

Marine Biology 3357/5357
SPRING 2013
Mon – Wed 3:00-4:20 pm
Room LS 101

Instructor: Dr. Laura Mydlarz

Office: LS 235

Phone: 817 272-0397

Mailbox: 19498

Email: mydlarz@UTA.edu

Office Hours: MW 2:00-3:00 or by appointment

There is NO required Textbook

Student learning outcomes

1. Learn the principles of oceanography and ocean circulation
2. Know the scientific methods that are currently being used to explore marine biology
3. Learn the ecological principles of marine biology
4. Understand the different marine ecosystems and their unique ecology
5. Understand human impacts on the sea

Grading

- 25% Case study synthesis and Outreach project activities
- 20% Life-style change experiment
- 15% Participation
- 10% Homework 1 – Carbon footprint
- 10% Homework 2 - Infographic
- 10% Test 1
- 10% Test 2

Class Policies

Attendance

Attendance at lectures is required for success in this course. Attendance is independent of participation grade. Only 4 unexcused absences will be allowed throughout the semester. Excused absences will require written verification. After 4 unexcused absences, points from the final grade will be deducted as well as participation grades.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study

Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for outreach project and life-style change reporting, etc.

Class participation

Participation in class activities is not optional and is an integral part of the college experience. Class participation will be encouraged using in class group activities as well group discussions of homework assignments.

Tests

Tests will be short answer, open notes.

Homework

There will be 2 homework assignments. Each will be worth 10 points. More details will follow.

- 1) Carbon footprint analysis
- 2) To compile an infographic of how a marine ecosystem has changed over time.

Outreach Project and Life-style change experiment

Details for these activities will in separate documents. These 2 activities and projects define this class and require full participation. They contribute to the extra credit and lab replacement permission that was granted this course. They should be taken seriously.

Tentative weekly schedule and topics

Week	Date	Module	Topic		Notes
1	1/14/2013	Global importance	Course intro - why is the ocean important?		
	1/16/2013	of oceans	Outreach project and lifestyle change experiment		
2	1/21/2013		MLK holiday		No class
	1/23/2013		Ocean circulation and climate		
3	1/28/2013		Ocean circulation and climate		
	1/30/2013		Carbon cycle and plankton		census date
4	2/4/2013		Plankton processes		
	2/6/2013		Homework 1 due/ Discussion		Homework 1 due
5	2/11/2013	Ocean Resources	Nekton		
	2/13/2013		Fisheries		
6	2/18/2013		Natural products		Life-style change choice due
	2/20/2013		Other anthropogenic uses		
7	2/25/2013		Ocean pollution		
	2/27/2013	Biodiversity and habitats	Adaptation to marine environment		
8	3/4/2013		In class open notes test		
	3/6/2013		Intertidal zone		
9	3/11/2013		SPRING BREAK		
	3/13/2013				
10	3/18/2013		Kelp forests		
	3/20/2013		Discussion		
11	3/25/2013		Mangroves, sea grasses		
	3/27/2013		ACES - GO TO ORAL TALKS AND POSTERS		last day to drop March 29th
12	4/1/2013		Coral reefs		
	4/3/2013		Coral decline		
13	4/8/2013		Threats to biodiversity		
	4/10/2013		Threats to biodiversity		
14	4/15/2013	Synthesis	life-style change update		Life-style change report due
	4/17/2013		Homework 2 due presentations		Homework 2 due
15	4/22/2013		Homework 2 due presentations		
	4/24/2013		Homework 2 due presentations		
16	5/1/2013		Discussion		Outreach project report due
	5/6/2013	Final exam	Open notes final test		

Important University Policies

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to resources@uta.edu, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Final Review Week: A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.