

Marine Ecology (MARS 8160)
Course Information Sheet

Instructor: Merryl Alber
Marine Sciences, Room 231
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Office hour: Anytime by appointment

Lecture: M, W 8:40 – 9:55 am
Marine Sciences Building Room 261 (GSAMS Room)

Grading: There will be two in class exams (Feb 19 and April 2), each worth 30% of the course grade. Students will also write a proposal (due May 2), worth 25% of the course grade (details of the proposal will be explained in class). The remaining 15% of the grade will be based on class participation.

Text: Valiela, I. 1995. Marine Ecological Processes, second edition. Springer-Verlag, New York.

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DATE	TOPIC	READINGS*
M, Jan 8	Overview of Marine Environments	
W, Jan 10	Primary Production	Chapter 1 (pp. 3-31)
M, Jan 15	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	
W, Jan 17	Proposal discussion	Hudson River proposal
M, Jan 22	Nutrient Limitation	Section 2.2.3; NRC 2000
W, Jan 24	Eutrophication	Cloern 2001
M, Jan 29	Net Community Metabolism	Smith et al. 2005 (Tim Hollibaugh)
W, Jan 31	Life Tables	Chapter 3
M, Feb 5	Seagrass population dynamics	Ebert et al. 2002; Fourqurean et al. 2003; Ebert & Williams 2003
W, Feb 7	Competition	Chapter 4, Forrester et al. 2006
M, Feb 12	Recruitment	Roughgarden et al. 1988, Levin 2006
W, Feb 14	Density dependence	Sale & Tolimieri 2000; Doherty & Fowler, 1994 Swearer et al. 1999; Jones et al. 1999
M, Feb 19	EXAM	
W, Feb 21	Functional responses	Section 5.1, 5.2
M, Feb 26	Numerical & developmental	Section 5.3, 5.4
W, Feb 28	Food selection	Chapter 6
M, Mar 5	Chapter 6 discussion	Chapter 6
W, Mar 7	Proposal discussion	Pennings proposal
	<i>Spring Break</i>	
M, Mar 19	Energy Budgets	Sections 7.1 - 7.4
W, Mar 21	Chapter 7 discussion	Section 7.5, 7.6, McDonald et al. 2006
M, Mar 26	Food webs	Chapter 8
W, Mar 28	Stable isotopes	Deegan & Garritt 1997; Cherel & Hobson 2005
M, Apr 2	EXAM	
W, Apr 4	Chapter 12 discussion	Chapter 12
M, Apr 9	Colonization and succession	
W, Apr 11	Top down/bottom up	Menge et al. 1997; Frederiksen et al. 2006
M, Apr 16	Alternative stable states	Petraitis & Dudgeon 2005
W, Apr 18	<i>Class cancelled/ RFP issued</i>	
M, Apr 23	Patchiness	Chapter 11
W, Apr 25	Florida Bay	(Adrian Burd)
M, Apr 30	Proposal discussion	TBA
W, May 2	PROPOSALS DUE	

* Chapters are from Valiela; other material will be handed out in class.