The Integrated Coastal Sciences PhD program at East Carolina University (ECU) is seeking a PhD student for a research project investigating the long-term effectiveness of coral reef and mangrove ecosystems for coastal risk reduction. This collaborative project with Stanford University and the University of California Santa Cruz will integrate ecological and physical data with approaches from coastal engineering and flood risk assessments to explore the impact of hurricanes and other stressors on the capacity of coral reefs and mangroves to deliver flood risk reduction benefits.

The successful candidate will work under the supervision of Dr. Siddharth Narayan, at the Coastal Studies Institute (https://coastal.ecu.edu/coastalstudies/siddharth-narayan/) in the Outer Banks, North Carolina. Dr. Jenny Suckale at Stanford University and Dr. Michael W. Beck at University of California Santa Cruz will act as external advisors. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to spend time at either Stanford or UC Santa Cruz as part of this project. A Master’s degree in engineering, geology, geography or a related discipline is desired for this position, as is familiarity with using quantitative analyses and models to answer complex research questions. Familiarity with coastal models such as SWAN, XBEACH or Delft-3D is a plus. Excellent verbal and written communication skills and strong interpersonal skills are desired.

The position is fully funded for the first two years and includes a tuition waiver, monthly stipend and health benefits. Funding in subsequent years is likely, contingent on performance and available funds. The application deadline for the Integrated Coastal Sciences (ICS) PhD program is March 1, 2020. Interested candidates can apply to the ECU graduate school via https://coastal.ecu.edu/coastalstudies/integrated-coastal-sciences/. Candidates are also encouraged to send a brief letter of interest and a copy of their CV (including GPA and GRE scores) via email to Dr. Siddharth Narayan (narayans19@ecu.edu).