

St. Thomas Aquinas College

MARINE BIOLOGY

BIO140

Fall 2007

Monday and Wednesday 8:15-9:40

Costello 121

Instructor:	Dr. Colleen Paul	Office Hours:	Monday 10:00-11:00	
Office:	Costello 203		Wednesday	10:00-11:00
Phone number:	(845) 398-4124		Thursday	11:00-12:00
Email Address:	cpaul@stac.edu		Friday	10:00-11:00

Other days and times available by appointment

Course Description:

Marine biology is the study of life in and under the sea. This course is intended for students who are not primarily biology majors. It will focus on the study of basic biological principles as they pertain to marine life.

Course Objectives:

- 1.) To understand the scientific method and how scientific investigation is done
- 2.) To understand the geological, chemical and physical properties of the sea
- 3.) To be knowledgeable about the different classifications of marine organisms
- 4.) To understand the biology of different marine ecosystems
- 5.) To evaluate the effects that humans have on marine biology

Evaluation:

4 non-cumulative exams	70%
3 Journals	10%
Quizzes and graded assignments	10%
Active participation in discussions and class attendance	10%

Journals: Each student will be required to complete 3 journals during the course of the semester. For each journal, students will find current articles relevant to the field of marine biology. Acceptable sources for these articles will be Scientific American, Discover magazine, Science News, Time, Newsweek, the New York Times, USA Today. All of these are available in the STAC library. You will read the article and write a one page summary of the article and your opinion of the article. You will also need to turn in a copy of the article with the one page summary. You may be asked to share your finding with the class.

Required Text:

Marine Biology (6th edition) by Peter Castro and Michael Huber, McGraw Hill, 2007
Any other required readings will be distributed in class.

Students are expected to read the appropriate textbook chapter as well as any other assigned material before the class period in which that material is being discussed.

Blackboard: Course material will be posted on Blackboard. Figures from the lecture, study guides, assignments, and additional reading material can all be accessed through blackboard.

Grading: Grades for late assignments will be lowered by 10% for each day the assignment is late.

Attendance:

Attendance is MANDATORY for both lectures and exams. Attendance will be recorded the at the beginning of each class and absences for more than 15% of the total course hours will result in a lower grade. If a student is unable to attend a lecture, it is his/her responsibility to make-up the missed class material. If a student it unable to attend one of the scheduled exams, you must contact the instructor beforehand or as soon as possible after the missed exam. Make-up exams will only be administered if there is a suitable reason for missing the exam at the discretion of the instructor. All make-up exams will be administered during the last week of classes.

Academic Integrity: It is expected that all students observed the standards of academic integrity as outlined in the student handbook. Any student caught cheating on a quiz or an exam will be given a zero for that assignment. The use of cell phones during an exam is also prohibited. Any on caught using a cell phone during an exam will receive an automatic zero for that exam.

SILENCE or turn off all cell phones, pagers, alarms and any other noisy electronics **PRIOR** to entering the class. Failure to do so **WILL** result in removal from class for the remainder of that class period.

There will be **NO** eating, drinking, chewing gum, or the application of cosmetics at any time during the lectures for lab safety purposes.

Lecture Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
9/5	Course Introduction and Introduction to Marine Biology	1
9/10	Geology of the Sea Floor	2
9/12	Chemistry of the Sea	3
9/17	Basics of Biology	4
9/19	EXAM #1 Review	
9/24	EXAM #1: CHAPTERS 1-4	
9/26	Marine Microorganisms	5
10/1	Marine Plants	6
10/3	Marine Invertebrates	7
	Journal #1 Due	
10/8	COLUMBUS DAY- NO CLASSES	
10/10	Marine Invertebrates	7
10/15	Fish	8
10/17	EXAM #2 Review	
10/22	EXAM #2: CHAPTERS 5-8	
10/24	Marine Reptiles, Birds, and Mammals	9
10/29	Marine Reptiles, Birds, and Mammals	9
10/31	Introduction to Marine Ecology	10
	Journal #2 due	
11/5	Intertidal Communities	11
11/7	Estuaries and Continental Shelf	12 & 13
11/11	EXAM #3 Review	
11/14	EXAM #3: Chapters 9-13	
11/19	Coral Reefs	14
11/21	THANKSGIVING BREAK-NO CLASSES	
11/26	Life near the surface	15
	Journal #3 due	
11/28	Ocean Depths	16
12/3	Human Impacts on Marine Environment	17 & 18
12/5	Exam #4 Review	
12/12	EXAM #4: CHAPTERS 14-18	
12/14	Wrap-up and Make-up exams	

** Scheduled exams are illustrated in bold typing. These dates are tentative and subject to change. There will be **NO** make-up exams unless there are extenuating circumstances. If you must miss an exam, you need to contact me prior to the missed exam or as soon as possible following the missed exam. If inclement weather results in a snow holiday, exams scheduled for that day will be administered at the next class meeting.