

LIFE IN FLUIDS — MARS 3550

General Course Information:

Instructors:	Dr. Adrian Burd, Marine Sciences Room 110 K (adrianb@uga.edu) Dr. Daniela Di Iorio, Marine Sciences Room 250 (daniela@uga.edu) Dr. Patricia Yager, Marine Sciences Room 166 (pyager@uga.edu)	
Office Hours:	By appointment (please email, call or drop by the office)	
Class Times:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:25 - 2:15, Marine Sciences Room 261	
Readings:	Notes will be posted on the class ELC website. Additional readings will be assigned (and also posted on the ELC website) as needed.	
Grades:	Mini tests	4 tests, worth 10% each
	Participation	10%
	Research Paper	50%

Organisms live in fluids, whether that fluid is air or water. Air and water have very different properties, which means that organisms have different challenges and have to make different adaptations to living in these environments. What is more, the physical scale of the organism plays a prominent role in how it experiences its environment — what works for a small fish will not work for a bacterium.

In this course we will explore the

Coursework

There will be no final exam for this course. Instead, there will be 4 mini-tests (see schedule for dates) that will take place in class and will each count 10% towards the final grade. In addition, each student will be required to complete a research paper in a topic from the class and give a brief class presentation on that topic. The will be worth a combined 50% of the course grade, with the following breakdown:

Research paper: 30% — 25% for the final paper and 5% for responses to the draft.

Presentation: 20%.

The final version of the research paper will be due at 3pm on Friday May 3rd.

the research paper itsewill be worth 30% of the course grade and the pr

The problem sets form an integral part of the material covered in this course. Quantitative methods is not a “spectator sport” and the only way to learn this material is by using it; it cannot be learned simply by reading and memorizing. Problem sets will be assigned weekly and are designed to develop understanding of the material and improve quantitative skills. Although you are free to discuss the problems with your fellow students, the work you hand in must be your own.

Students with extensive quantitative backgrounds may test out of the course by taking a test equivalent to a standard final exam for the course. To arrange this, please see Dr. Burd after the first week of class.

Make-up exams will not be offered except in cases of extreme circumstance or absence because of field work. Any student who desires a make up exam must contact the instructor before the regular scheduled exam, and in any case, not more than 24 hours after the scheduled exam. The decision to offer a make-up exam in any particular case is at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Please note — no extra credit will be available for this course.

the final exam for the course will be on wednesday, december 12 from 12:00 - 3:00 pm.

Academic Honesty:

All academic work must meet the standards contained in "A Culture of Honesty". Students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The UGA Academic Honesty Policy (A Culture of Honesty) is available on-line at: http://www.uga.edu/honesty/ahpd/culture_honesty.htm .

Students With Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact Dr. Burd.

Course Withdrawals:

Students withdrawing from the course before the midpoint of the semester will be assigned a grade of 'WP' or 'WF', depending on their performance in the class up until the time that the drop is initiated. For withdrawals after the semester midpoint, University policy requires that a grade of 'WF' be assigned, except in those cases in which the student is doing satisfactory work and the withdrawal is necessitated by ill health or other hardship, as certified by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. Students wishing to withdraw from the course after the midpoint of the semester under these circumstances should contact the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs (542-3564).

Syllabus Disclaimer:

This course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.