Introduction To Oceanography – Spring 2008

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For whom this course is intended:

- For students fulfilling general education science requirements who wish to know something of modern trends and discoveries in oceanography without entering deeply into the physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology and geology of the oceans.
- For students seeking to better appreciate the marine environment
- As a first course for students getting a BS in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences.

Course objectives and purposes:

- The student will be stimulated to learn more about the marine environment, and to expand his or her knowledge through additional reading in this subject throughout his or her life.
- The student will have been exposed to a general coverage of the topic, and will be able to demonstrate understanding of this information by passing examinations patterned after the material presented and assigned.
- The student will develop an appreciation the interdisciplinary nature of oceanography, and for the some of the "cutting edge" research currently underway in the field.
- The student will find the coursework enjoyable!

Course Logistics:

Lectures: T/Th 9:35 to 10:50 in Thornton 432

Required text:

Garrison, Tom. 2007. *Oceanography: An Invitation to Marine Science, 6th edition.* Belmont, California: Brooks-Cole / Thomson Learning.

Office Hours: T/Th 11 AM to noon, Thornton Hall 623

Or contact (415-338-6015; deken@sfsu.edu) to set up an appointment

Grades:

Participation (quizzes, group discussion, writing assignments)	20%
Midterm 1	20%
Midterm 2	20%
Project	10%
Final	30%

In class participation: This will be an interactive course, including group work, in-class activities, discussions, and quizzes. Most of these exercises will be turned in and you will receive a grade for your ***participation and your answers*** (correct or incorrect) to questions. There are no "makeups" for these in class exercises, so in essence, your attendance and participation in class makes up 20% of your grade.

Exams will include both short answer and multiple choice questions:

- **Mid Term Exam I** will cover all topics up to and including those in lecture 10.
- **Mid Term Exam II** will cover lectures 11-19.
- The **Final Exam** will be cumulative, covering all topics in the class, with emphasis on those covered in lectures 20-29.

Exam Policy:

- There will be **no** makeup examinations unless you are sick and have a doctor's note to prove it. **I DO NOT GIVE MAKEUP EXAMS** (nor Incompletes) for other reasons (e.g., I overslept and missed the exam, etc). **Don't miss the exams**!

Intro to Oceanography "Grading Guarantee"
Grading will be on a standard scale. If everyone in the class gets >88% of the total points, I will give everyone at least an A-. While I may reduce the number of points required for a given grade, I will not *increase* the number of points required.

Course grade	Letter grade range
88%-100%	A- to A
78%-87%	B- to B+
68%-77%	C- to C+
50-67%	D
<50%	F

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations are encouraged to contact the instructor. The Disability Programs and Resource Center is available to facilitate the reasonable accommodations process. The DPRC, located in SSB 110, can be reached by telephone at 338-2724 (voice/TTY) or by e-mail at dprc@sfsu.edu

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty. Academic misconduct will not be tolerated in this course. This class provides opportunities for collaborative work, but everything that you turn in must be your own expression of your understanding of the material. Academic misconduct in any part of the course may lead to failing the particular assignment and the course, and it may result in disciplinary sanctions.