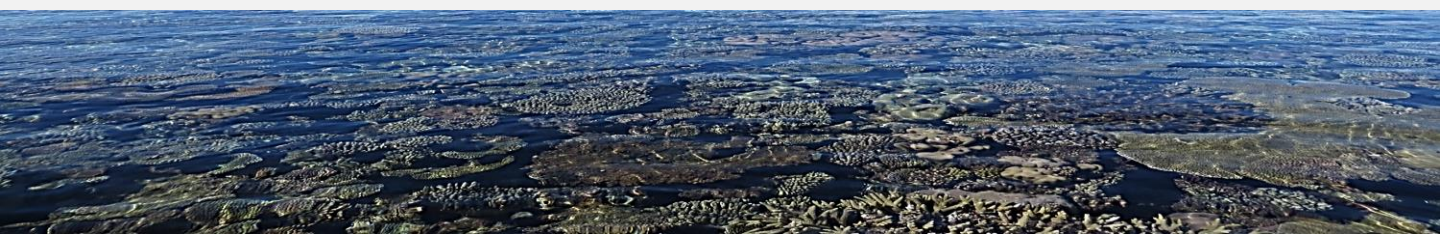
Postgraduate Course: Summer School

Coral Reef Systems: Form and Function

Overview: This course provides a unique opportunity to study and examine the physical ecological and oceanographic processes of tropical coral reef systems. Topics include: the structure and formation of coral reefs, reef geomorphology, coral reef ecology, reef hydrodynamics and ecomorphodynamic processes. You will learn fundamental concepts and field techniques for use in tropical coral reef systems. The course will 100% internally assessed.

Course Schedule

<i>Days</i>	<i>Activity</i>
Day 1	Arrive in Male'
Day 2	Male' Tour of the most densely populated atoll island in the world including sites of cultural and geological significance. Introduction to local hosts and preparations for course.
Day 3	Transfer to Fares Mathooda Research Station We will fly from Male' island to Kaadedhoo airport in Gaaf Dhaal, the largest atoll in the world. We will then transfer to the island of Fares-Mathooda by speed boat.
Day 4	Geological structure of reefs & origins of the Maldivian archipelago
Day 5	Holocene evolution of reefs Reef fabric and growth, styles and rates of development relative to sea level, reef flat formation and methods to examine reef development.
Day 6	Ecological complexities of coral reefs I. Corals, coral growth, communities and ecosystem services and environment stresses
Day 7	Ecological complexities of coral reefs II The role of macrofauna on reef health, carbonate cycling and
Day 8	Field surveys
Day 9	Carbonate budgets Ecological – geological linkages and cycling of carbonate within reef systems
Day 10	Oceanography/Hydrodynamics of reef systems Sea level, tide and wave processes that modulate ecological and geological processes
Day 11	Field experiments
Day 12	Reef islands Formation, structure and dynamics of reef islands and human impacts
Day 13	Complete field experiments and course wrap up
Day 14	Transfer to Male and depart



Coral Reef Systems: Form and Function

Course Costs:

- 1. Travel to Maldives.** The course will start on February in Male', capital city of the Maldives. All students should make their own travel arrangements to the Maldives. If you need some advice on travel options please email the course co-ordinators.
- 2. In country costs.** Once in the Maldives the following costs will be incurred:
 - Internal air travel to Gaaf Dhaal atoll = US\$ 250
 - Boat transfer Gaaf Dhaal to research station = US\$ 70
 - Accommodation at research station (US\$50 per night) = US\$ 600
 - 3 nights accommodation in Male' (US\$50 per night) = US\$ 150

TOTAL = US\$ 1070 (~NZ \$1700)

Enrolment:

- This 15 point course will be offered as a Special Topic in Earth Sciences.
- The course is limited to a maximum of **14** students. Entry will be by approval of the Head of School.

Teaching Team:

- Course Co-ordinator: Professor Paul Kench - p.kench@auckland.ac.nz
- Lecturer: Dr Susan Owen – s.owen@auckland.ac.nz

**Please register your intent to participate in the course by emailing
reefstudies @auckland.ac.nz**

