

SYLLABUS

MEA 220, MARINE BIOLOGY, Fall 2015
3:00 – 4:15pm Tu-Th, 1216 Jordan Hall

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Astrid Schnetzer

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Phone: 919-515-7837

Office Location: 4148 Jordan Hall

Office Hours: **Wednesday, 10:00am – 12:00 pm** or by appointment via email

Please pay attention to any announcements through the course webpage!

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

Introductory biology or oceanography (MEA 200 or BIO 181; may be waived by instructor, based on student's credentials and experience).

TEXT:

Required Text: Jeffrey S. Levinton, Marine Biology: Function, Diversity and Ecology, 3rd or 4th edition. A limited number of copies are available on the reserve shelf of the Natural Resources Library (NRL) on the 1st floor of Jordan Hall. These can only be checked out for a limited amount of hours. Other readings and lecture materials will be posted on wolfware and are typically made available prior to lectures.

Learning Outcomes

The course will be broken into three units. Firstly, we will explore the Ocean as a habitat for life, discussing abiotic and biotic factors that impact organisms. Secondly, we will survey specific marine habitats including the water column and intertidal and subtidal environments. And lastly we discuss the impacts of human activities on marine ecosystems and their habitants (e.g. Ocean Acidification, Coastal Eutrophication, Invasive Species). Specific learning outcomes will be presented each class period.

Course Structure

This course uses a lecture format punctuated by in-class discussions and activities. There will be homework plus tests and the final exam.

Course Policies

Students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to learn. Chapters that need reading for lecture preparation are listed on the class topics list posted on the course webpage. Please note: You will be tested and asked about topics and content of these chapters in class discussions or in exams. Student behavior should be respectful and polite. Disruptive students will be asked to leave the classroom. Cell phones and other electronic communications devices should be off during class and "put away". Laptops may be used for notes and other class-related activities.

General Education Program (GEP) Information

Natural Sciences

GEP Category Outcomes

How This Course Will Fulfill GEP Category Outcomes

Homework, in-class discussions and tests.

This course does not fulfill a General Education Program co-requisite.

Transportation

This course will not require students to provide their own transportation. Non-scheduled class time for field trips or out-of-class activities is NOT required for this class. For those who are interested we will conduct a one-day field excursion and details will be announced in class.

Safety & Risk Assumptions

None.

Class Attendance:

is excepted; see university definitions of "excused absences" and attendance policies at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-3>.

Absences: Up to two excused absences may be allowed. Please see the university attendance regulation at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-15> for further information, including the university definition of excused absences. Excuses should be submitted to the instructor via email as soon as possible (prior to the absence if possible).

Makeup Work

No makeup work will be allowed for home works and in class assignments. Make up tests may be allowed due to excused absences.

Examinations

will be mostly multiple choice due to class size, but may incorporate various other formats (completion, short essay, diagram-and-label).

Academic integrity is assumed (see University policy on academic integrity, found in the <http://www2.acs.ncsu.edu/upa/accreditation/compliance/4.5/4.5-4.pdf>).

Makeup Exams

will be given ONLY under the circumstances permissible for "excused absence" (<http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-15>). Only one make-up exam time will be scheduled after each exam within one week of the excused absence. Excuses should be submitted to the instructor via email as soon as possible, preferably prior to the absence.

Grading: Total points attainable: 600

- 400 points from 4 equally-weighted hourly exams throughout the semester including the cumulative final exam
- 100 points for in class- clicker quizzes
- 100 points for various assigned homework throughout the semester.

This Course uses Standard NCSU Letter Grading:

97 ≤ A+ ≤ 100

93 ≤ A < 97

90 ≤ A- < 93

87 ≤ B+ < 90

83 ≤ B < 87

80 ≤ B- < 83

77 ≤ C+ < 80

73 ≤ C < 77

70 ≤ C- < 73

67 ≤ D+ < 70

63 ≤ D < 67

60 ≤ D- < 63

0 ≤ F < 60

REQUIREMENTS FOR CREDIT-ONLY (S/U) GRADING:

In order to receive a grade of S, students are required to take all exams and quizzes, complete all assignments, and earn a grade of C- or better. Conversion from letter grading to credit only (S/U) grading is subject to university deadlines. Refer to the Registration and Records calendar for deadlines related to grading. For more details refer to <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-15>.

POLICIES ON INCOMPLETE GRADES:

If an extended deadline is not authorized by the instructor or department, an unfinished incomplete grade will automatically change to an F after either (a) the end of the next regular semester in which the student is enrolled (not including summer sessions), or (b) the end of 12 months if the student is not enrolled, whichever is shorter. Incompletes that change to F will count as an attempted course on transcripts. The burden of fulfilling an incomplete grade is the responsibility of the student. The university policy on incomplete grades is located at <http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-50-3>.

ELECTRONICALLY-HOSTED COMPONENTS:

This course may involve electronic sharing or posting of personally identifiable student work or other information with persons not taking or administering the course. Students will be asked to sign a consent allowing disclosure of their personally identifiable work. No student is required to sign the consent as a condition of taking the course. If a student does not want to sign the consent, he or she has the right to ask the instructor for an alternative, private means of completing the coursework.

DISABILITIES:

reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the [Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation \(REG02.20.1\)](#)"