

Marine Science A-Level

Fast-track your future in marine science with an immersive, hands-on A-Level course!



Sustainable Oceanic Research
Conservation and Education

Introduction

The SORCE Marine Science A-Level is an intensive and immersive programme designed for students who aspire to pursue further study or careers in marine science, conservation, and related fields. Delivered over 16 weeks, this course provides a unique opportunity to complete a full Cambridge International A-Level in an accelerated format while gaining extensive practical experience in marine research and conservation.

Located in Sekotong, Lombok, Indonesia, at the heart of the Coral Triangle, this course offers direct access to some of the most biologically diverse marine ecosystems on Earth. You will engage in both theoretical and practical learning, supported by a team of experienced marine scientists, conservationists, and educators. The curriculum integrates classroom-based instruction with fieldwork, scientific diving, and conservation projects, ensuring a well-rounded and applied understanding of marine science.

Why Choose This Program?

- Your base for every Dive, Discussion, and Discovery - At SORCE, we are more than a field school, we are a community. Based at our purpose-built marine research and learning centre in the heart of the Secret Gillis, where you'll learn directly from the reef, mangroves, and seagrass beds around you.
- Hands-On Scientific Experience - Our program blends academic learning with hands-on conservation work. Students contribute directly to reef restoration, biodiversity surveys, and marine conservation projects, building skills that go far beyond the classroom.
- Expert Guidance and Mentorship - Learn from marine scientists, conservationists, and educators who are passionate about teaching and supporting the next generation. At SORCE, learning is personal: students receive 1-on-1 support, mentorship, and encouragement every step of the way.
- A Launchpad for Marine Careers - Graduates of our Marine Science A-Level have gone on to study and work in a range of fields including: the diving industry, marine biology, conservation, and environmental science. Whether you're beginning your journey or changing careers, SORCE gives you the skills and confidence to take the next step.

This course is designed for motivated individuals seeking an alternative and fast-tracked approach to learning, whether you are looking to enhance your CV, preparing for university, taking a gap year or considering a career change.



About SORCE & the Marine Science A-Level

The Marine Science A-Level at SORCE is an academically rigorous program designed for individuals passionate about the ocean. SORCE is an established marine research and conservation centre located in Sekotong, Lombok, Indonesia, offering a unique learning environment where students combine theoretical study with real-world scientific experience. As a Cambridge International A-Level provider, SORCE integrates hands-on conservation work, scientific diving, and field-based research into the curriculum, giving you practical skills that go beyond traditional classroom learning.

The ocean is your classroom, your playground, and your inspiration. SORCE is your home while you learn to protect it.

What Makes This Course Unique?

- Integrated Conservation & Research - Students actively participate in real-world conservation projects, collecting data that contributes to marine protected area (MPA) management and reef restoration.
- Unmatched Learning Environment - Located in the Coral Triangle, this course offers direct engagement with one of the most biodiverse marine regions on Earth.
- Global Recognition - The Cambridge A-Level qualification is internationally recognised and provides a strong academic foundation for further studies.

Why Study at SORCE?

- A Learning Community by the Sea - At SORCE, education and exploration go hand-in-hand with community and care. Our home on the Secret Gilis is not just a place to study, it's a vibrant, welcoming space where students, scientists, and conservationists live and learn together.
- Connect with the Ocean - Every day here blends serious field science with the spirit of adventure. Every dive connects your learning to the natural world. From early morning dives to sunset reef walks and shared dinners by the sea, marine science becomes part of your everyday rhythm.
- Support, Science, and Belonging - What sets SORCE apart is the balance we offer: rigorous scientific training delivered within a genuine community. Our bamboo classrooms, eco-friendly accommodation, and communal spaces create a supportive environment where ideas and friendships grow side-by-side.
- A Home for Future Marine Scientists - Students are guided by passionate marine scientists who know every reef and mangrove by heart and who are as committed to your growth as a scientist as they are to welcoming you into the SORCE family.



Why Study Marine Science in Indonesia?


Indonesia is one of the most ecologically significant marine regions on Earth, making it home to the world's most biodiverse marine ecosystems, sitting at the centre of the Coral Triangle. With over 17,000 islands, it is home to over 75% of the world's coral species and more than 1,650 species of reef fish, rich mangrove forests, and thriving seagrass meadows, and offers an unparalleled environment for studying marine science. As one of the most important regions for global ocean health, Indonesia is at the forefront of marine conservation efforts, making it the perfect place to gain hands-on experience in real-world research. At SORCE, you will learn directly from the environment around you. From vibrant coral reefs teeming with life to critical ecosystem restoration projects, studying here means learning from the ocean itself while contributing to its protection.

Why Indonesia?

- Indonesia has the highest marine biodiversity on the planet.
- Study ecosystems ranging from coral reefs and mangroves.
- Hands-On Learning in a Real Marine Environment
- Conduct field research directly in the ocean, not just in a classroom.
- Gain experience in scientific diving, conservation projects, and marine surveys.
- A Global Conservation Hotspot
- The Coral Triangle is a priority for global marine conservation efforts.

At SORCE, Marine Science A-Level students don't just learn about marine ecosystems, they actively research them. Throughout the course, you will take part in scientific studies and conservation initiatives that contribute to real-world marine conservation efforts. Hands-On Research Includes:

- Marine Biodiversity Surveys - Identify and monitor coral, fish, and invertebrate populations using transect and quadrat methods.
- Reef Health Assessments - Measure coral cover, bleaching, and disease to assess ecosystem stability.
- Underwater Data Collection - Use drone surveys, BRUVs (Baited Remote Underwater Video), DOVs (Diver Operated Video) and more!
- Mangrove Restoration - Assist in mangrove collection, planting and learn about ecosystem functions.
- Reef Restoration - Conduct coral nursery maintenance, coral planting and artificial reef building.



"If you're looking for a hands-on experience to actively contribute to marine conservation while diving, SORCE is definitely the right place for you!"
-Adèle



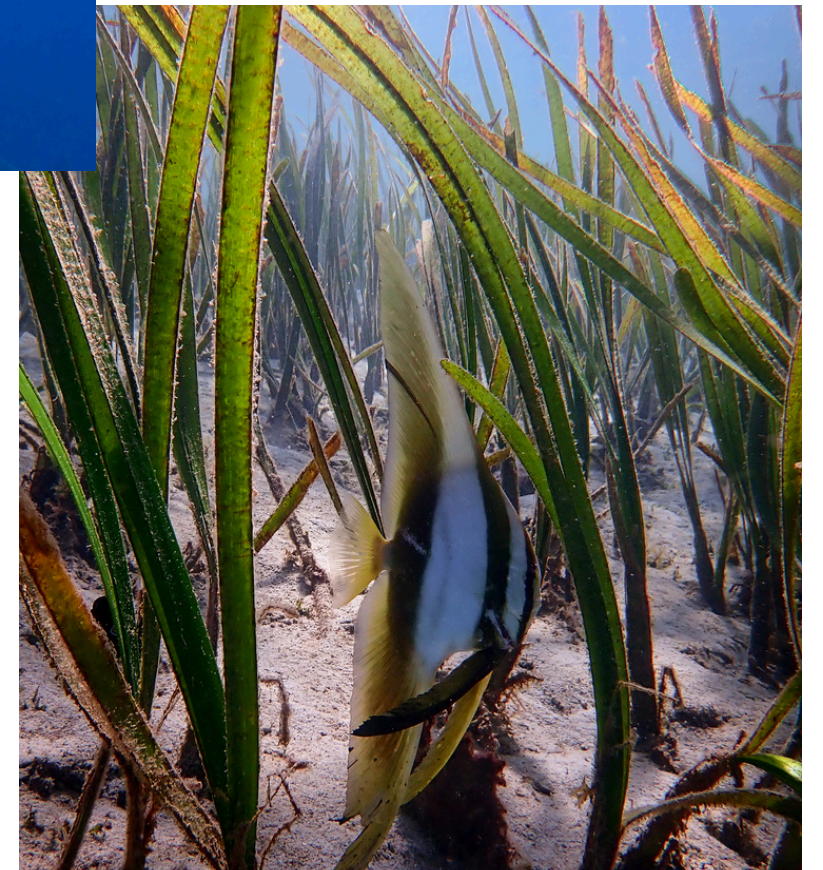
Study Location - Sekotong, Lombok

The SORCE Marine Science A-Level takes place in the Secret Gilis, an island chain southwest of Lombok, where time moves with the tides and nature still takes the lead. These islands sit within the Gita Nada Marine Park, home to vibrant coral reefs, beautiful beaches, and the quiet daily rhythms of a true tropical ecosystem.

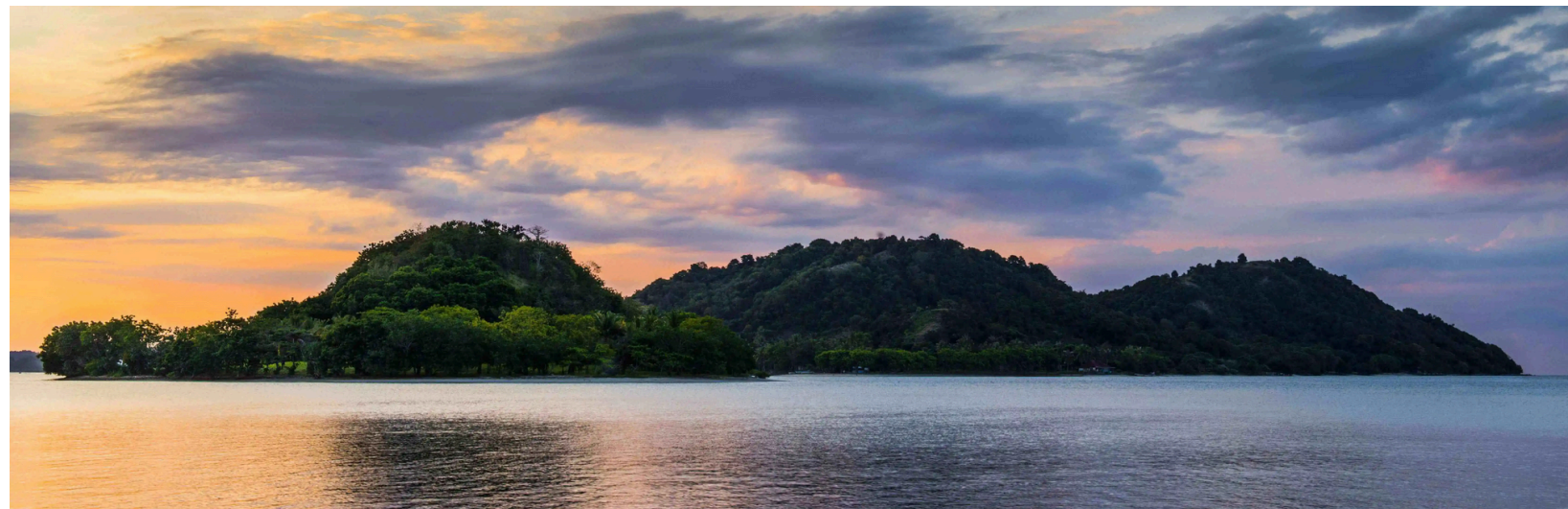
What makes this location so special isn't just its biodiversity, it's the opportunity to study marine ecosystems where they remain mostly intact. With limited development and fewer visitors, the Secret Gilis offer rare access to coral reefs, mangrove forests, and seagrass beds in a near-natural state.

Students learn not only by exploring these ecosystems but also by observing their vulnerabilities. From anchor scars on corals to the seasonal-borne arrival of plastic, this is where global marine challenges are made real and where you can help monitor, document, and respond to them.

Life here unfolds at a slower pace. Without urban distractions, you build deeper connections to your work, to the natural world, and to each other. This experience doesn't just teach marine science it prepares you to live it, with the perspective, skills, and resilience needed for a future in conservation.



"The location is stunning - fabulous sunsets over the water! - and the accommodation is very comfortable. The common spaces are attractive and well designed for social and educational activities."
-Sue



SORCE Facilities

SORCE has everything you need: your classroom, your lab, your dive store, and your home. Built along the shoreline of Sekotong, SORCE has been designed to support your journey as a marine science student, from the first lecture to your final dive. You'll study in open-air bamboo classrooms, prep your gear in the dive store, and analyse samples just steps from the ocean. Our sustainable layout puts everything within reach: research spaces, social zones, and quiet corners to revise or relax. Unlike a traditional campus, this is a place where science and simplicity meet. The reef is your front garden. The community is your support network. And your learning is shaped by the environment around you every single day.

Key Features of the SORCE Facility

Bamboo Classroom & Learning Spaces

- Open-air, sustainably built classrooms designed for interactive, field-based learning.
- Equipped with whiteboards, presentation tools, and research materials to support your studies.

Marine Research

- Conduct water testing, species ID, and reef health assessments in our on-site lab.
- Learn techniques used in real marine conservation and academic research.

On-Site Store

- Fully equipped for scientific diving and underwater research.
- Includes gear for training and exploration, plus PADI Open Water & Advanced certifications.

Student Accommodation

- Private bamboo bungalows built for sustainability and comfort.
- Each includes a bed, fan, mosquito net, and personal storage space.

Dining & Social Spaces

- Freshly prepared meals made with locally sourced ingredients, served three times a day.
- Relax in shared spaces, from the beachfront fire pit to hammock zones and beanbags.



"The facilities here are incredibly well maintained, the huts are great, the food is great, and the people are incredible."
-Hunter

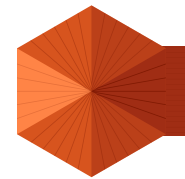


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Course Start Date: January 2026

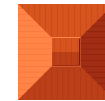
SORCE Facilities



The Den



The Divestore



Student
Accommodation



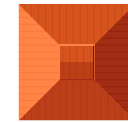
The Basketball
court



The Toilet and
Shower Block



The Staff House

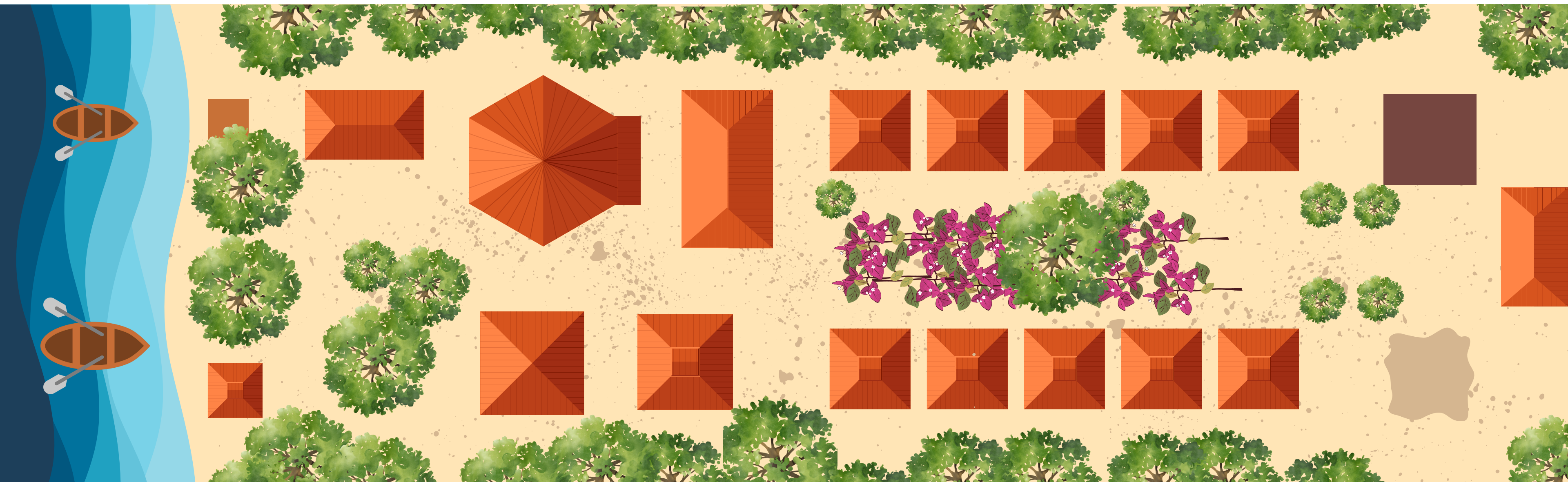


The
Classroom



Our Home
Built Gym

"The camp is modern and clean aswell, the food is good and will be adjusted to your needs. Being at SORCE it felt like a big and funny family."
-Fritz



Course Overview

The SORCE Marine Science A-Level follows the Cambridge International syllabus, covering the core principles of oceanography, marine ecosystems, and conservation science. You will study key topics such as marine biodiversity, ecological relationships, and the physical and chemical properties of seawater. Modules also explore human impacts on the ocean, including climate change, overfishing, and habitat destruction, alongside solutions like sustainable fisheries and marine protected areas.

Practical skills are a core focus, with students conducting ecological surveys, species identification, and water quality testing. Through hands-on fieldwork and scientific diving, you'll learn conservation skills you can apply in the field, not just in exams, preparing you for further studies and careers in marine science, conservation, and environmental management.

Module 1: Water

This module introduces the physical and chemical properties of water that make marine life possible. You'll explore how water behaves; its particle theory and bonding, solubility in water as well as density and pressure. You will also look at how these characteristics influence ocean circulation, nutrient availability, and marine life. At SORCE, you'll test water samples directly from nearby reefs, seagrass beds, and mangroves to compare variables such as pH, salinity, and oxygen content. These practical sessions help you understand how seemingly simple properties of water underpin complex marine systems. This module lays the foundation for everything you'll study next.

"I've gained a new admiration for all the conservation and education work done by SORCE, to further protect and improve the ecological wonders of the native mangrove and marine life of Lombok"
-Dorian

Module 2: Earth Processes

In this module, you'll learn how the Earth's structure and geological activity shape the marine environment. Topics include tectonic processes, seafloor spreading, and the formation of key ocean features like trenches, ridges, and hydrothermal vents. You'll also explore how coastal environments are formed through processes like erosion, deposition, and sedimentation. Field activities include shoreline observations and tide measurements to better understand coastal change. This module helps you appreciate the dynamic physical forces that create and sustain marine habitats



Course Overview

Module 3: Interactions in Marine Ecosystems

This module focuses on how organisms interact with each other and their environment. You'll study food webs, symbiosis, competition, and the flow of energy through ecosystems. Concepts like ecological niches, zonation, and succession will be brought to life through field surveys of reef, mangrove, and seagrass communities around the Secret Gilis. By observing these interactions firsthand, you'll see how complex relationships maintain the balance of marine ecosystems and what happens when they're disrupted.

"I got to meet so many nice people and I felt so welcome... honestly I had the best time ever"
-Elia

Module 4: Classification and Biodiversity

In this module, you'll explore how marine organisms are classified, breaking them down into key groups of marine organisms, such as crustaceans, echinoderms, bony and cartilaginous fish. You'll learn why biodiversity matters for ecosystem health and how different species adapt to their environments. Fieldwork includes identifying marine species using classification keys and recording biodiversity data during snorkel or dive surveys. By the end of this module, you'll understand how marine life is organised, how to recognise key plant groups, and why conserving biodiversity, especially among primary producers, is essential for ocean resilience.



Course Overview

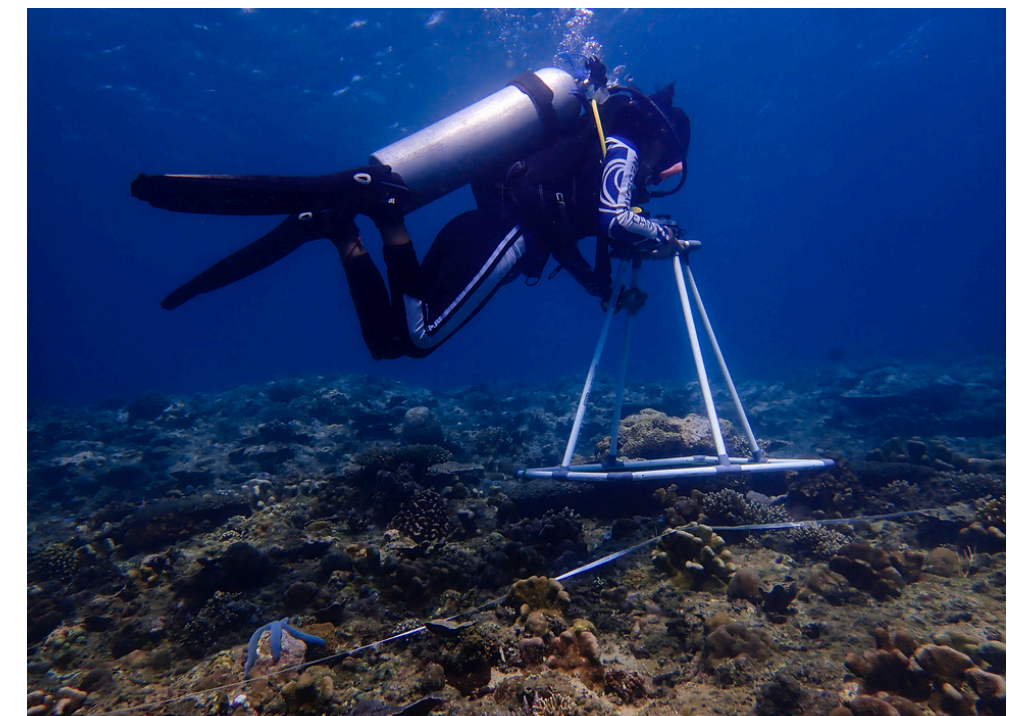
Module 5: Examples of Marine Ecosystems

This module takes a deeper dive into key marine ecosystems: open ocean, coral reefs, mangroves, rocky shores, and sandy shores. You'll study the structure, function, and ecological importance of each, exploring how organisms have adapted to these unique environments. At SORCE, you'll directly explore coral reefs, mangroves, and seagrass ecosystems through fieldwork and diving, while rocky shores and sandy shores are examined through case studies and documentaries, along with touching on other marine ecosystems such as hydrothermal vents and polar seas. This module brings global marine ecosystems to life, some from your doorstep, others from across the world.

"The dedicated staff achieve an impressive balance of being very well-organized while also being relaxed and great fun. They are attentive to what individual guests enjoy, and are super-inclusive."
-Mike

Module 6: Physiology of Marine Organisms

How do marine organisms survive and thrive in such a range of challenging conditions? This module explores the internal systems of marine life, from cell structures, respiration and osmoregulation to circulation. You'll compare adaptations in species like bony fish, cartilaginous fish, and molluscs. Activities include dissections, microscope work, and in-water observation of behaviours such as camouflage, schooling, and movement. The module helps you understand the remarkable ways marine organisms are shaped by, and adapted to, their environments.



Course Overview

Module 7: Energy

This module explores how light powers marine ecosystems through photosynthesis and chemosynthesis. You'll learn how different wavelengths of light behave in seawater and how pigments like chlorophyll a absorb specific wavelengths to convert light into energy.

You'll study how light availability changes with depth and how this affects where photosynthetic organisms like phytoplankton and algae can live. These adaptations are key to understanding marine productivity and how energy enters the ocean food web.

Through simple experiments and practical demonstrations, you'll see how light and pigments interact; laying the foundation for understanding energy flow in the marine environment.



"The amount of support I received was incredible. The location is perfect, food was amazing and everyone involved there were so friendly and welcoming."
-Ellie

Module 8: Fisheries for the Future

This applied module explores how humans harvest marine resources and how we can do it sustainably. Topics include life cycles, traditional and industrial fishing methods, overfishing, bycatch, and fisheries management strategies. You'll assess how policies like quotas, marine protected areas, and gear modifications are used to conserve fish stocks. At SORCE, you'll visit local fish markets and small-scale fisheries to learn about sustainable practices in the region. This module ties science to policy and action, helping you understand the challenges and possibilities of feeding a growing world.



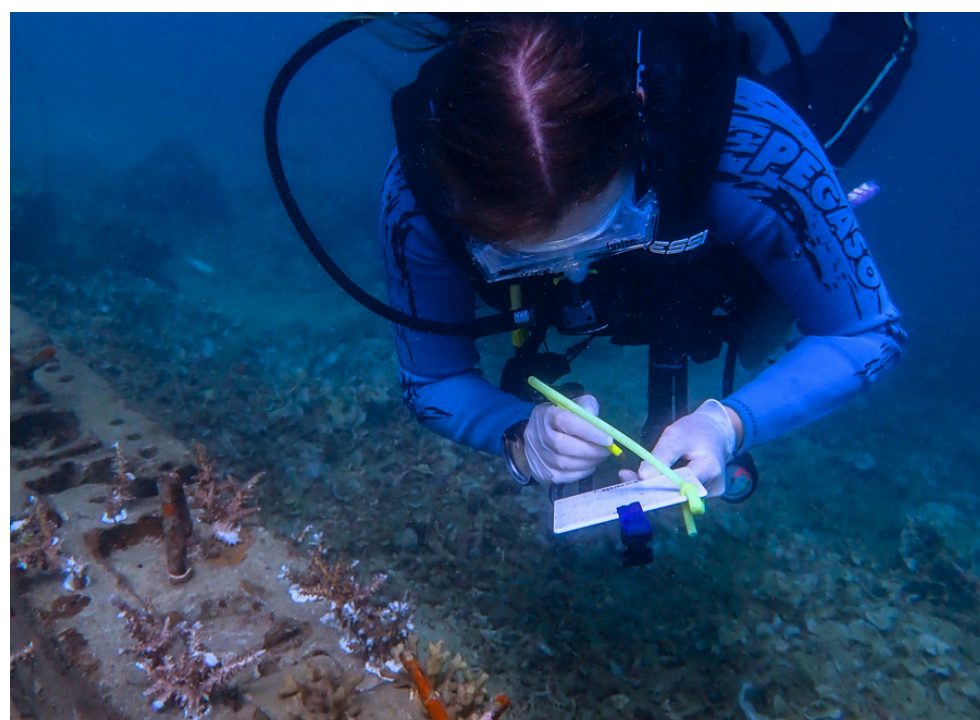
 17 Course Start Date: January 2026

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Course Overview

Module 9: Human Impacts on Marine Ecosystems

From climate change to marine plastic pollution, this module explores the ecological impacts of human activity and how these affect ocean health. You'll study causes and effects of coral bleaching, ocean acidification, oil spills, eutrophication, and habitat destruction. But this module also focuses on solutions, how marine protected areas, international agreements, and local community efforts can help reduce and reverse damage. Practical work includes reef health assessments, beach cleans, and impact surveys. You'll learn how to assess environmental threats and be part of the generation driving change.



"Their dedication, respect, and passion for what they do left a lasting impression on me and motivated me to keep striving to be better and do more."
- Andrei



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Course Layout

Your A-Level Marine Science journey is structured to balance immersive learning, practical experience, and academic excellence.

Introductory Week

You'll begin with a dedicated week to complete your PADI diving certifications. This gives you time to adjust to your new environment, get comfortable in the water, and prepare for the academic modules ahead.

Modules 1–5 (AS Level)

In the first six weeks, you'll cover the foundational modules: Water, Earth Processes, Interactions in Marine Ecosystems, Classification and Biodiversity, Examples of Marine Ecosystems and Research Skills. These modules introduce essential scientific concepts and field techniques that support your understanding of the marine world.

Mid-Term Week

A break between AS and A2 gives you space to reflect, reset, and review. It also acts as a natural transition point between the introductory and advanced content.

Modules 6–9 (A2 Level)

In the following month, you'll explore advanced topics: Physiology of Marine Organisms, Energy, Fisheries for the Future, and Human Impacts on Marine Ecosystems. These modules build on your earlier learning and include hands-on excursions that bring theory to life.

Revision Weeks

With all modules complete, you'll enter a focused revision period to consolidate your knowledge and prepare for your final exams.

Please note that due to the start dates being influenced by the examination dates, there may be some variation to this structure. We are a field school and at the beck and call of the conditions and tides. This will also influence the structure and number of dives and excursions that are made throughout the course,

Assessment Overview

The course is assessed, in English, through four written exam papers designed to test your knowledge, application, and scientific thinking. Each paper is weighted equally (25%), ensuring a balanced evaluation of both theory and practical skills.

Paper 1 (AS Structured Questions – 1hr 45 mins)

Covers Modules 1–4 with a mix of short and extended response questions. This may be placed in familiar and unfamiliar contexts to assess your abilities.

Paper 2 (AS Data-Handling & Investigation – 1hr 45 mins)

Focuses on interpreting scientific data, analysing experimental design, and applying practical research skills from Module 5.

Paper 3 (A2 Structured Questions – 1hr 45 mins)

Assesses understanding of Modules 6–9, requiring more detailed and analytical responses. This paper may also assess topics within modules 1-5 as the knowledge from these modules may be relevant in answering the question.

Paper 4 (A2 Data-Handling & Research Skills – 1hr 45 mins)

Evaluates your ability to critique scientific studies, work with unfamiliar data, and demonstrate comprehensive research understanding. This will look at all topics throughout modules 1-9.



Life After SORCE

Hi I'm Chris, I took part in the Marine Science A-Level at SORCE in 2022 and it was such a good decision! I was already a dive instructor at the time working in Malta and I had always had an interest in learning more about the science of the ocean.

The time at SORCE was fantastic! Kara was the best teacher I have ever had, making the sometimes long and challenging lectures really simple and manageable, and Mike making the practical experiments enjoyable!

Izzy and Coral were always on hand to teach me about the conservation side of things such as coral tree cleaning and which propagules to pick!

With all the help that they offered during the 4 months, I got my first ever A in an exam!

During my time there I realised that I wanted to pursue doing conservation to *Posidonia oceanica* in the Mediterranean.

I am now working for a dive centre north of Valencia, Spain, where out of tourism season we are part of a *Posidonia* regeneration project, placing packets of *Posidonia*, earth and oyster shells on the substrate to assist in the growth of new *Posidonia* meadows in a protected area.

Taking part in this project I am constantly using the theoretical and practical skills that I gained doing the A-Level at SORCE, which makes me even more grateful to all the team for their help, and so happy that I did it.



"This experience left a permanent mark on my heart. I'm incredibly grateful to have been a part of it, and I can honestly say it helped shape who I am today."
-Andrei



Hi, I'm Nicolas. I'm a scuba diver and freediver. I completed the A-level training at SORCE in 2024 to learn more about the world I love—the sea—while actively working on its restoration. Now, I'm a scuba diving instructor, and I'm starting to apply for a degree in marine biology. The A-level program was a great start to launch my marine biology career.



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Course Start Date: January 2026

Life After SORCE



"The team there is smart, sweet, funny, passionate and has created something very special. The location itself is beautiful with lovely accommodations, amazing sunsets and so many stars! I would highly recommend this experience!"
-Andrea



Hi I'm Karley, I had the most incredible time at SORCE while completing my marine science A-level. Not only did I get phenomenal teachers for my book and exam learnings, I also had vital hands on experience. We had the opportunity to do field work and research while conducting coral, seagrass and mangrove restoration. While also inviting you to experience one of the most pristine marine ecosystems in the world. Getting the opportunity to be introduced to new species on every dive! On top of this living beside the ocean in villas creates a close community that becomes family. I would recommend this to anyone considering!! 11/10

Hello my name is Benjamin and a year ago I completed my Marine Science A-Level at SORCE. SORCE, on many occasions, supplied opportunities that complimented and surpassed the depth of the A-Level curriculum. This meant that instead of having a conceptual grasp of the learnt subjects, I have a working knowledge that I can confidently manipulate to my current intellectual demands. I am currently studying at The Scottish Association for Marine Science (or SAMS for short) and I can whole heartedly say that the Marine Science A-Level has reinvigorated my want to learn but has also brought my preferred field of research into some much needed perspective.

Life After SORCE



"The team makes you feel like part of the family, you hang out together in a beautiful remote place making close friends."
-Sherin



I'm Sigrid and I signed up with SORCE for the A-level marine science in 2021 and it has not regretted it. As a dive instructor, it has not only helped me gain a lot of knowledge and understanding about several marine ecosystems, it has also enhanced the experience I can offer to my guests, deepening their connection with nature.

Since graduating, I have been able to work for NGO's, help dive shops with their environmental policies and have been able to educate my colleagues, guests and the surrounding communities of the importance of protecting these precious but fragile ecosystems. On a personal level, I feel a deeper connection with our natural world, and I cannot thank the whole SORCE team for nurturing this.

I'm Molly and I completed my A-Level in 2024. At SORCE there is an amazing learning environment with A-Level of trust and support that could not be experienced anywhere else in the world. All the team at SORCE are there for you throughout the four months; even for the simplest of things.

What you learn in the classroom you then get to experience under the water to give you a greater understanding of the topic and knowledge you've acquired. I can safely say that without my time at SORCE I would not be halfway through a Zoo Keeping internship, at one of the leading Wildlife Parks in the UK, with the opportunity of a job at the end of it. The memories and friends I have made from this unforgettable journey is truly inconceivable, and it's all because of this awe-inspiring place.

Class of 2025



Hey, I'm Lauren and I did the A-level course in 2025. My time at SORCE has been such an amazing learning experience. We had the opportunity to take part in surveys and practical skills that mirror the content we studied. Being able to apply what we learnt and use it in real world scenarios gave us tools and understanding of conservation and why it's so important to take part in. As a part of the A-level course we went on several excursions to places most tourists won't ever get to experience and had a super fun time! SORCE has beautiful marine life and you'll leave having found a new family with a million memories.



Hello! I'm Alexa and I did my Marine Science A-Level course from January to May 2025. These past few months have been incredible. Not only have I learned so many new things about marine life and its intricate balance, I also learned about the importance of having healthy thriving oceans and how it affects us. Going into depth, not only in theory but also in practice makes a huge difference. Here at SORCE we are surrounded by the things that are shown in our course, we get to experience them firsthand, and it gives a whole new perspective to our studies. We were able to do practical activities and excursions linked to our course, and we were given opportunities to see things that are inaccessible for most people. Adding to our courses, we could also live the conservation part of SORCE, with the coral plantations and maintenance while diving almost every day, the super fun and muddy mangrove plantings, and the informative lectures that are given. But for me the best part was not the beautiful calm beaches or the amazing diving, it was the people that I found here. Every person at SORCE has turned my experience into something unforgettable, they are the heart of this organization. At SORCE you can find yourself a new little island family :)



My name is Louis Tavenn Piget, and I'm a gap year student looking to improve my English and meet new people. I did the A-Level Marine at SORCE on Lombok near Gili Asahan/Gede for 4 months. I found an excellent team and a lot of international people. Studying marine science with them allowed me to learn so much by linking theory and practice through experiments and scuba diving linked to the course. We had the opportunity to visit pearl farms. Alongside the course, we had the opportunity to follow and even take part in the maintenance and restoration of coral at the various SORCE sites, as well as mangrove restoration. I've done a PADI Rescue course here, and it was the best place to do any training course. Here we have a lot of good accommodation such as showers and bedrooms. We have the Den with all the games provides for a party every Sunday to add more fun. The food is exceptional, a possibility to adapt it according to tastes or needs to add or remove.



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What's Included:

The SORCE Marine Science A-Level is an all-inclusive experience designed to provide everything students need to succeed, both academically and personally, during your stay with us.



Escape the noise and distractions of everyday life. Nestled in the Secret Gilis, our base offers the perfect setting to fully immerse yourself in the underwater world. Lessons here happen snorkeling in seagrass, knee-deep in mud, and 12m below the surface, where theories come to life through daily dives and hands-on fieldwork that directly connect with what you're learning.



We fuel brains and bodies. Enjoy three nutritious meals a day, prepared on-site with fresh local ingredients. We cater to a range of dietary needs, keeping you energised and focused for every dive, lesson, and adventure.



Experience the reef through daily dives designed to reinforce classroom learning, from coral surveys to fish identification dives. Our flexible approach means if you're ahead in your studies, you can join additional dives or take part in community activities, or simply use the time to consolidate your learning.



From tide charts to microscopes, your learning goes beyond textbooks. Our modules include interactive experiments and real field data, helping you develop the critical thinking and practical skills needed for a future in marine science.



Live where you learn. Our comfortable private accommodation is located right by the beach, fostering a close-knit community and making early dives, late-night study sessions, and spontaneous beach campfires part of everyday life.



You're never on your own. Our experienced tutors and marine scientists are there to guide you through every module, offering 1-on-1 support and tailored feedback to help you grow in both confidence and competence.



What's Included:

The SORCE Marine Science A-Level is an all-inclusive experience designed to provide everything students need to succeed, both academically and personally, during your stay with us.



From reef clean-ups to group meals and movie nights, we foster strong connections that go beyond the classroom. Build lifelong friendships and learn the importance of collaboration, essential for any future conservationist.



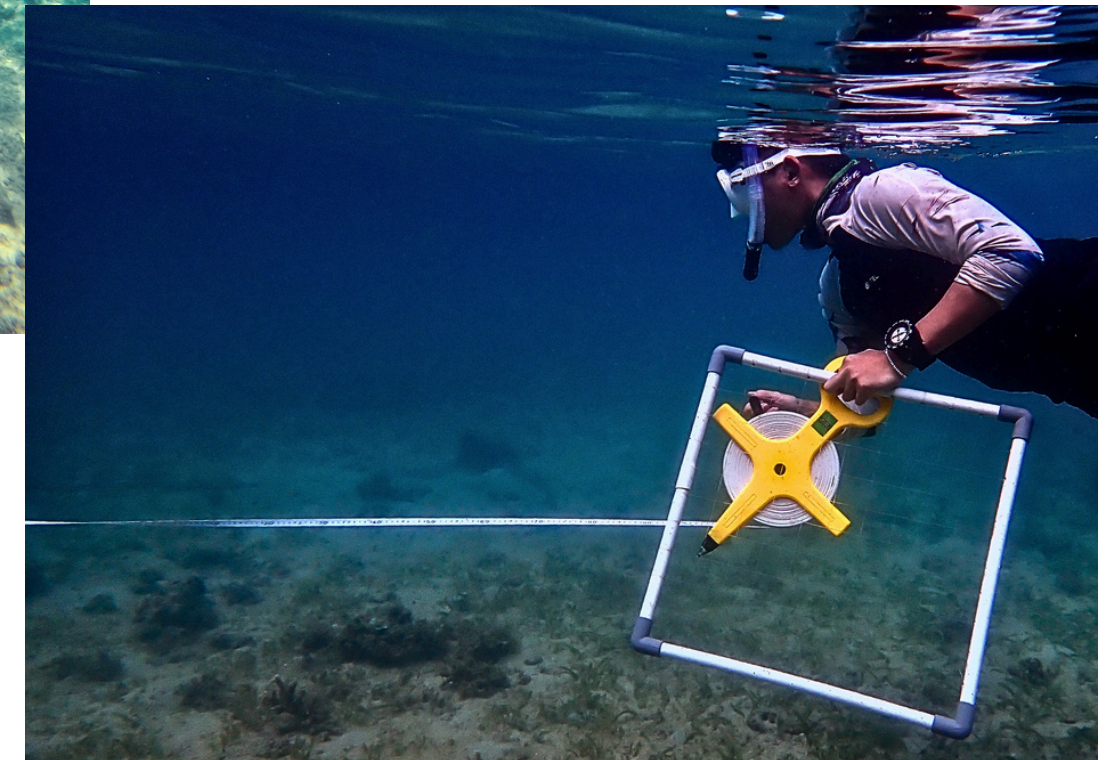
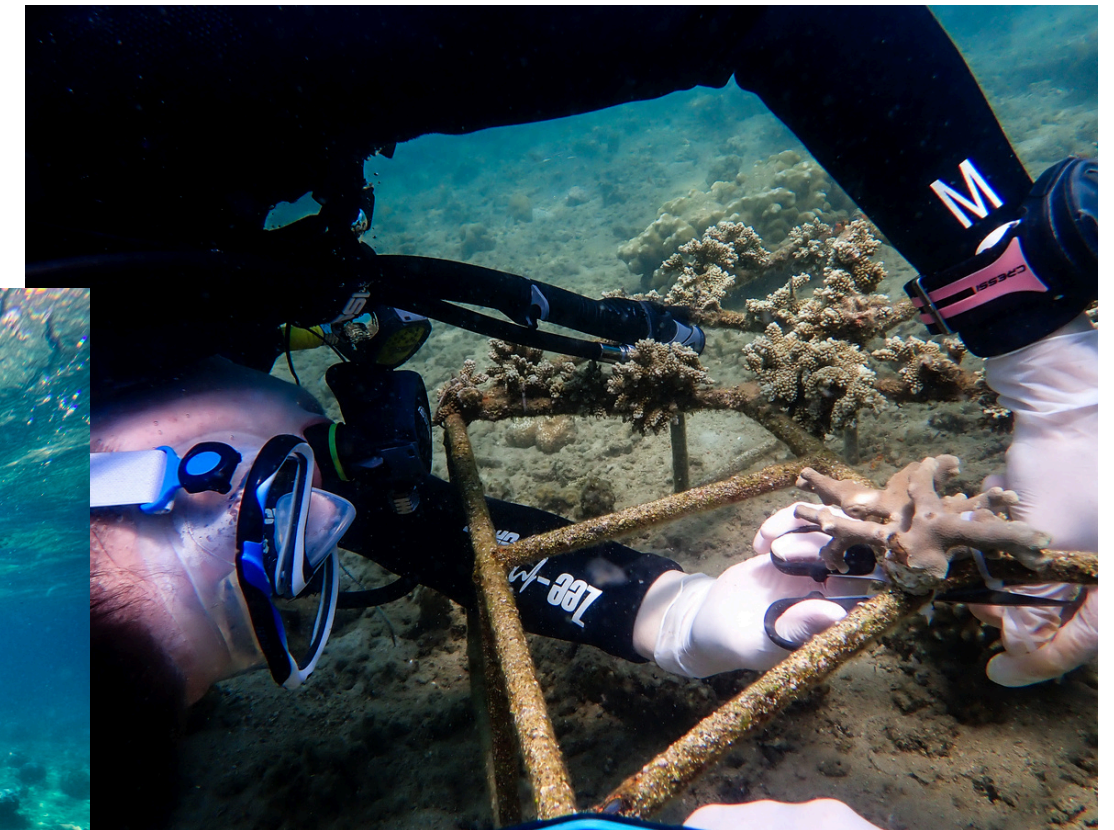
Witness real conservation efforts in motion, from coral restoration to plastic audits and community outreach. Students don't just study environmental issues, they become part of the solution.



Take your learning into the community. Our guided excursions explore local fish markets, aquaculture farms, and recycling initiatives—giving insight into the social and economic side of marine conservation in Indonesia.



We're with you even after the course ends. Whether you're applying to university, looking for internships, or just figuring out your next step, we provide tailored advice and references to help you move forward.



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What's Not Included:



You'll need to arrange your own visa to enter Indonesia. Most students apply for a B211A visa. While we're not a visa agent and can't apply on your behalf, we'll provide the supporting documents you need and share guidance from past students to help you feel prepared.



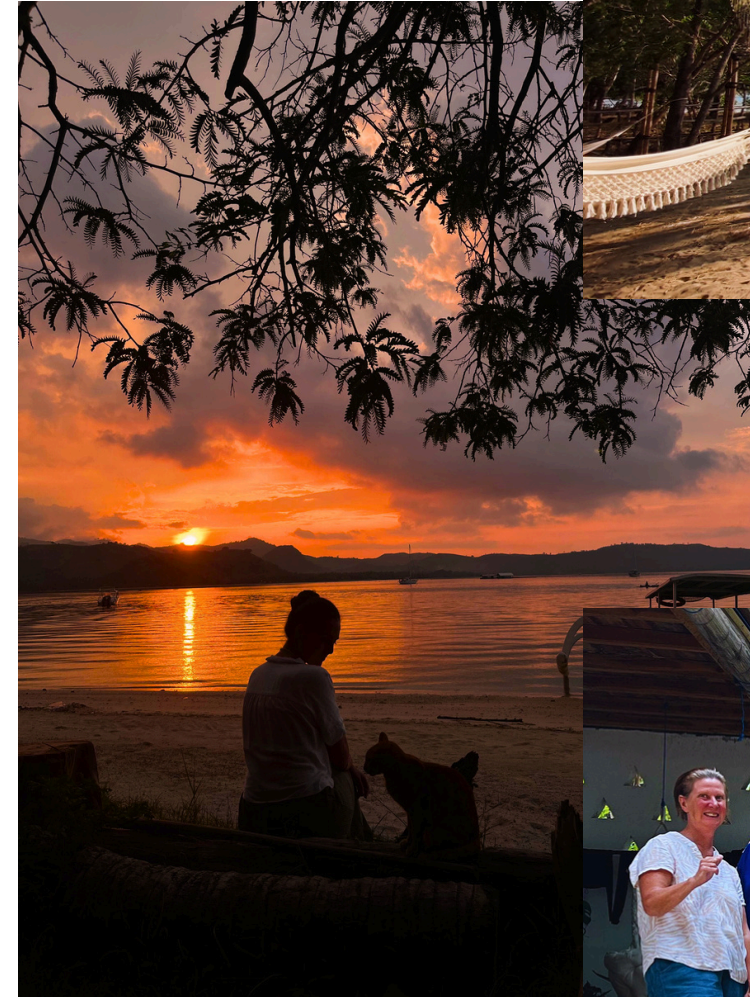
As part of our location within the Gita Nada Marine Protected Area, all students are required to pay a one-time entrance fee of 800,000 IDR (approx. £40) for the full 16-week stay. This contribution goes directly to the Indonesian government to support ongoing marine conservation efforts in the area. We're proud to be based within an officially recognised MPA, and this fee helps protect the very ecosystems you'll be studying for generations to come. The payment is made through SORCE and passed on in full to the MPA authority, this is also subject to change.



Flights and airport transfers aren't included in the course fee. However, we would be happy to help you arrange transport, once in Lombok, to SORCE. If you let us know in advance, we can organise for you to be collected wherever you plan to arrive in Lombok, whether it's the airport, harbour, or elsewhere on the island.



We strongly recommend taking out comprehensive travel insurance that includes cover for hyperbaric chambers and scuba diving to at least 30 meters or the maximum depth you'll be qualified to dive. If you haven't done so already, you will be completing your Advanced Open Water course with use and 30m is the maximum depth you will be certified to go to.



 17 Course Start Date: January 2026

 For further information or to apply, please visit www.sorce.org or contact us at enquiries@sorce.org

FAQ's



All of your examination fees and excursions are included in the course cost. Your exams will take place in Mataram, the capital city of Lombok, which is about an hour and forty-five minutes from SORCE. On exam days, we take care of everything: your transport, meals, and support are all covered, so you can focus on doing your best without any added stress.



We welcome students from all walks of life—whether you're fresh out of school, changing careers, or a dive professional looking to deepen your knowledge. Our courses attract a diverse mix of ages, backgrounds, and experience levels, which makes for a really dynamic learning environment. To keep things personal and supportive, we cap each course at around 6 students, ensuring that you receive all of the support you need.



Wifi - We DO NOT have Wi-Fi on site, but we can help you arrange a local SIM and portable Wi-Fi device to use during your stay. More information on this will be provided in your extensive welcome pack, which you will receive once you have confirmed your booking with us.



Diving at least once a day and we are on a flexible schedule, so on allocated reading days, if you are ahead of the game you can join in with more SORCE activities or you can choose not to participate and study. We provide you with a BCD, regulator set, and weights while you're here. We have other equipment to rent but we recommend bringing your own for comfort.

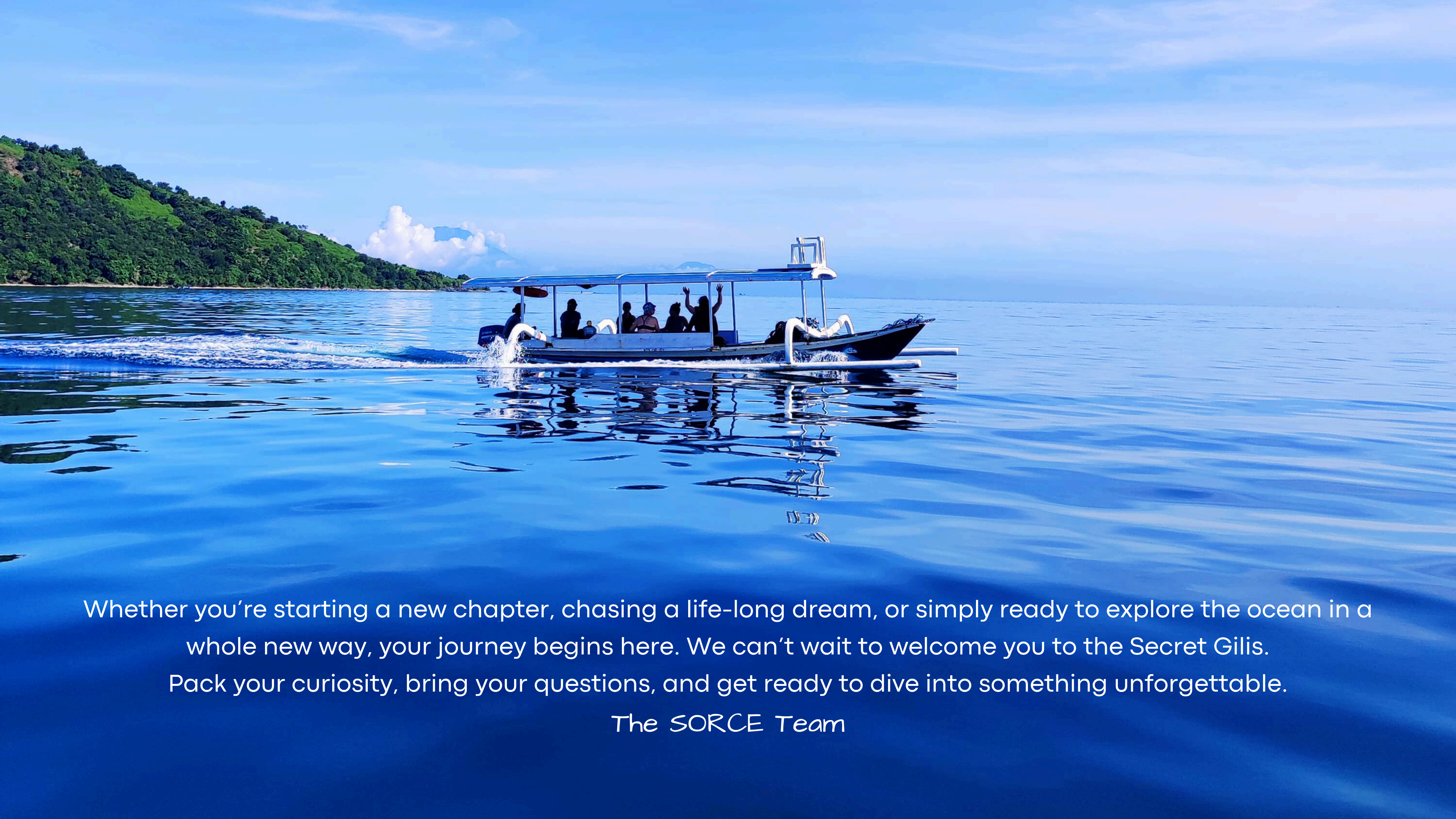


You'll be with us for 16 weeks, and we completely understand wanting to share the experience with loved ones. Friends and family are more than welcome to visit, and if we have space on site, they may be able to stay with us for a short time. If accommodation isn't available, they're still very welcome to join us for meals and spend time on site, whether it's a beachside dinner, a tour of the classroom, or a sunset by the firepit. Just let us know in advance so we can help arrange everything and make them feel part of the SORCE community.



Indonesia has two main seasons: wet and dry. January falls right in the middle of the wet season, so be sure to pack a raincoat! We usually experience a few big storms, along with some heavy showers and the occasional dip in visibility. That said, most rain comes in short bursts, and we adjust the schedule to make the most of clearer periods. By the time revision weeks roll around, dry season is usually beginning, bringing sunnier skies to finish off your course.





Whether you're starting a new chapter, chasing a life-long dream, or simply ready to explore the ocean in a whole new way, your journey begins here. We can't wait to welcome you to the Secret Gilis. Pack your curiosity, bring your questions, and get ready to dive into something unforgettable.

The SORCE Team