OCB 1000C
Introduction to Marine Biology
(Formerly offered as OCB 1000)

Catalog Description: (3) (A.A.). 45 contact hours. This course meets area V requirements for the A.A./A.A.S./A.S. general education requirements. This course is intended for non-science majors and is an introduction to the scientific study of marine organisms and their ecological environment. The general objective of this course is to give a detailed introduction to the study of marine organisms, their environment and their ecological interactions.

Course Performance Standards: Upon successful completion of the course the student should be able to:
1. Identify common marine organisms, particularly those native to the local study areas.
2. Describe and understand the function of distinctive characteristics and anatomical features of the marine organisms.
3. Correlate the evolutionary significance of structures marine organisms with their ecological niches.
4. Assist or partake in the performance of underwater research and marine field research.
5. Collect scientific data and record scientific observations.
6. Discuss the objectives, purpose and progress of their group research projects.
7. Understand and describe the relationships between organisms and their environment and how these vary by region and time of year.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of ecological theories and concepts by relating them to observations made in the field.
9. Analyze the evolution, adaptations and biology of marine vertebrates and invertebrates as utilized in the phylogenetic classification scheme of biological taxonomy.
10. Examine the diversity and ecological interdependencies of all types of marine organisms.
11. Compare coastal marine habitats such as mangrove areas and coral reefs and study their associated biotic communities and community structure.
12. Comprehend the value of marine biological resources, and management of those resources, considering their stability and instability.
13. Appreciate the importance of natural and artificial reefs and aquaculture.

Date of Review:
Date of Revision: August 4, 2011