OCE 1001
Introduction to Oceanography (3) (A.A.)

Catalog Description: Three hours per week, with no lab component. The course meets Area V requirements for the A.A./A.A.S./A.S. general education requirements. There are no prerequisites but a basic science background is helpful. This course introduces the student to a scientific study of oceans by exploring basic principles from sub disciplines such as chemical, physical, geological and biological oceanography.

Performance Standards:

At the successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the role of the ocean in human history including early explorers, early and recent navigation techniques and exploration of the deep-ocean floor.
2. Describe the distribution of continents and ocean basins, the major features of each ocean basin (ridges, rises, faults, trenches and fracture zones) and the processes that create volcanic islands, atolls and coral reefs.
3. Describe the chemical composition of seawater, and the factors controlling.
4. Explain the relationships between oceanic processes and abundance of marine organisms.
5. Explain ocean currents and what causes them.
6. Explain the processes causing tides and tidal currents.
7. Explain how waves form.
8. Explain the processes of erosion and deposition that create coastlines.
9. Discuss variations in the physical properties of seawater.
10. Explain how the global ocean affects weather and climate.
11. Explain the general distribution of life in the ocean.