

# Course Syllabus: Whale Song Theory (WST201)

Semester: [Insert Semester]

## Course Description

Dive deep into the melodic and mysterious world of cetacean communication in Whale Song Theory (WST201). This course explores the intricate sound patterns, linguistic structures, and cultural significance of whale songs across various species.

## Instructor

Dr. Melody Finns

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Office Hours: By appointment, preferably during low tide

## Course Objectives

- Analyze the structure and patterns of whale songs.
- Understand the role of whale songs in cetacean society.
- Explore the latest research in cetacean acoustic communication.
- Develop skills in recording, transcribing, and interpreting whale songs.

## Required Text

"Echoes of the Ocean: The Whale Song Compendium" by Prof. H. Echo.

## Grading Policy

- Song Analysis Reports: 30%
- Midterm Exam: 20%
- Research Project on Whale Acoustics: 25%
- Final Exam: 25%

## Course Schedule

Week 1-3:	Basics of Whale Song Structure
Week 4-6:	Acoustic Patterns in Different Whale Species
Week 7-9:	Technological Approaches to Whale Song Analysis
Week 10-12:	Sociocultural Significance of Whale Songs
Week 13:	Research Project Workshops
Week 14:	Guest Lecture Series on Cetacean Communication
Week 15:	Review for Final Exam

## Course Policies

- Regular attendance is expected, especially for the underwater listening sessions.
- Late submissions of reports will result in a reduction of one letter grade per day.
- Academic honesty is paramount; violations will result in serious consequences.

## **Final Exam**

The final exam will cover all topics discussed in the course, with an emphasis on analysis and interpretation of whale songs.