The Mathematics/Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences major is a designated capstone major. Students acquire experience in conceiving and executing research projects designed to evaluate hypotheses and complete an individual project or thesis selected with the assistance of the program advisers and faculty mentor. Students are expected to:

- acquire a fundamental knowledge of the atmospheric and oceanic sciences, and the mathematical tools that enable research to be conducted, as a result of required and elective coursework.

- identify potential research areas available for exploration that fit their interests as a result of being exposed to topics of current and future interest in the atmospheric and oceanic sciences through the curriculum.

- acquire experience in conceiving and executing research projects designed to evaluate hypotheses through the available “pre-capstone” elective courses, some or all of which stress both oral and written presentation of research results.

- propose, execute and evaluate a research project, individually or in small groups, and with the assistance and supervision of a faculty mentor (as part of the formal capstone course, AOS 199).

- deliver a tangible capstone product (such as a written thesis) that will be archived by the AOS Department and possibly disseminated within and beyond the Department.