

OCB 2000-23300

Marine Biology Syllabus and Course Outline

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Course Location and Time: Class will meet in BADM on Wednesday from 2 PM -4:45 PM.

Textbook: *Marine Biology*, 8th ed. Peter Castro and Michael E. Huber.

Office hours: My office hours are immediately following most classes, or by appointment as needed.

Course Description: This course will provide the student with the basics to the study of marine biology. Many topics will be reviewed that relate to science in other fields and how they apply to marine science.

Course web page: <http://www.hccfl.edu/faculty-info/ckasper.aspx> (This is my faculty website. Please check this web page for announcements/updated class schedule)

Prerequisites/Corequisites: OBC 2000L-23302. College reading and writing ability is also expected.

Course Objectives:

- Describe the characteristics of the physical environment of the marine environment and how they present problems to organisms.
- Describe the various solutions to those problems that marine organisms have evolved, in other words what are their adaptations.
- Identify the major organisms that live in our state's marine waters.
- Describe the natural history of those organisms.
- Describe the various marine ecosystems, and how the major marine organisms of our state function in those ecosystems.
- Describe the conservation problems faced by many of the organisms and of the ecosystems: how humans impact them.
- Describe basic anatomy, physiology and natural history of the phyla of organisms we studied.
- Describe general ecosystem functioning.
- List, explain and discuss the 8 major concepts of biology, especially as they relate to marine organisms and the marine environment.
- Explain how the tides are produced.

- Describe, explain, and use some techniques for studying the natural history of organisms and ecosystems.
- Correctly use a microscope.
- Correctly graph data, and correctly interpret graphs.
- Discuss the nature of science.
- Describe the basic methodology of doing science, including hypothesis testing and use of controls.

Exams: Four (4) exams will be given during the semester. Exams will be given during normal class period. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of the dates of exams. **Format:** Exam questions will be written as “scantron-type” questions (multiple-choice, matching, and true-false) and essay questions. **No make-up exams will be given.** Each exam will count 20% of your overall grade.

How to do well on exams:

1. Attend lecture: approx. 80% of exam material is covered in class/lab (the rest of the material can be learned from readings and out of class homework assignments). Some of this material is not easy to get by reading alone, so the only place to learn it well is in class!
2. Understand the material: It is difficult to respond to my questions correctly unless you know the material! Be sure to use the proper terminology/vocabulary at all times. You want to make clear, concise communication a priority.
3. Use the PowerPoint and handouts as study guides to help you study for exams. They can be found on my faculty webpage: <http://www.hccfl.edu/faculty-info/ckasper.aspx>.
4. Ask questions during class. I do not always have review sessions; so ask if/when something is unclear.
5. Utilize my office hours.
6. Follow directions: If a test question asks for an essay, respond with an essay. If it says answer with complete sentences, don't provide a list of sentence fragments. If I request an explanation of how something works in class. Be brief, but accurate. This helps me know you understand how something works!
7. **Answer the question asked!** Believe it or not, students often miss points for answering a question other than the one asked on the exam. They get off on a tangent, and run with it. More commonly, students miss points for not addressing every part of a multi-part question. They may nail the first 2 parts of a question perfectly, then completely ignore the final part, resulting in a score of 67% for that question. Answer the entire question. Discuss the entire issue.
8. Budget your time wisely. I try very hard to only ask enough questions that you will have time to answer. But, don't waste all your time trying to figure out a 5 point question, leaving you with no time to finish the final 30 point essay question.
9. **Answer all questions** (even if you have to guess): You get credit for all questions answered correctly, and I usually give out partial credit for questions answered partially correctly. You get zero credit for questions left blank. Therefore, it is in your best interest to at least attempt a response. Even if you're totally wrong, you get the same zero credit you would for a blank, and there may even be some humor value to the response.

General Academic Dishonesty Policy: Students must submit their own unique work on all assignments. Indications of cheating during an examination include talking with other students, using non-approved notes, shuffling through notebooks, looking at other's exam papers, etc. Cheating will result in a failing grade (F) and notification of the academic dean for further discipline.

Exam Policies: During written exams, you can only use a pen, pencil, and the paper I give you to answer the questions (and your brain and body, of course). I have had issues with cheaters in the past, and because of this, the following policies were created.

1. DO NOT sit next to a person that is a study partner. Being a study partner is not an acceptable excuse for sharing similar wrong answers with the person sitting next to you.
2. Place all your books, notes, and electronic devices in your backpack and out of sight during the exam.
3. Spread out. If room allows, make sure there is at least one empty seat between you and your neighbor.
4. No not alter exams that are being returned for a re-grade.
5. Don't start the exam with a full bladder. Use the bathroom BEFORE the exam. If you must use the restroom during an exam, it will cost you 25 points.
6. Don't plagiarize: You earn an F for the course and could be asked to leave the College.
7. Don't use cheat sheets, note cards, calculators, cell phones, or head phones during exams.
8. Any academic misconduct will result in your semester grade being multiplied by a factor of 0 (zero). In other words, the minimum penalty is that you will fail the entire course. More severe forms of cheating and/or unethical behavior could result in more serious sanctions.

Grievance procedure: If a student has a grievance with any aspect of a course, the first step is to meet with the instructor (me) during office hours or by appointment to discuss the problem. This discussion should not take place by e-mail. Student and instructor should both maintain a professional, respectful demeanor during this discussion, and make an honest effort to listen carefully and to understand the other's viewpoint. If the grievance cannot be resolved by an honest and sincere dialogue between student and instructor, the student may then make an appointment to discuss the problem with the department chair.

Inclement weather days, instructor illness and conference attendance vs. exams and coursework: If class is cancelled because the campus is closed or because the instructor is ill and there is an exam or coursework due that day, the exam or coursework will automatically be rescheduled for the next regular class meeting.

Grading: The four (4) semester exams will each count for 20% of your total grade. Quizzes, class attendance and participation will count 20% of your total grade. Grades will be assigned according to the following system.

90-100 = A; 80-89= B; 70-79= C; 60-69 = D; <60 = F

Regrading policy: Return work or exams for regarding within one week of it being returned to you. After this one week period, regrades will not be considered. Return the graded material plus a written explanation for why you are requesting a regrade. Short answer and essay questions must be written in ink to be considered for a re-grade. In an attempt to provide as accurate a grade as possible, I reserve the right to re-grade any and all questions returned for re-grading. Therefore, regrading can result in a lower, higher, or unchanged score.

Late homework: Homework grades will be lowered 10% per calendar day it is late.

Classroom rules and general courtesies: I encourage students to discuss topics and ask questions during lectures. If this causes lectures to run over, we can simply continue where we leave off during the following class meeting. However, discussion not related to class topics (e.g., scheduling conflicts, re-grades, career counseling) should be reserved for office-hours. If you arrive late, pick up any handouts and quietly take a seat, but do not make a habit of arriving late (I will do the same). Synchronize watches now. If you choose to skip or miss class, you'll need to get notes from a fellow classmate. Don't complain to me when YOU miss material because YOU missed class. I will not repeat a lecture for students that miss class. There simply are not enough hours in the day. You might be able to find some material on my webpage. **Turn off any electronic device that might make a noise (e.g., cell phones, watch alarms, pagers).** Don't pass notes or carry out extraneous conversations during class. I do not mind if you have food or drink (room permitting) as long as you recycle or discard the packaging. **If a cell phone goes off during class, you will forfeit 10% of your next exam score.**

If you are texting in class during lecture, lab, or exam time, the penalty is a loss of 20% of your next exam score.

Instructional Methods: Overheads, PowerPoint, internet, class discussion, class activities and practical applied training in the greenhouse/laboratory.

Recording of Class Sessions:

A student shall not, without my express authorization, make or receive any recording, including but not limited to audio and video recordings, of any class, co-curricular meeting, organizational meeting, or meeting with me. Further, it is not permissible to post my class lectures/course materials on the web.

Request for Accommodation: Any student whose disability falls within the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities. The Brandon office is located in the Student Service Building Room 109. You may also reach the office by phone at (813) 253-7914. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to the instructor within the first two weeks of the course.

Religious Observances:

HCC will reasonably accommodate the religious observances, practices, and beliefs of students in its admissions, class attendance, and examination policies and work assignments. Students must notify instructors at least one week prior to a religious observance.

Equity Policy:

Hillsborough Community College is an equal access/equal opportunity employer that makes employment and education-related decisions without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status or any other bias that is or may be prohibited by laws. In addition, the college does not discriminate in employment practices or in the admission and treatment of students. HCC is committed to equitable treatment for all students and employees and to a learning and working environment free of discrimination and harassment for current as well as future students and employees. The college provides equal educational opportunities for qualified individuals with disabilities and complies with, as well as, supports the Americans with Disabilities Act. HCC's Equity Officer ensures compliance with federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and sexual harassment. Employees and students who believe they have been a victim of discrimination or sexual harassment should contact:

Dr. Joan B. Holmes

Special Assistant to the President
for Equity and Special Programs
District Administrative Offices
39 Columbia Drive, Room 718
Tampa, FL 33606
Telephone: 813-253-7043
Email: jholmes16@hccfl.edu

Miscellaneous: You are responsible for any announcements made, or materials circulated in your absence. You are responsible for understanding all policies, deadlines, etc. . . specified by the HCC Student Handbook. Arrangements can be made for students with learning disabilities only if they provide documentation from an HCC LD advisor.

OCB 2000 CLASS SCHEDULE (Spring 2012)

DATE	TOPIC	Chapter Readings (Castro and Huber) and Quizzes (10 pts ea.)
Jan 11	Course Intro./Science of Marine Biology	1 (Quiz 1)
Jan 18	A. The Sea Floor B. Chemical and Physical Features of Seawater	2, 3 (Quiz 2)
Jan 25	Fundamentals of Biology	4
Feb 1	EXAM 1 (100 pts)	
Feb 8	The Microbial World	5 (Quiz 3)
Feb 15	Multicellular Primary Producers: Seaweeds and Plants	6
Feb 22	Marine Animals Without a Backbone	7 (Quiz 4)
Feb 29	Exam 2 (100 pts)	
March 7	Marine Fish	8
March 14	Maine Reptiles, Birds	9 (Quiz 5)
March 21	Spring Break (no class)	
March 28	Marine Mammals	9
April 4	Exam 3 (100 pts)	
April 11	Introduction to Marine Ecology	10
April 18	Estuaries: Where Rivers Meet the Seas Edge Effect: Life on the Edge of Coastal Communities	11 (Quiz 6) 12
April 25	Coral Reefs	14
May 2	Exam 4 (100 pts)	

***A note about the Reading.** This is a guide only. We will be covering material from other text pages and sources in lecture. You are expected to read all pages of the assigned chapters before coming to class. (Exams are 50 pts. Quizzes are 10 pts each)

**OCB 2000
Syllabus Homework/Acceptance Sheet
Spring 2010**

Quiz 1

Due Friday in my office. (10 pts)

1. Where is my new office? _____

2. What is my general policy concerning exams?

3. What is my general policy concerning academic dishonesty?

**I _____ by my signature below acknowledge that I
have read and understand the course syllabus for OCB 2000.**

Signature _____

Date _____