

School of Earth, Ocean, and Environment (SEOE)
Assistant or Associate Professor
Coastal Physical Oceanography

The faculty of the School of Earth, Ocean and Environment (SEOE) at the University of South Carolina, Columbia campus, invites applications for a 9-month, full time, tenure-track or tenured position at the rank of either Assistant or Associate Professor to begin August 16, 2026.

We seek candidates applying numerical modeling and/or observations to study processes that include (but may not be limited to) tidally-, wind-, and buoyancy-driven currents, their meso- and submesoscale variability, adjustment of coastal circulation to coastal topography, mixing and dispersion in the coastal ocean, cross-shelf exchange, and their geological and geomorphological interactions (e.g., sea level rise, coastal erosion, sediment transport). The research areas can extend spatially from estuaries to the continental shelf break, with temporal scales ranging from gravity waves and small-scale turbulence to climatological impacts. The successful candidate will complement, strengthen, and diversify the SEOE's research, and will direct an active, externally-funded research program. The typical teaching load is one course per semester and may include an undergraduate course for non-science majors, an undergraduate course for SEOE majors, or a graduate-level courses in the candidate's area of specialization. The successful candidate will also be expected to provide service through academic committees within the SEOE unit.

Applicants for Assistant rank must have a Ph.D. in physical oceanography or closely related field and 2 years of postdoctoral experience by the start date of appointment and potential for excellence in teaching. Applicants for Associate rank must have 6 years of relevant research and teaching experience plus evidence of strong, sustained records of research funding and publication by the start date of employment.

The SEOE is a multidisciplinary unit within the College of Arts and Sciences, with academic programs in Environment and Sustainability (Environmental Science and Environmental Studies), Geology and Geophysics, and Marine Science. The unit enrolls approximately 600 undergraduate students in four undergraduate programs, 60 graduate students in 5 graduate programs, and 35 faculty representing research areas ranging from physical to social sciences, including marine, environmental and geological sciences. The SEOE houses excellent analytical facilities, including Stable Isotope Laboratories, Radioisotope & Marine Sediments Laboratory, The Center for Elemental Mass Spectrometry, and direct access to the Baruch Marine Field Laboratory at North Inlet Estuary and is committed to enhancing the research infrastructure available to faculty, staff, and students. For more information, please visit the SEOE website.

At the University of South Carolina, we strive to cultivate an inclusive environment that is open, welcoming, and supportive of individuals of all backgrounds. We recognize diversity in our workforce is essential to providing academic excellence and critical to our sustainability. The University is committed to eliminating barriers created by institutional discrimination through accountability and continuous process improvement. We celebrate the diverse voices, perspectives, and experiences of our employees.

The University of South Carolina is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution. Women, minorities, protected veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of age, ancestry, citizenship status, color, disability, ethnicity, familial status, gender (including transgender), gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDs status, military status, national origin, pregnancy (false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, childbirth, recovery therefrom or related medical conditions, breastfeeding), race, religion (including religious dress and grooming practices), sex, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any other bases under federal, state, local law, or regulations.

How to Apply

Applicants must apply online via the USCJobs website. Applications must include (1) a cover letter, (2) curriculum vitae, (3) a research statement, (4) a teaching statement, and (5) contact information for at least three references. Review of applications will commence on September 15, 2025, and will continue until the position is filled. Inquiries about this position may be directed to Professor Alexander Yankovsky at CPOSearchChair@seo.sc.edu.