# Uncommon Classroom:
# Marine Conservation in Practice

IDH3931 Class# 30003
Spring Break – San Diego, California
Spring Semester 2024

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**Office Hours:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00 – 10:15am, or by appointment

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**Office Hours:** By appointment

*We are here for you! Please don't hesitate to ask for assistance!*

## Course Overview and Purpose

Marine ecosystems compose more than three quarters of the world's animal biomass and cover more than two thirds of the planet's surface. Conservation of these ecosystems is robust and multifaceted, practiced by professionals in academia, industry, non-profit, and government settings, each of which has unique approaches to protecting the oceans.

During spring break, we will visit San Diego, a global capital of marine conservation practice, to explore and compare the ways that marine conservation is practiced today, from classic science to technology to policy making. We'll visit the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the University of California-San Diego, the Birch Aquarium, and Cabrillo National Monument. Activities will include laboratory tours, equipment demonstrations, observing wildlife captures or surveys, and hands-on time at coastal tide pools. From these experiences, we'll assemble a holistic picture of the current practice of marine conservation in all its forms.

## Course Objectives

- Observe marine conservation practices in laboratory and practical settings
- Compare and contrast the types of scientific work undertaken by scientists and practitioners working in marine conservation
- Reflect on the complexities of science in practice and on your own expectations and professional goals

## Required Materials

All required readings will be posted on Canvas. For our time in California, you will need footwear appropriate for walking through tidepools such as close-toed water shoes or sneakers that can get wet.

# Grading Policies

Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found at
https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/. A minimum grade of C is
required for general education credit.

**Grading scale**

| Grade | Points | Percent | Grade | Points | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A: | 930.0-1000 | 93.0-100.0% | C: | 730.0-769.9 | 73.0-76.9% |
| A- | 900.0-929.9 | 90.0-92.9% | C- | 700.0-729.9 | 70.0-72.9% |
| B+: | 870.0-899.9 | 87.0-89.9% | D+: | 670.0-699.9 | 67.0-69.9% |
| B: | 830.0-869.9 | 83.0-86.9% | D: | 630.0-669.9 | 63.0-66.9% |
| B- | 800.0-829.9 | 80.0-82.9% | D- | 600.0-629.9 | 60.0-62.9% |
| C+: | 770.0-799.9 | 77.0-79.9% | E: | 0.0-599.9 | 0.0-59.9% |

The final grade for this course is based on a 1000-point scale and will be weighted as follows:

| Grade Component | Points | Percentage |
|---|---|---|
| Class Orientation Meetings | 100 | 10.0% |
| Class Participation in California | 400 | 40.0% |
| Pre-Departure Reflection | 200 | 20.0% |
| Post-Trip Reflection | 300 | 30.0% |
| **Total** | **1000** | **100%** |

Specific grading criteria for each assignment will be provided on Canvas. You are responsible for
maintaining duplicate copies of all work submitted in this course until the end of the semester. In case of a
grading dispute, you must notify your instructors via email within one week of the date the grade is posted.
It is your responsibility to verify that all assignments are successfully uploaded to Canvas. Missing, corrupt,
or incompatible files may result in grade penalties up to a score of zero for the assignment.

# Course Policies

**Attendance Policy**
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are
consistent with university policies. Click here to read the university attendance policies. Any unexcused
absence will result in a failing grade.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) Statement**
AI applications including natural language chatbots like ChatGPT are an amazing new technology that is
revolutionizing the way we access information, just like computers, the internet, and mobile phones did in
prior decades. AI can be a useful tool for tasks such as editing, spellchecking, organizing, and
brainstorming. Other uses, including copying & pasting ChatGPT output and representing as your own
work, are not appropriate in college courses; doing so constitutes academic dishonesty.

**Diversity and Inclusiveness Statement**
Diversity is one of our biggest assets in the classroom and in environmental science. Different perspectives
enrich our understanding of the variety of human-nature interactions and are imperative to developing just

solutions to complex environmental problems. This class is a place where you will be treated with respect, and the instructional team welcomes individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities & races, genders, gender identities, gender expressions, national origins, religions (if any), sexual orientations, ability – and other visible and nonvisible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment for every other member of the class. This does not mean that you are not allowed to disagree with others, but that such differences should be explored without ad hominem judgment. Should we inadvertently make a statement offensive to you, please let us know so that we may learn and grow from the incident.

**Course Communications**
The preferred way to get in touch with your instructors outside of office hours is via Canvas message or direct email from your official UF email account. Emails from outside providers, like Gmail, are not considered secure and will be ignored to protect student privacy. University policy dictates that grades cannot be discussed via email, so if you have a grade-specific question, you should ask it during office hours. You can expect a response within 24 hours on weekdays. All students are expected to check the course web site on Canvas ([http://elearning.ufl.edu](http://elearning.ufl.edu)) each weekday. In addition, we may send specific communications directly to your UF email, which you should check daily as well. You should enable Canvas notifications for this class, so that you are notified immediately about grading, assignment feedback, due date changes, announcements, etc.

**Technical Difficulties**
For help with technical issues or difficulties with Canvas, please contact the UF Computing Help Desk at [http://helpdesk.ufl.edu](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu) .
352-392-HELP (4357)
Walk-in: HUB 132

**Course Evaluation Process**
Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

**Software Use**
All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

**Services for Students with Disabilities**
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean

of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructors when requesting accommodation.

This class does not meet in a traditional classroom, and it will be necessary to be ambulatory across uneven terrain during parts of the course. We will make accommodations to the best of our abilities, but portions of the class may be challenging for those with motor limitations.

You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive; therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. The DRC may be contacted by visiting 001 Reid Hall, calling 352-392-8565, or visiting their web site at www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/.

**Student Complaints**
Residential Course: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/
Online Course: http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process


**Campus Helping Resources**

**Your wellbeing is important to your instructors and the University of Florida community**. Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *U Matter We Care.* 352-292-2273. UF's umbrella program for UF's caring culture. Provides students in distress with support and coordination of the wide variety of appropriate resources. https://umatter.ufl.edu/

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center*, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575. Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library & Wellness Coaching. https://www.counseling.ufl.edu/

- *Gatorwell Health Promotion Services*, multiple locations on campus, 352-273-4450. GatorWell uses health promotion strategies to educate UF students about health and wellness topics relevant to the college experience. https://gatorwell.ufsa.ufl.edu/

- *Career Connections Center*, First floor Reitz Union, 352-392-1601, https://career.ufl.edu/

- Student Success Initiative, https://studentsuccess.ufl.edu/

- *Dean of Students Office*, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261. Among other services, the DSO assists students who are experiencing situations that compromises their ability to attend classes. This includes family emergencies and medical issues (including mental health crises). https://care.dso.ufl.edu/

- *CLAS Academic Resources*, Turlington Hall, 352-392-2010 or 352-392-6420. General study skills, tutoring, and supplemental instruction for select classes. https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu/

- *Writing Studio,* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

- *Field and Fork Pantry.* Food and toiletries for students experiencing food insecurity.  https://pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu/

- *UF Help Desk.* 352-392-4357. Technical support for computer issues and UF web services. https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/

- *University Police Department*, 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). https://www.police.ufl.edu/

- *Library Support.* Various ways to receive assistance with using the libraries or finding resources. https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/ask/

## Course Outline (subject to change – please check the Canvas calendar for the latest information)

| Date | Schedule | Notes |
|---|---|---|
| Monday, February 12 | 6pm – Orientation Meeting<br>Location: Little Hall Room 119 | |
| Monday, February 19 | | Pre-Departure Reflection |
| Monday, March 4 | 6pm – Pre-departure Logistics Meeting<br>Location: Little Hall Room 119 | Daily schedule for California will be provided at this meeting |
| Sunday, March 10 | ARRIVE by 5pm<br>7766 Fay Avenue<br>La Jolla, California 92037 | Check-In to hotel by 5pm<br>Leave for group dinner at 6pm |
| Mon March 11 through Wed March 13 | Class Activities | Daily schedule for California will be provided at March 4 meeting |
| Thursday, March 14 | DEPART | Check-Out from hotel by 11:00 AM |
| Monday, March 25 | | Post-Trip Reflection Due |

**Course Alterations**
Due to unforeseen circumstances or to enhance class learning opportunities, it may be necessary to alter the information given in this syllabus during the semester. Such changes are not unusual and should be expected. All changes to the syllabus will be posted to Canvas. It is your responsibility to keep up with any syllabus changes.