Course Change Request

Viewing: MARB 656: Tropical Marine Ecology

Last edit: 02/05/18 6:35 pm

Changes proposed by: ballr

Catalog Pages referencing this course

In Workflow
1. MARB Department Head
2. Curricular Services Review
3. GV Committee Preparer GR
4. GV Committee Chair GR
5. GV College Dean GR
6. GC Preparer
7. GC Chair
8. Faculty Senate Preparer
9. Faculty Senate
10. Provost II
11. President
12. Curricular Services
13. Banner

Faculty Senate Number

Contact(s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Ball</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ballr@tamug.edu">ballr@tamug.edu</a></td>
<td>4097404531</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rationale for Course

The proposed changes are part of a routine curriculum review.

Course prefix MARB Course number 656

Department Marine Biology
College/School Galveston Campus
Academic Level Graduate
Academic Level (alternate) Undergraduate
Effective term 2018-2019 Galveston

Complete Course Title Tropical Marine Ecology
Abbreviated Course Title TROPICAL MARINE ECOLOGY

Catalog course description

Topical Marine Ecology. (1-6). Field oriented experience in coral reef, mangrove, sea grass, cave and other tropical marine ecosystems. Special emphasis will be placed on biodiversity, ecology and conservation issues specific to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. This course will involve one week of course work in Galveston and a two-week field trip to Akumal on the Caribbean coast of Yucatan. Students will design, supervise and conduct an independently developed research project.

Prerequisites and Restrictions
Scuba Certification.
Concurrent Enrollment No
Should catalog prerequisites / concurrent enrollment be enforced? No

Crosslistings No Crosslisted With MARB 340: Tropical Marine Ecology

Stacked Yes No Stacked with MARB 340 - Tropical Marine Ecology

Approval Path
1. 02/05/18 10:42 am
Jaime Alvarado-Bremer (jaimeb): Approved for MARB Department Head
2. 02/05/18 6:35 pm
Sandra Williams (sandra-williams): Approved for Curricular Services Review
3. 02/06/18 3:48 pm
Nicole Kinslow (wilkinsn): Approved for GV Committee Preparer GR
4. 02/09/18 2:46 pm
Antonietta Quigg (quigg): Approved for GV Committee Chair GR
5. 02/09/18 3:30 pm
Antonietta Quigg (quigg): Approved for GV College Dean GR
6. 02/16/18 12:55 pm
Meagan Kelly (meagankelly): Approved for GC Preparer
7. 03/01/18 3:18 pm
LaRhena Johnson (lrjohnson): Approved for GC Chair

https://nextcatalog.tamu.edu/courseleaf/approve/
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Contact Hour(s)</th>
<th>Lecture:</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>Lab:</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>Other:</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Credit Hour(s)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Repeatable for credit? | No
Three-peat? | No
CIP/Fund Code | 2613010002
Default Grade Mode | Letter Grade(G)
Alternate Grade Modes | Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Method of instruction | Lecture and Laboratory

Will sections of this course be taught as non-traditional? (i.e., parts of term, distance education) | Yes

Learning Outcomes

Meets traditional face-to-face learning outcomes.

Describe how learning outcomes are met or provide justification why they are not met.

The learning outcomes for this shortened course will be the same as for a full semester course by providing equivalent materials and rigor in a full immersion, two-week long, seven days a week field course, plus four days of an initial lecture module. Tropical Marine Ecology (MARB 340/656) is a rapid, in-depth course including preparatory lectures on relevant topics prior to a 15-day diving intensive trip to Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula. The course meets all TAMU approved Study Abroad requirements. At the conclusion of the class, students will be able to identify the principle species of fish, corals and invertebrates inhabiting coral reefs; recognize and interpret environmental issues relating to coral reefs including coral diseases, human impact and climate change; and construct and justify plans that would help to protect and preserve coral reef communities. In addition, students will be responsible for the design and implement of an independent research project under the supervision of the course TA's and professor and will be evaluated on their resulting research paper.

Hours

Meets traditional face-to-face hours.

Describe how hours are met or provide justification why they are not met.

Course activities during the class stay in Mexico will begin immediately after breakfast and continue throughout the remainder of the day and often into the evening, averaging at least 8 hours per day over 15 days for a total of 120 contact hours.

Per University Rule 11.03.99.M1, paragraph 2.4, the department has determined that this course as taught in a shortened form meets the same credit hour requirement as face-to-face courses taught in a long semester.

Will this course be taught as a distance education course? | No
Is 100% of this course going to be taught in Texas? | No
Will classroom space be needed for this course? | Yes

This will be a required course or an elective course for the following programs:

Required (select program)

Elective (select program)
### Course Syllabus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Syllabus:</th>
<th>Upload syllabus</th>
<th>MARB 656 Syl: Summer 18.docx</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters of support or other documentation</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional information</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviewer Comments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reported to state?</td>
<td>No</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MARB 656: Tropical Marine Ecology – Summer I, 2018

Dr. Thomas Iliffe, Course Instructor
Rm. 251, OCSB – (409) 740-4454; E-mail: iliffet@tamug.edu
TAs: Lauren Ballou, 409 740-4875, balloul@tamu.edu
Fernando Calderón Gutiérrez, 409 740-4875, fercg12@tamu.edu

Course Web Site: http://www.tamug.edu/diving/TropMarineEcology.html

Course description: (3 credits). This Study Abroad course provides for field-oriented experience in coral reef, mangrove, sea grass, cave and other tropical marine ecosystems. Special emphasis will be placed on biodiversity, ecology and conservation issues specific to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico. The course consists of 1 week of lecture in Galveston (June 13 – 18), 2 weeks of fieldwork in the Yucatan Peninsula (June 19 – July 3), and 1 week of post course readings and web based discussion via the Internet. While in Mexico, graduate students will design and implement a research project that will be carried out by undergrads with supervision from the course instructor and TAs.

Learning objectives: At the conclusion of the class, students will be able to identify the principal species of fish, corals and invertebrates inhabiting coral reefs; recognize and interpret environmental issues relating to coral reefs including coral diseases, human impact and climate change; and construct and justify plans that would help to protect and preserve coral reef communities.

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: BIOL 112. All students who dive must either be a current AAUS scientific diver or present a current medical examination (which will be provided by the Diving Safety Officer or instructor) completed within the past 12 months and signed by a doctor, to the instructor before class participation in the pool will be allowed. Prior to using scuba equipment, all students must provide proof of open water certification or equivalent diving experience (advanced certification recommended). Permission of the instructor and the Diving Safety Officer is required before any pool activity takes place. Divers Alert Network insurance, or equivalent, is required.


This course involves a 2-week field trip to Akumal on the Caribbean coast of the Yucatan Peninsula. Students will be charged a field trip fee ($2200) which will cover airfare, accommodations, meals, diving and transportation in Mexico. This field trip fee is in addition to normal tuition and fees for a 3-credit course. Space in the course is limited and students who make an $850 deposit starting Jan. 23 will be given preference. Dormitory space is available at the TAMU-Galveston campus for the first week of the course, while housing in Yucatan will be at the Vista del Mar condominiums in Akumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jun 13</td>
<td>Galveston</td>
<td>PT, Intro. Lecture, Yucatan geography, coral ecology lectures, Swim test,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 14</td>
<td>Galveston</td>
<td>PT, Cenotes, fish, sea turtles lectures, Scuba checkout in pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 15</td>
<td>Galveston</td>
<td>Moody Gardens rainforest, mangroves, sea grass lectures, Scuba in pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 16</td>
<td>Galveston</td>
<td>Free day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 17</td>
<td>Galveston</td>
<td>Free day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 18</td>
<td>Galveston</td>
<td>Moody Aquarium fish count, exam, final packing &amp; checking of gear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 19</td>
<td>Travel day</td>
<td>Depart Galveston, fly from Houston to Cancun, van to Akumal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 20</td>
<td>Akumal</td>
<td>General orientation, snorkeling trip to reefs and sea grass beds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 21</td>
<td>Akumal</td>
<td>Shore dives - back reef area (reef structure and biodiversity)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lecture exam

Additional Resources:

- The PICA (Personalized Instructor/Course Appraisal) is an online course evaluation for Texas A&M. We highly encourage you to complete an evaluation for each course on your schedule. Student input is a critical component used to improve curriculum and teaching. Each faculty member values your input to improve his/her methodology. Your comments can also significantly impact the mix and membership of faculty. The PICA website is available at [http://pica.tamu.edu](http://pica.tamu.edu), or by scanning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading:</th>
<th>Classroom and fieldwork participation 25%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fieldwork research reports 25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lecture exam 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Online discussion questions 20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale:**

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

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal non-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this law requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Counseling Office, Seibel Student Center, or call (409)740-4587. For additional information visit: [http://www.tamug.edu/counsel/services/dssprocedures.htm](http://www.tamug.edu/counsel/services/dssprocedures.htm).

**Academic Dishonesty:** For many years Aggies have followed a Code of Honor, which is stated in this very simple verse: “**Aggies do not lie, cheat, or steal, nor do they tolerate those who do.**” It is the responsibility of students and faculty members to help maintain scholastic integrity at the University by refusing to participate in or tolerate scholastic dishonest. The Aggies Code of Honor and the Scholastic Dishonesty section in the TAMUG University Rules will be the stand upon which scholastic integrity is maintained.

**Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Regulations:** Students should be familiar with the University Rules, which can be obtained from the Office of Student Affairs. This handbook contains valuable information concerning academic dishonesty, appeals processes, incomplete grades, sexual harassment, and many other topics of interest to you.

**Attendance and make-up policies:** student rule 7 - [http://www.tamug.edu/stulife/Academic%20Rules/Rule%207.pdf](http://www.tamug.edu/stulife/Academic%20Rules/Rule%207.pdf)

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of educational records by limiting access to these records, to establish the right of students to inspect and review their educational records and to provide guidelines for the correction of inaccurate and misleading data through informal and formal hearings. To obtain a listing of directory information or to place a hold on any or all of this information, please consult the Admissions & Records Office. Items that can never be identified as public information are a student’s social security number or institutional identification number, citizenship, gender, grades, GPR or class schedule. All efforts will be made in this class to protect your privacy and to ensure confidential treatment of information associated with or generated by your participation in the class.

**Course Evaluations:** The PICA (Personalized Instructor/Course Appraisal) is an online course evaluation for Texas A&M. We highly encourage you to complete an evaluation for each course on your schedule. Student input is a critical component used to improve curriculum and teaching. Each faculty member values your input to improve his/her methodology. Your comments can also significantly impact the mix and membership of faculty. The PICA website is available at [http://pica.tamu.edu](http://pica.tamu.edu), your Howdy portal, or by scanning:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Resources:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Helpful links for syllabus construction:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Academic Calendar <a href="http://www.tamug.edu/catalog/calendar.html">http://www.tamug.edu/catalog/calendar.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Final Exam Schedule <a href="http://www.tamug.edu/admrc/Records.html">http://www.tamug.edu/admrc/Records.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- On-line Catalog <a href="http://www.tamug.edu/catalog/">http://www.tamug.edu/catalog/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Student Rules <a href="http://www.tamug.edu/stulife/studentrules.html">http://www.tamug.edu/stulife/studentrules.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Religious Observances <a href="http://dof.tamu.edu/content/religious-observance">http://dof.tamu.edu/content/religious-observance</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Center for Teaching Excellence <a href="http://cte.tamu.edu/">http://cte.tamu.edu/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>