

Bio 64L The Living Sea

Instructor: Dr. Sarah Gilman
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Office Hours: Mon 2-4, Tues & Thurs 10-11,
or by appointment
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Course goals: The aim of this course will be to provide a broad overview of the diversity of marine habitats and the physical and biological processes that influence marine organisms. We will explore: the geological and physical structure of the oceans, the diversity of plants and animals in the ocean, the interaction of organisms with one another and with their physical environment, and the effects of human activity on marine ecosystems. At the end of the course, you should be able to:

- 1) Understand the basic process of scientific research and the scientific method
- 2) Recognize and understand basic terms and concepts of marine biology.
- 3) View marine plants and animals in the context of their environment, focusing on both traits that allow them to survive in particular habitats and those that limit their success.
- 4) Understand the relevance of marine biology to current scientific, social, and economic arenas.

Lecture: TTh 1:15-2:30, Burns Lecture Hall

Lab: two sections, T or Th 2:30-4:30, **Keck 039**, sign-up during first week of class

Textbooks:

- Castro, P. and Huber, M.E. 2007. *Marine Biology*. 6th edition. McGraw-Hill
- Marine Life of Southern California, Second Edition, by D.J. Reish, Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company

Course Web Site: sakai.claremont.edu

By Wednesday at noon, please login into Sakai and post a comment to the discussion topic "Lab schedule" listing your preference for Tuesday or Thursdays. This will show me that you know how to use Sakai.

Lectures: Attending lectures is strongly encouraged, as 80% of the exam material will be covered in lectures (remaining 20% will be based on labs and readings). Please arrive on time and avoid disturbing other students by talking, eating during lecture. Cell phones must be turned off.

Readings: The reading assignments are intended to provide background needed for lectures and class activities. Therefore I strongly recommend that you **complete reading assignments before coming to class**.

Labs: The lab portion of the class is designed to help you learn about how scientific research is conducted and give you experience with sampling and experimental design, constructing and reading graphs, and performing basic statistics on data collected during labs and field trips. We will not meet every week and some weeks will extend beyond the scheduled time period (see attached lab syllabus schedule). **There are two mandatory field trips.** One is an all-day pelagic sampling boat trip off Dana Point, aboard the R/V Sea Explorer. The other is a field trip to the rocky intertidal shoreline at Corona del Mar. **Attendance at each field trip is worth 2.5% of your grade.**

Grading: Evaluation of course material will consist of two midterm exams, class participation, field trip attendance, lab reports, and a cumulative final exam. Attendance in class is expected and exam

questions will reflect material covered in class. Final grades will be scaled relative to class performance. *If you miss an exam, a make up exam will be given only if you have a legitimate and verifiable excuse in writing.* Late assignments will be docked 10% for each class day late.

Evaluation	Percent
Midterm exam 1	15
Midterm exam 2	15
Final exam	30
Class Participation	5
Lab 1 (seawater properties)	6
Lab 2 (pelagic boat trip)	12
Lab 3 (rocky intertidal)	12
Field trip attendance	5

Grade change policy: Requests for grade changes must be made in writing (email does not count) within one week of receiving the grade.

You are expected to do your own work. Cheating, plagiarism, and collusion will not be tolerated! If you are suspected of cheating the appropriate administrative office on your home campus will be notified.

Syllabus modification: Dr. Gilman reserves the right to modify this syllabus (including course schedule) during the semester as considered necessary to improve the quality of this course. Any changes to the syllabus or schedule will be clearly announced. **You are responsible for being aware of any changes.**