

Course Change Request

Date Submitted: 03/26/18 4:01 pm

Viewing: **MARB 415 : Coastal Marine Biology and Geology of Alaska**

Also Known As: **WFSC 415**

Last edit: 04/04/18 5:20 pm

Changes proposed by: ballr

Catalog Pages referencing this course [Department of Marine Biology.](#)
[MARB - Marine Biology_\(MARB\).](#)

Contact(s)

Name	E-mail	Phone
Lindsay Stroup	lstroup@tamu.edu	979-845-5704

Rationale for Course

Edit

The proposed changes are part of a routine curriculum review.

Course prefix MARB Course number 415

Department Marine Biology

College/School Galveston Campus

Academic Level Undergraduate

Undergraduate course level justification (Select One)

Effective term **2019-2020 Galveston**

Complete Course Title

Coastal Marine Biology and Geology of Alaska

Abbreviated Course Title COASTAL MARINE BIO-GEOLO

Catalog course description

Field course conducted in south-central Alaska for two weeks; work at the remote Alice Cove Research Station located in Prince William Sound; conduct research on marine mammals behavior and ecology; exploration of the geology and glaciology.

Prerequisites and Restrictions

BIOL 112.

Should catalog prerequisites / concurrent enrollment be enforced? Yes

In Workflow

1. **MARB Department Head**
2. **WFSC Department Head**
3. **Curricular Services Review**
4. **GV Committee Preparer UG**
5. **GV Committee Chair UG**
6. **GV College Dean UG**
7. **UCC Preparer**
8. **UCC Chair**
9. **Faculty Senate Preparer**
10. Faculty Senate
11. Provost II
12. President
13. Curricular Services
14. Banner

Approval Path

1. 03/26/18 4:06 pm
Jaime Alvarado-Bremer (jaimeab): Approved for MARB Department Head
2. 03/26/18 4:15 pm
David Caldwell (caldwell): Approved for WFSC Department Head
3. 03/26/18 4:42 pm
Sandra Williams (sandra-williams): Approved for Curricular Services Review
4. 03/29/18 10:20 am
Meredith Zalesak (zalesakm): Approved for GV Committee Preparer UG
5. 04/03/18 11:40 am
Meredith Zalesak (zalesakm): Rollback to MARB Department Head for GV Committee Chair UG
6. 04/04/18 5:20 pm
Rachel Ball (ballr): Approved for MARB Department Head
7. 04/05/18 9:57 am
David Caldwell (caldwell): Approved for WFSC Department

- Head
- 8. 04/05/18 2:38 pm
Sandra Williams
(sandra-williams):
Approved for Curricular
Services Review
- 9. 04/09/18 10:37 am
Meredith Zalesak
(zalesakm): Approved
for GV Committee
Preparer UG
- 10. 04/09/18 10:37 am
Meredith Zalesak
(zalesakm): Approved
for GV Committee Chair
UG
- 11. 04/11/18 5:30 pm
Patrick Louchouarn
(loup): Approved for GV
College Dean UG
- 12. 04/11/18 9:01 pm
Sandra Williams
(sandra-williams):
Approved for UCC
Preparer
- 13. 05/08/18 3:34 pm
Sandra Williams
(sandra-williams):
Approved for UCC Chair

Enforced Prerequisites / Concurrent Enrollment

And/Or	(Course Prefix/Number	Min Grade/Score	Academic Level)	Concurrency?
		BIOL 112	D	UG		
Crosslistings	Yes No	Crosslisted With	WFSC 415			
Stacked	Yes No	Stacked with	WFSC 631 - Course WFSC 631 not Found			

Semester 3 Contact Hour(s) Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 Other: 0 Total 3
 Credit (per week):
 Hour(s)

Repeatable for credit? No

CIP/Fund Code 2613020002

Default Grade Mode Letter Grade(G)

Method of instruction Lecture

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

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? No

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

Required (select program)

Elective (select program)

Has/will this course be(en) submitted for core curriculum consideration? No

Has/will this course be(en) submitted for Writing or Communication consideration? No

Has/will this course be(en) submitted for ICD consideration? No

Course Syllabus

Syllabus: Upload syllabus

Upload syllabus [Syllabus for WFSC 415.pdf](#)
[MARB 415-Summer 2019.pdf](#)

Letters of support or other documentation No

Additional information

Reviewer Comments **John Schwarz (schwarzj) (09/06/16 10:45 am):** Rollback: The TAMUG Academic Advisory Committee met yesterday to review the request to cross-list WFSC 415 with MARB 415. After extensive discussion, the decision was made to not cross-list the two courses. Among the factors considered were: the new system will allow TAMU students to cross-register in TAMUG courses(in the past a call to the MARB office was made); the course is only taught in Alaska in the summer by a TAMUG-based Professor and MARB 415 can be listed in the catalog as an appropriate course for any required Internship. When a TAMUG student registers for other TAMU-taught courses, they register for the TAMU-Department's course, not one that is cross-listed. We have had a wonderful relationship with WFSC during the 40 years I have been on the faculty. I trust this will continue.
Sandra Williams (sandra-williams) (03/26/18 4:42 pm): I assume concerns from September 2016 have been addressed.
Meredith Zalesak (zalesakm) (04/03/18 11:40 am): Rollback: Per GV-UCC: Syllabus require updating of date and links.
Rachel Ball (ballr) (04/04/18 5:20 pm): Syllabus has been updated as requested.
Sandra Williams (sandra-williams) (05/08/18 3:34 pm): UCC approved May 2018.

Summer 2016
WFSC 415
Coastal Marine Biology and Geology of Alaska

Instructors: Dr. Randall Davis - 409-740-4712
281-250-7839 (cell)
Dr. Tim Dellapenna- 409-740-4952

Class Schedule: Summer 2016

Office Hours: By appointment

Meeting times and location: 12 full days at Alice Cove, Alaska

Pre-requisites: BIOL 112. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor

Textbook: None, but a suggested reading list will be provided

Course description and objectives: This 3 credit hour course will give students an opportunity to learn about the coastal marine biology and geology of south-central Alaska and to participate in a behavioral ecological study of sea otters for 12 days at a remote field station in north-eastern Prince William Sound. Students will learn field research techniques by collecting behavioral observations of sea otters, water samples for primary productivity, and benthic invertebrates. They will also learn about the local marine biology, geology and wildlife through hikes, tide-pooling and lectures.

Learning Outcomes:

- Identify and describe local marine mammals and their habitat.
- Identify and describe local terrestrial birds and mammals and their habitat.
- Identify and describe local marine invertebrates and their habitat.
- Identify and describe local trees and plants
- Students will be able to engage in careers in marine and wildlife biology.

Course Syllabus

This syllabus is what we plan to do, but changes may be necessary depending on weather and logistics.

May	Introduction and briefing on campus
June-Aug	Each summer session is 12 days in duration. Five sessions are planned Day 1: Arrive Alice Cove Day 2: Introduction to Simpson Bay study area; overview of methods; safety briefing Day 3-10: Rotate through Project components (weather dependent) Collect behavioral observations of sea otters in Simpson Bay Collect water samples for primary productivity in Simpson/Sheep Bays Collect benthic samples for invertebrate survey in Simpson/Sheep Bays Visit tide pools to study algae and invertebrates Hikes for terrestrial wildlife observations Lectures on the biology of sea otters and local geology Day 11: Travel to Cordova to visit the Sheridan Glacier and Copper River Delta Day 12: Depart Cordova for Anchorage and return home
August	Final report due

Grading Policy

Grading will be based on participation in the field course (50%) and the final report (50%). Participation will include learning field research protocols and assisting with data collection within the limits of each student's physical ability. We will also collect marine specimens for taxonomic identification as well as survey the local geology and glaciology. Most students enthusiastically participate in all aspects of the course. The grade for the final report will be based on the depth and understanding on a topic of the student's choice related to the field course as well as grammar and syntax in a 20 page report. If needed, late work or make-up is available. Grading will be: A 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 70-79%, D 60-69%, F 59% or less.

Additional requirement of graduate students: A 30 page report with full citations and five original sources.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation 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 Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.”

<https://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/>

Attendance:

Information concerning absences is contained in the University Student Rules Section 7 (<http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>.) The University views class attendance as an individual student responsibility. All students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments. Please consult the University Student Rules for reasons for excused absences, detailed procedures and deadlines as well as student grievance procedures (Part III, Section 45).

Make-up Policy:

If an absence is excused, the instructor will either provide the student an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the final grade or provide a satisfactory alternative by a date agreed upon by the student and instructor. If the instructor has a regularly scheduled make up exam, students are expected to attend unless they have a university approved excuse. The make-up work must be completed in a timeframe not to exceed 30 calendar days from the last day of the initial absence. The student is responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to the instructor or substantiate the reason for the absence. Among the reasons absences are considered excused by the university are the following (see Student Rule 7 for details see <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>. The fact that these are university-excused absences does not relieve the student of responsibility for prior notification and documentation. Failure to notify and/or document properly may result in an unexcused absence. Falsification of documentation is a violation of the Honor Code.

- 1) Participation in an activity that is required for a class and appears on the university authorized activity list at: <https://studentactivities.tamu.edu/app/sponsauth/index>.
- 2) Death or major illness in a student's immediate family.
- 3) Illness of a dependent family member.
- 4) Participation in legal proceedings or administrative procedures that require a student's presence.
- 5) Religious holy day. Note: Prior notification is not required.
- 6) Injury or illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.
 - a) Injury or illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class. Student will provide medical confirmation note from his or her medical provider within one week of the last date of the absence. (See Student Rules 7.1.6.1)
 - b) Injury or illness of less than three class days:
Student will provide one or both of these (at instructor's discretion), within one week of the last date of absence:
 - (i) Texas A&M University Explanatory Statement for Absence from Class form available at <https://attendance.tamu.edu>.
 - (ii) Confirmation of visit to a health care professional affirming date and time of visit.
 - c) An absence for a non-acute medical service does not constitute as an excused absence.
- 7) Required participation in military duties.
- 8) Mandatory admission interviews for professional or graduate school that cannot be rescheduled.

- 9) Mandatory participation as a student-athlete in NCAA sanctioned competition.
- 10) In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Texas A&M University shall treat pregnancy (childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy and recovery therefrom) and related conditions as a justification for an excused absence for so long a period of time as is deemed medically necessary by the student's physician. Requests for excused absence related to pregnancy should be directed to the instructor.

Other absences may be excused at the discretion of the instructor with prior notification and proper documentation. In cases where prior notification is not feasible (e.g., accident or emergency) the student must provide notification by the end of the second working day after the absence, including an explanation of why notice could not be sent prior to the class. Accommodations sought for absences due to the observance of a religious holiday can be sought either prior or after the absence, but not later than two working days after the absence.



Course title and number MARB 415 - Coastal Marine Biology and Geology of Alaska
Term 10 week - Summer 2019
Meeting times and location Prince William Sound, Alaska

Catalog Description

Field course conducted in south-central Alaska for two weeks; work at the remote Alice Cove Research Station located in Prince William Sound; conduct research on marine mammals behavior and ecology; exploration of the geology and glaciology.

Expanded Course Description and Prerequisites

This field course will be conducted in south-central Alaska for two weeks. Students will work at the remote Alice Cove Research Station, located in Prince William Sound. They will conduct research on marine mammal behavior and ecology, and time will be spent exploring the geology and glaciology.
Prerequisites: BIOL 112

Learning Outcomes

This 3 credit hour course will give students an opportunity to learn about the coastal marine biology and geology of south-central Alaska and to participate in a behavioral ecological study of sea otters for two weeks at a remote field station in north-eastern Prince William Sound. In addition to attendance, each student will prepare a 20 page report on a topic of their choice but related to the goals of the course.

Instructor Information

Name Dr. Randall Davis
Telephone number 409-740-4712 or 281-250-7839 (cell)
Email address davisr@tamug.edu
Office hours By appointment
Office location None

Textbook and/or Resource Material

No textbook is required, but a suggested reading list will be provided.

Grading Policies

Grading will be based on participation in the field course (50%) and the final report (50%). Participation will include learning field research protocols and assisting with data collection within the limits of each student's physical ability. We will also collect marine specimens for taxonomic identification as well as survey the local geology and glaciology. Most students enthusiastically participate in all aspects of the course. The grade for the final report will be based on the depth and understanding on a topic of the student's choice related to the field course as well as grammar and syntax in a 20 page report.
A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = <60%

Attendance and Make-up Policies

Statement on Absences (Attendance):

Information concerning absences is contained in the University Student Rules Section 7 (http://www.tamug.edu/stulife/Academic_Rules/7_Attendance.html). The University views class attendance as an individual student responsibility. All students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments. Please consult the University Student Rules for reasons for excused absences, detailed procedures and deadlines as well as student grievance procedures (Part III, Section 45).

Make-up Policy:

If an absence is excused, the instructor will either provide the student an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the final grade or provide a satisfactory alternative by a date agreed upon by the student and instructor. If the instructor has a regularly scheduled make up exam, students are expected to attend unless they have a university approved excuse. The make-up work must be completed in a timeframe not to exceed 30 calendar days from the last day of the initial absence.

The student is responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to the instructor to substantiate the reason for the absence. Reasons for absences that are considered excused by the university are found in Student Rule 7 (http://www.tamug.edu/stulife/Academic_Rules/7_Attendance.html). The fact that these are university-excused absences does not relieve the student of responsibility for prior notification and documentation. Failure to notify and/or document properly may result in an unexcused absence. Falsification of documentation is a violation of the Honor Code.

Course Topics, Calendar of Activities, Major Assignment Dates

This syllabus is what we plan to do, but changes may be necessary depending on weather and logistics. Five 12-day summer sessions that span 10 weeks

Day 1: Arrive Alice Cove

Day 2: Introduction to Simpson Bay study area; overview of methods; safety briefing

Day 3-10: Rotate through Project components (weather dependent)

Collect behavioral observations of sea otters in Simpson Bay

Collect benthic samples for invertebrate survey in Simpson/Sheep Bays

Visit tide pools to study algae and invertebrates

Hikes for terrestrial wildlife observations

Lectures on the biology of sea otters and local geology

Day 11: Travel to Cordova to visit the Sheridan Glacier and Copper River Delta

Day 12: Depart Cordova for Anchorage and return home

August Final report due

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The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation 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/Disabilities.html>.

Academic Integrity

For additional information please visit: <http://www.tamug.edu/HonorSystem>

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