Introductory Oceanography (2015 Spring Semester)

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Course Syllabus

Course 12579-00 - Introductory Oceanography - Spring 2015 – Syllabus and Course Description

CLASS MEETS IN ROOM 1525 College of Science Bldg. 11, Thursday 1:00-11:30 a.m. and Friday 14:00-15:30 p.m.

Office Hrs: (Tuesdays 10 AM-12 Noon, email anytime for appt. or drop in.)

12579-00 COURSE SCHEDULE

Downloading ppt lectures: The course materials will be prepared in Microsoft PowerPoint and you will be downloading pdf file versions on the cyberspace of CNU. The materials will be uploaded a week before the lecture for the material is given. Please make sure that you download the file and print a copy and bring it with you to class.

Required textbook: Introductory Oceanography (10th Edition) by Harold V. Thurman, Alan P. Trujillo, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012)

Lecture Schedule and Text Assignments Week of:

- 1. Introduction to Oceanography
- 2. History of Ocean Exploration
- 3. Origin of the Ocean
- 4. Plate tectonics and ocean floor
- 5. Marine sediments
- 6. Ocean provinces
- 7. Mid-term Exam
- 8. Seawater
- 9. Air-sea interaction
- 10. Ocean circulation
- 11. Waves
- 12. Tides
- 13. Review of the semester
- 14. Final Exam

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE AND REQUIREMENTS PURPOSE OF COURSE

Oceanography is the study of the deep sea and shallow coastal oceans: biology, chemistry, geology and physics together make oceanography a richly interdisciplinary science. Although they contain most of the Earth's water and carbon and surface heat, and much of its biomass, the oceans do not operate alone. Together with the atmosphere, continents and ice-cover (the cryosphere), they form a working machine, driven mostly by energy from the sun. Lesser amounts of energy derive from tides raised by the moon and sun and planets, and heat from the

Earth's interior.

COURSE FORMAT

The course will consist of two lectures per week. There will be two examinations, mid-term and final, whose format will be combination of relatively short answers (words, sentences, diagrams) and long answers (short essay). All examinations, including the final, will be non-comprehensive, which is to say that each exam will only cover part of the semester's lectures.

Study questions will be provided to assist students in understanding the core concepts of lecture covered.

GRADING

The two examinations will count for 60 % of the final grad (each exam weighted equally) and the study questions will count for 30 % in total. The remaining 10% is for course attendance and participation.

TEXTBOOK

The required text for this course, Introductory Oceanography (10th Edition) by Harold V. Thurman, Alan P. Trujillo, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012) will be available at the bookstore or online (Amazon.com or other commercially available online company).

ACADEMIC HONOR CODE

Students are required to abide by CNU's academic honor code. General discussion among students in and between classes is encouraged welcomed. However, all assignments for study questions and exams must be prepared individually with each student's efforts only. Plagiarism, use of the results or prose of others without properly citing or acknowledging it, is prohibited.