OCEANOGRAPHY ONLINE

OCE 1001

COURSE INFORMATION AND GRADING POLICY

SPRING, 2017

PROFESSOR: Dr. GUSTAVO MORALES

OFFICE: WEST CAMPUS, 1-221

**OFFICE HOURS**: 12:00 pm –4:00 pm: Monday and Wednesday

 1:00 PM – 5:00 pm: Tuesday and Thursday

 10:00 am- 1:00 pm: Friday (Virtual Hours)

TELEPHONE: (407) 582-1428

E-MAIL: gmorales@valenciacollege.edu

COURSE: OCE 1001: Oceanography–3 credit hours

PREREQUISITES: None

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to acquaint you with the elementary physical, biological,

chemical, and geologic characteristics of the world ocean system. Emphasis on Florida's

unique relationship with the ocean environment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

My hope is that you will learn more about the marine environment, and will expand your knowledge through additional readings in this subject throughout your life.

You will be exposed to a general coverage of each topic, with only limited specialization and with supplemental information from other fields. You should be able to demonstrate an understanding of this information by passing examinations patterned after the material presented and assigned.

You will be able to make logical choices relating to conservation issues, will be aware of some representative marine management techniques, and will be better equipped to evaluate the environmental consequences of the mismanagement of ocean resources.

Upon successful completion of this course you should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the dynamics of the world's oceans, the implications of man's impact upon the ecology of the Earth and the interdependence of earth, sea, and sky.

VALENCIA COLLEGE CORE COMPETENCIES

The faculty of Valencia College has identified four core competencies that define the learning outcomes for a successful Valencia graduate. These competencies are at the heart of the Valencia experience and provide the context for learning and assessment at Valencia College. You will be given opportunities to develop and practice these competencies in this class. The four competencies are:

1. **Think** - think clearly, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in the many domains of human inquiry
2. **Value** - make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments
3. **Communicate** - communicate with different audiences using varied means
4. **Act** - act purposefully, effectively and responsibly.”

TEXTBOOK

***Essentials of Oceanography*** by Tom Garrison, 7th Edition, Brooks/Cole, 2015, 448 p.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be evaluated by your on-line participation. Failure to take an exam for any given week will be considered the equivalent of 3 absences. Should you fail to take two exams (six absences) you will be asked to withdraw from the course. **There will be no makeups.**

COURSE FORMAT

This course will make extensive use of the textbook. Also, you will have at your disposal a series of videos (The Endless Voyage) especially designed by Dr. Tom Garrison, the author of your textbook, for an oceanography course such as this. You will have direct access to all the videos right there in your computer screen. Simply select the video you wish to view and click! You will also have a series of power points to help you review the materials.

EXAMS

There will be altogether FOURTEEN EXAMS. Exams will be objective: multiple-choice. The test questions are keyed to the learning objectives and the *Essential Concepts Review* at the end of each chapter. Most exams will cover only ONE chapter except **Exam 7** that will cover two closely related chapters as part of the midterm. The Mid Semester and Final Exams will be comprehensive. All exams will be taken online using Blackboard. If you are not familiar with Blackboard be sure to get in touch with me ASAP. You will have a full week (from Monday to Sunday) to study the chapters. Exams may be taken any time from 6:00 am on Friday to 11:30 pm on Sunday. Once you open the exam you will have one hour to complete it. There will be 40 questions in each exam. (the Midterm and Final Exams will have 100 questions and you will have 2 hours to take them). Once the time is over Blackboard will not accept any more answers. You can only open the exam one time. Do not wait to the last minute to do it…all kinds of strange things happen to computers after 11:00 pm on Sundays. Hint! Hint!! Hint!!!

Each weekly exam is worth 100 points. The Midterm and Final exams are worth 200 points each.

Blackboard does not accept late work… neither do I!

GRADING

The final grade will be determined by the following point system:

POINTS

Weekly Exams…………………. 1200

Comprehensive Mid-Term………. 200

Comprehensive Final Exam………200

TOTAL POINTS……………….1600

The final grade earned by the student will be calculated as a percentage of the total points possible during the semester (90%--100% = A, 80%--89% = B, 70%--79% = C...).

WARNING:

THIS IS NOT AN EASY COURSE!!!! THIS IS NOT AN EASY COURSE!!!!

DID I ALREADY TELL YOU? THIS IS NOT AN EASY COURSE!!!!

This course takes as much time as a regular course, but it is in such a way designed that you, and you alone are responsible for allocating a reasonable amount of time for each activity. You need to invest a MINIMUM OF SIX HOURS a week on this course alone if you wish to master the information and pass with a decent grade. Think carefully about what you have just read to make sure that you have the self-discipline and motivation to take this course. If you have decided that this course is for you, then forge on! You are about to take one of the most interesting and intriguing courses of your entire career. Congratulations on a challenging choice!!!

RESPONSIBILITY

It is your responsibility to take the exams on the set dates. There are no make-ups! Because this course is run exclusively online, it behooves you to check your e-mail often in case there are issues to discuss. I will check my email no less than twice a day for any messages you might have sent me. ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS use the MESSAGES feature in Blackboard to send me messages. This is the ONLY site I check all the time, especially on weekends.

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit is a travesty of the educational system. It is usually invoked after the 12th. week in the semester by students who have not taken the time to do what is required by the course. I do not want you to do extra work, just the work I demand and expect for you to master the material and pass the course with a decent grade. Remember that the only place where success comes before work…is in the dictionary!

WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Per Valencia policy 4-07 (Academic Progress, Course Attendance and Grades, and Withdrawals), a student who withdraws from class before the withdrawal deadline of March 31, 2017, will receive a grade of “W.” A student is not permitted to withdraw after the withdrawal deadline. A faculty member MAY withdraw a student up to the beginning of the final exam period for violation of the class attendance policy; such student will receive a grade of “W.” Any student who withdraws or is withdrawn from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of “F.” [For a complete policy and procedure overview on Valencia Policy 4-07 please go to: <http://valenciacc.edu/generalcounsel/policydetail.cfm?RecordID=75>].

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus may be modified at any time by the professor for the benefit of the class. Modifications will be announced to the class and their impact on the final outcome discussed.

**OCEANOGRAPHY ON LINE**

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

**SPRING, 2017**

**FIRST WEEK**

January 9-15

 **Chapter 1 – Earth and Ocean**

*Video 1. The Water Planet*

January 13-15

 **Exam 1: Chapter 1**

 **January 17- Drop/Refund Deadline**

**SECOND WEEK**

January 16-22

 **Chapter 2 – A History of Marine Science**

*Video 2. First Steps*

January 20-22

 **Exam 2: Chapter 2**

**THIRD WEEK**

January 23-29

 **Chapter 3 - Earth Structure and Plate Tectonics**

*Video 3. Making the Pieces Fit*

 *Video 4. World in Motion*

January 27-29

**Exam 3: Chapters 3**

**FOURTH WEEK**

January 30-February 5

 **Chapter 4 - Ocean Basins**

*Video 5. Over the Edge*

February 3-5

 **Exam 4: Chapter 4**

**FIFTH WEEK**

February 6-12

**Chapter 5 – Ocean Sediments**

*Video 6. The Ocean’s Memory*

February 10-12

 **Exam 5: Chapter 5**

**SIXTH WEEK**

February 13-19

**Chapter 6 – Water and Ocean Structure**

*Video 7. It’s in the Water*

 *Video 8. Beneath the Surface*

February 17-19

 **Exam 6: Chapter 6**

**SEVENTH WEEK**

February 20-26

**Chapter 7 - Atmospheric Circulation**

 *Video 10. Something in the Air*

**Chapter 8 – Ocean Circulation**

 *Video 11. Going With the Flow*

 *Video 12. Deep Connection*

 **Review chapters 1-8**

February 24-26

**Exam 7: MID TERM EXAM: Chapters 1-8**

**EIGHTH WEEK**

February 27-March 5

**Chapter 9 – Waves**

*Video 13. Surf’s Up*

 *Video 14. Look Out Below*

March 3-5

**Exam 8: Chapter 9**

**NINETH WEEK**

March 6-12

**Chapter 10 – Tides**

*Video 15. Ebb and Flow*

March 10-12

**Exam 9: Chapter 10**

**TENTH WEEK**

March 13-19

 **SPRING BREAK**

**ELEVENTH WEEK**

March 20-26

**Chapter 11- Coasts**

*Video 16. On the Coas***t**

March 24-26

**Exam 10: Chapter 11**

**TWELFTH WEEK**

March 27-April 2

**Chapter 12 - Life in the Ocean**

*Video 18. Building Blocks*

 *Video 19. Water World*

 *Video 20. Food for Thought*

March 31-April 2

**Exam 11: Chapter 12**

March 31-**Withdrawal Deadline!**

**THIRTEEN WEEK**

April 3-9

**Chapter 13 – Pelagic Communities**

*Video 22. Life Goes On*

April 7-9

**Exam 12: Chapter 13**

**FOURTEENTH WEEK**

April 10-16

**Chapter 14 – Benthic Communities**

*Video 23. Living Together*

April 14-16

**Exam 13: Chapter 14**

**FIFTEENTH WEEK**

April 17-23

**Chapter 15 – Uses and Abuses of the Ocean**

*Video 24. Treasure Trove*

*Video 25. Dirty Water*

**Review chapters 9-15 (There is no exam for Chapter 15. The material of this chapter will be covered in the final exam).**

**SIXTEENTH WEEK**

April 21-24 (Yes, April 24 is a Monday)

**FINAL EXAM**: **Chapters 9-15**