

## INTRODUCTORY OCEANOGRAPHY -- OC 320

MWF 11:00-11:50 a.m. (Room CG-201)

**Instructor:** Dr. Vic Camp  
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**Office Hours:** Room CG-113B — MF 12:00-1:00, TTH 12:30-1:30,  
or by appointment

**Textbook:** \_\_\_\_\_ *Oceanography: An Invitation to Marine Science*  
by Tom Garrison, Second Edition

**Course Description:** This is a general education course for upper-division students. It does not count toward a degree in geology. The course will acquaint you with the fundamental geological, chemical, physical, and biological aspects of the world's oceans. Students successfully completing the course will have a basic understanding of the dynamic nature of the world's oceans and an appreciation of the delicate balance that exists between the oceanic system and the environment of humankind.

**Guidelines:** This science course is largely descriptive. It requires critical thinking and analysis through the use of words and diagrams, generally without recourse to mathematical formulas and complex chemical equations. Lectures will follow the text in a general manner, although material will be presented which is supplemental to the required readings. The text should be brought to every class session. Notes missed in class must be obtained from other students. You are encouraged to ask questions and invoke discussion at any time.

**Grading Policy:** Final grades will be based on four *exams* and one *term paper*, each worth 100 points. Papers are due on May 5. Late papers will be accepted one week after the due date and half credit will be assigned; following this, no late papers will be accepted. The lowest score will be dropped and the final grade assigned on the basis of 400 points. There will be ***no make-up exams***. If you miss an exam (or fail to write the term paper), it will be dropped as your lowest score. However, you cannot drop the final exam. Grades will be determined using the following scale:

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 100 -- 90 % | A |
| 89 -- 80    | B |
| 79 -- 65    | C |
| 64 -- 50    | D |
| < 50        | F |

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE -- OCEANOGRAPHY**  
*(Changes may be made to this schedule as necessary)*

| <i>Week of</i>  | <i>Topic</i>   | <i>Relevant Chapters</i> |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Subtract one day's lecture up to first exam.</b>           |  |                          |
| Jan. 27   | Introduction / Origin of the Earth, Oceans, and Life                   | Chapters 1, 3            |
| Feb. 3  | Plate Tectonics  | Chapter 3                |
| Feb. 10   | Plate Tectonics / Marine Provinces and Features                        | Chapters 3, 4            |
| Feb. 17   | Marine Provinces and Features / Marine Sediments                       | Chapters 4, 5            |
| Feb. 24   | <b>EXAM I</b> (Feb. 24) / Chemical and Physical Properties of Seawater | Chapters 6, 7            |
| March 3   | Chemical and Physical Properties of Seawater                           | Chapters 6, 7            |
| March 10  | Air-Sea Interaction  | Chapters 7, 8            |
| March 17  | Ocean Circulation  | Chapters 8, 9            |
| March 24  | <b>** Spring Break **</b>  |                          |
| March 31  | <b>EXAM II</b> (March 31) / Wave Dynamics                              | Chapter 10               |
| <b>Subtract one day over period between exams II and III.</b> |  |                          |
| April 7   | Wave Dynamics, Coastal Oceanography                                    | Chapters 10, 11          |
| April 14  | Coastal Oceanography / Marine Habitat                                  | Chapters 12, 13          |
| April 21  | Marine Habitat   | Chapter 13               |
| April 28  | Marine Habitat / <b>EXAM III</b> (April 30) / Plankton                 | Chapters 13, 14          |
| May 5   | <b>Papers Due</b> (May 5) / Plankton / Nekton                          | Chapters 14, 16          |
| May 12  | Nekton   | Chapter 16               |
| May 21  | <b>Final Exam</b> (Wednesday, 10:30 - 12:30)                           |                          |