

MARS 1011e
Introduction to the Marine Environment
The physics, geology and chemistry of the marine environment

This course fulfills the Physical Sciences requirement.

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



Professor:

Dr. Clifton Buck

Phone: 912-598-2418

Email: csbuck@uga.edu

Course objectives

This course will familiarize you with an earth system that influences your life every day. In addition, this course will provide you with the opportunity to understand the scientific process and the role of technology in supporting scientific study.

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Describe the physical, geological and chemical processes that define the ocean environment
- Explain the role of the oceans in regulating global climate
- Appreciate the ocean's importance as a natural resource
- Describe the relationship between land-based processes and the ocean system
- Evaluate how human activities are changing the ocean

eLC: This course will be managed through UGA's eLC. All videos, discussion boards and assignments must be accessed through eLC.

Course Syllabus

Textbook: Essentials of Oceanography, 12th Edition. Trujillo & Thurman. Pearson. (ISBN 978-0-13-425394-7). The text is required and you can use either a physical book or the eTextbook. You may purchase at the UGA bookstore or directly from Pearson at <http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/essentials-of-oceanography-subscription-0134298098>



or

<http://www.mypearsonstore.com/bookstore/essentials-of-oceanography-books-a-la-carte-edition-0134253949>

Changes to the Course Syllabus: The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations from the syllabus when necessary will be announced on the eLC course site. **You are responsible for checking the site and your UGA email daily.**

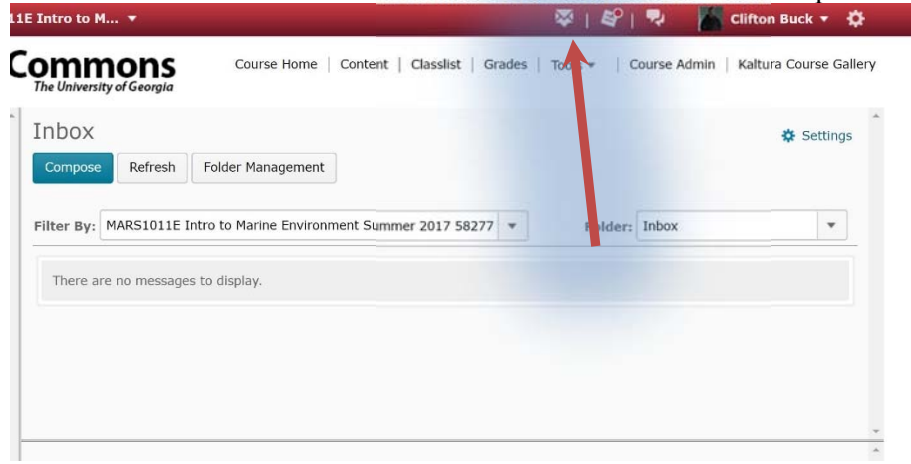
Course Expectations

You Responsibilities as a Student:

- This course should take approximately 10 hours of work per week
- **Participate! Engage with your fellow students within the discussion boards to enhance**

your learning experience and participation is worth 15% of your final grade

- Abide by the [Netiquette Policy](#)
- Be sure that you check your eLC email daily and/or have that email forwarded to your personal email account. I will send course related emails to the email address provided to me by the eLC.



My Responsibilities as an Instructor:

- Your instructor will be active in eLC at least five days per week
- Your instructor or the TA will provide a response to emails and discussion posts within 48 hours

How This Class will be Different from a Traditional Course:











Learning online is different than learning face-to-face.

- You have to be **self-motivated** and able to **work independently**
- You need to be **organized** to keep up with your work. Find a **routine** that works and stick to it
- Make sure you have the **required equipment**, have completed any **tutorials** and run all **system checks** before you begin the course
- Make sure you **commit enough time** to your course work
- Follow **communication expectations**. Use email, post to discussion, ask questions

Instructor Availability and Response Time. Your class interaction with your instructor and your classmates will take place in eLC on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be active in eLC at least five days per week and **you will normally communicate with your instructor in the open eLC discussion forum so that your questions and the instructor's answers benefit the entire class.** You should send emails directly to your instructor only when you need to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature, and in those cases your instructor will provide a response within 48 hours.

Grading

Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Final Exam	15%
Final Video Project	10%
Discussion Board Participation	15%
Quizzes	30%

Symbol*	Start %*	Color
F	0	
D	59.5	
C-	69.5	
C	73	
C+	77	
B-	79.5	
B	83	
B+	87	
A-	89.5	
A	93	

For more on plus/minus grading see:

<http://www.bulletin.uga.edu/PlusMinusGradingFAQ.html>

Course Schedule

Module 1 – Introduction to Planet Earth (Intro. & Chap. 1)

Module 2 – Plate Tectonics and the Ocean Floor (Chap. 2)

Module 3 – Marine Provinces (Chap. 3)

Module 4 – The Coast (Chap. 10)

Exam Week 1

Module 5 – Water and Seawater (Chap. 5)

Module 6 – Air-Sea Interaction (Chap. 6)

Module 7 – Ocean Circulation (Chap. 7)

Module 8 – Waves and Water Dynamics (Chap. 8)

Exam Week 2

Module 9 – Tides (Chap. 9)

Module 10 –Marine Pollution (Chap. 11)

Module 11 - The Oceans and Climate Change (Chap. 16)

Module 12 – Biological Productivity and Energy Transfer (Chap. 13)

Assignments. The course has been divided into modules which cover specific topics within the ocean sciences. Each module will include pre-quiz, readings from the text, videos from the Internet, and discussion board prompts. Each module may also include short video lectures. The graded assignments in each module will be open for **7 days** from Monday to the following Sunday (excluding Module 1). All assignments will be due by 11:59PM on that Sunday night. After that time, you will not be able to submit additional work. Plan accordingly. The videos and peer discussion boards will remain available so that you are able to access them throughout the semester.

Quizzes. Each week's module will include a quiz. Quizzes will only cover material from the module in which they are assigned. These assignments will consist of questions based on the module's readings and video presentations. Each quiz will be 20 questions and you will have 30 minutes to complete the questions. Quizzes are open book but must be completed independently. **Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.**

Exams. Exams will be administered through the eLC. They will be timed and open book. You must work independently. There will be no reading or homework assignments during the week an exam is scheduled. This time is intended to allow you to study and prepare for the exam. Each exam can be taken only once. Each exam will consist of 40 questions and you will have 60 minutes to complete the questions. Students will abide by the University of Georgia Academic Honesty Policy. **Because you have 7 days to complete your test, it is *highly* unlikely that exceptions will be made.**

Missed exams. Under extreme circumstances (an excused absence), a make-up exam will be given. You must make arrangements prior to the week of the exam to take a make-up exam. If you **DO NOT** complete an exam prior to the closing date, you will receive a zero. It is your responsibility to contact Dr. Buck by email or phone if you miss the exam due to unforeseen circumstances. **Because you have 7 days to complete your exam, it is *highly* unlikely that exceptions will be made.** Plan accordingly.

Video Project.

Topic: Anything related to marine science. Topics could include a relevant environmental issue, technology, profile of a historic figure, some aspect of the ocean system you find especially interesting, etc... The topic must be approved by me. Topic ideas must be submitted by **TBD**. An "Assignment Dropbox" has been created in the Welcome Module for this purpose.

Video projects can include up to 3 students. For video projects, each member of the group must submit the topic idea along with the names of the other group members.

You will make a 3-5 minute long video-based marine science communication project. You can film a documentary, interview, music video, poem, song, commercial, cartoon, or something else, as long as it is your original work (does not violate copyright laws), related to a marine science topic (does not necessarily have to be something we covered in class) and uploaded by the deadline.

Videos will be uploaded to the Kaltura Course Gallery. You must include a list of sources you used in your preparation of the video. This list will be entered into the File Description field when you upload the video. At least three sources are required.

See separate Video Project description for details.

Discussion Board Participation. As stated above, you have a responsibility to participate in this course. You will fulfill this obligation by interacting with your classmates in the peer discussion boards. The class will be broken into discussion groups of 10 students. **I strongly suggest that you write your posts in Word first and then copy into the eLC.** Save copies of your posts in the unlikely case that they are lost from the eLC or some other error occurs.

Posts will be graded on a 5-level rubric. Your post will be assigned to one of these levels and you will also receive a grade out of 100 which will be used in calculating your grade in the course. The goal is for you to engage in discussion with your classmates. You need not start a new thread to receive credit. If a classmate says something that you agree with, say so! And then expand on that point. Likewise, if you disagree with a post tell us why you disagree (respectfully) and provide evidence to support your point of view.

Level	Description
Level 5 97 % or more	This is a truly outstanding post. It shows a firm grasp of the nuances of the issue, an insight into its complexities.
Level 4 90 % or more	This is a really good post. Maybe it adds insight not usually found among this level of student, or maybe it contains links demonstrating that the student went out on his or her own and found relevant (and useful) information. Maybe it contains analysis incorporating our readings or the lecture material. <i>Something</i> about it stands out.
Level 3 85 % or more	This is the default score and is given to any "average" post. Most posts are a 3.
Level 2 70 % or more	A minimally acceptable post. This might be something like "I agree with Chris because <restatement of the point(s) Chris made, with nothing new added>."
Level 1 0 % or more	The student posted without adding value to the discussion. For example, any post that says little more than, "I agree with my classmate" gets a 1.

Academic Honesty Policy. Culture of Honesty – The University of Georgia seeks to promote and ensure academic honesty and personal integrity among students and other members of the university community. A *Culture of Honesty*, UGA's academic honesty policy and procedures, was developed to serve these goals. All members of the academic community are responsible for knowing the policy and procedures on academic honesty.

Watch the presentation on [Academic Honesty at UGA](#)

Click here to read the Culture of Honesty policy: [The Culture of Honesty Policy](#)

Suspected Violations. When suspected violations of the academic honesty policy occur, appropriate procedures are in place to protect the integrity of the academic process while ensuring due process.

Netiquette Policy. The following guidelines should be followed each time you interact in the course to insure your interactions are respectful and professional:

- In all your interactions, remember that there is a person behind the written post, who has feelings

- and can be hurt by what and how you interact with them.
- Saying something online is easier than saying it while looking the other person in the eye; never post anything that you would not say face-to-face
 - Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life, which includes acting ethically and following rules and regulations. If you would not steal in real life, then you should not steal online by taking other people's ideas and using them as your own
 - Respect other people's time and bandwidth:
 - a) Take time to understand the requirements of the discussion
 - b) Do not waste people's time by asking questions that are not relevant to the discussion or questions whose answers can be readily be found in the course with a little effort
 - c) Refrain from disagreements that lead to personal attacks
 - Make yourself look good online:
 - a) Take time to check your spelling and grammar
 - b) Prepare for discussions prior to engaging in them.
 - c) Refrain from inappropriate language and remarks
 - Share your knowledge by offering help to learners who have questions
 - Help keep flame wars under control by not posting flames and not responding to flames – keep discussions professional
 - Forgive other learners' mistakes and be patient and compassionate of all learners in the course

Disability Statement. UGA is committed to the success of all learners, and we strive to create an inclusive and accessible online environment. In collaboration with the Disability Resource Center (<http://drc.uga.edu/>), we work with students who have documented disabilities to access reasonable accommodations and academic supports.

The University of Georgia follows the Section 508 Standards for web accessibility. Please contact your instructor with accessibility problems in this course.

If you have a disability and would like to request specific accommodations, please contact your instructor. If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the UGA Disability Resource Center, 114 Clark Howell Hall, Athens, GA 30602. Phone: 706.542.8719 Fax: 706.542.7719 Email: dsinfo@uga.edu

Below you will find links to accessibility information for specific tools:

eLCNew:

[Desire2Learn Resources for Individuals with Disabilities](#)

Synchronous & Archived Sessions:

[Blackboard Collaborate Assistive Technology](#)

Learning/Study Aides: The instructor is available to assist you during office hours or by appointment. You can also find help by contacting the University of Georgia's Tutorial Service at 706-542-7575

(http://www.uga.edu/dae/services/tutoring/tutoring_index.html). The goal of this course is to help you learn about oceanography. If you are having trouble with the class, please do not wait until the end of the semester to ask for help.

Incompletes. The grade of Incomplete (I) is given to students who, for reason of accident or illness, were unable to complete a segment of the course. In no case will an Incomplete be given as a means of avoiding a failing grade.

Copyright. This course may contain copyright protected materials such as audio or video clips, images,

text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Software and FERPA. During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these are required assignments, you need **not** make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identifiable/sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.