Conservation and Education in the Marine and Coastal Environments

Providing the foundation for those aspiring to protect and enhance the delicate, crucial resources and wildlife found along the Gulf Coast.

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Our Mission, at Alma Bryant High School, is to unify several communities as one graduating body by enhancing the athletic, academic, artistic, and service talents of the students individually and of the school holistically, thereby, increasing their educational and social experiences as well as their personal growth.
Alma Bryant’s Signature Academy, the Academy of Coastal Studies, provides five pathways for students to empower themselves with the knowledge and skills needed to protect and preserve the environment and the livelihood of the beautiful Gulf Coast. Given the close connection between the pathways, students will be given the option to enroll in courses in multiple pathways. These five pathways are designed to provide a platform for collegiate and/or career opportunities.

Coastal Environmental Sciences: Offering courses such as Marine Biology I and II, Environmental Science, and Geology, the Coastal Environmental Sciences pathway provides students an opportunity to focus on the coastal environment surrounding them. Through classroom and hands-on learning experiences, students will study the various aquatic ecosystems within the marine environment. They will clarify their understanding of the water planet and the dynamic processes that have shaped and continue to shape the Earth, and they will study the impact of man’s interaction with the environment. Students will also be exposed to a wide variety of career opportunities for varying post-secondary plans.

Environmental Management—Plant Systems: Through classroom and hands-on learning experiences, students enrolled in the Plant Systems pathway will take courses in Horticulture Science, Greenhouse and Nursery Production, Landscape Design & Management, and Sports Turf Production & Management. Students will learn about plant physiology, plant identification and classification, growing media, pest control, greenhouse and nursery production, landscape establishment and maintenance, and business management. In keeping with the overall academy theme, students will also learn about vegetation and soil types common to coastal and wetland environments.

Fisheries Management & Aquaculture: With community tradition at the root of this program, students who enroll in the Fisheries Management & Aquaculture pathway will gain the knowledge and skills necessary to move beyond the harvesting of wild seafood to an industry of seafood production and harvesting. Through the courses of Aquaculture Science, Aquatic Biology, Aqua Experience, and Fish & Wildlife, students will learn about aquaculture systems, water chemistry and management, system design and maintenance, health and sanitation, and other aquaculture issues.

Maritime & Industrial Technologies: For students interested in the shipbuilding industry, the Maritime & Industrial Technologies pathway offers training in a variety of areas vital to ship production. Through on-campus welding courses or courses in pipefitting, engine repair, and electrical/wiring systems offered at the Bryant Career Technical Center, students gain skills that will enable them to seek enrollment in post-secondary training programs and/or transition directly to full-time employment upon graduation.

Recreation, Travel, & Tourism: The gulf coast economy relies heavily on the receipt of revenue from a successful recreation, travel and tourism industry. Enrolling in this pathway will introduce students to hospitality and tourism, recreation, travel and tourism, lodging, restaurants and food and beverage services, customer relations, and quality services that are so vital to our economy. Students will also learn about development and economics of the industry, research, packaging, promotion, marketing and operations, admissions, and safety and security.