Syllabus: INTRODUCTION TO OCEANOGRAPHY

OCE 1001, Summer B, 2013 (On-line Course, 3 credits)

What does the deep sea say? Oh what does the deep sea say?
It moans, it groans, it flashes and it foams, And rolls on its weary way (Traditional)

Instructor
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Teaching Assistant
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Overall Course Objectives
- Learn the major geological, physical and biological characteristics of Earth’s marine realm.
- Understand the role of the ocean in shaping the global Earth environment.
- Develop an enhanced awareness of how the ocean influences human well-being and vice versa.
- Discover an excitement about science and how it can enhance our appreciation for the complexity and beauty of the world around us and solve real-world problems. Hopefully, this will translate into an eagerness to explore science-topics further and to vote and consume goods as a scientifically-educated citizen.

Course Website
All learning material, homework, exercises, quizzes, exams and student-teacher interactions for this course will be carried out on the UF Sakai system website. Go to http://lss.at.ufl.edu/ and click on the e-Learning Login. You must have an active GatorLink ID to access the course website. If not, go to the GatorLink website (http://gatorlink.uf.edu) or call the help desk at 392-HELP for assistance.

Structure of the Course
Each of six modules must be completed during each of the six weeks of the course. Each module is composed of 3-4 subtopics, each containing number of lessons (3-5), which should be completed consecutively as listed. A lesson will include one or two video lectures, a textbook reading, animations and web links and additional materials for further exploration. Students will have Monday-Thursday of each week to complete the exercises and discussions associated with each module and must complete the associated quiz between Friday and Sunday.

See the course ‘Due Dates’ handout for a listing of when each activity is due. Each student is responsible for completion of each activity of the course on time, for checking this site for announcements and to see that your grades are being correctly recorded. E-mail to the instructor and TA’s will also be carried out through the Sakai course website.
**Recommended Textbook**

*Oceanography, Author: Garrison (8th edition,:)* a loose-leaf-bound edition + CourseMate is available from the publisher, Cengage Learning, at the much reduced price of $90 at this website: [http://www.cengagebrain.com/micro/1-1ICOG71](http://www.cengagebrain.com/micro/1-1ICOG71) ‘CourseMate’ is an interactive learning, study, and exam preparation tool that supports the printed textbook – could be very helpful to you.

Other versions of the same text are available at: [http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9781111990848](http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9781111990848) Of course, are welcome to use any Oceanography textbook you may have.

**Grading**

Your semester grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight (%)</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Exercises/Question Sets</td>
<td>18 %</td>
<td>Due by each Thursday by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Group Discussions</td>
<td>9 %</td>
<td>Friday 8 am – Sunday by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 End-of-Module Quizzes</td>
<td>50 % (10% each)</td>
<td>Friday 8 am – Sunday by 11:59 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Final Exam</td>
<td>23 % of final grade</td>
<td>Fri. Aug. 9th(7 am) – Sat. Aug.10 by 11:59pm</td>
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Final letter grade:


There will be no ‘rounding up’, but in a border line cases, I may check the quality of your participation in discussions as well as your time spent on ‘CourseMate’.

**Quizzes and Exams**

Everything associated with the class, including lecture material, book readings and exercises are fair game on quizzes and the final exam. However, the focus will be on the material presented in lecture videos. The 5 quizzes will be 20 multiple choice questions to be answered as open book but will be time limited (30 minutes) – thus, don’t expect to be able to look up every answer. Each quiz must be completed between Friday 8 am and Sunday midnight at the end of weeks 1-5.

The final exam at the end of week 6 will consist of 55 multiple choice questions covering all subjects presented in the course. The Final Exam will be closed book, 2 hour limit and monitored using ProctorU system (see student handout - an additional $17.50 has been assessed to the course fee for this purpose). The final exam can be completed between Aug. 9 (7 am) and Aug 10 (11:59 pm).

Final Exam grades will be curved using a linear method described at: [http://www.ats.amherst.edu/software/excel/excel-grading/excel-grades/#CurvingGrades](http://www.ats.amherst.edu/software/excel/excel-grading/excel-grades/#CurvingGrades). Grades will be curved to a median of 85%.

**Group Discussions**

Group Discussion will take place in the Discussion link section of the course Sakai website (see tab at left) from Friday-through Sunday at the end of weeks 1, 2 and 4 of the course. Each student is required to make at least one substantive comment addressing the posed question, as well as one response to another student’s comment. The best comments will utilize knowledge and insights gained from the materials presented in lectures and readings.