

IDS 2935: Water for People and Nature

Quest 2

I. Course Information

Spring 2025

Lectures: Mon. 10:40-11:30 am, Wed. 10:40-11:30 am, Williamson Hall 0100

Small Group Sessions:

Susannah Lohmann

Fri. 9:35-10:25am, Antevy Hall 0213

Fri. 10:40-11:30am, McCarty B G108

Fri. 11:45-12:35pm, Computer Sciences/Engineering E222

Samantha Howley

Fri. 12:50-1:40pm, Rinker Hall 0220

Fri. 1:55-2:45pm, Rinker Hall 0220

Fri. 3:00-3:50pm, Rinker Hall 0220

General Education Designation: Biological Sciences

A minimum grade of C is required for general education credit.

Instructor

Amanda Subalusky

Office location: 518A Carr Hall

Phone: (352) 294-6311

Email: asubalusky@ufl.edu; Please use Canvas for all course-related emails

Office hours: Mon. 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistants

Susannah Lohmann: s.lohmann@ufl.edu

Office location: 517 Carr Hall

Office hours: TBD

Samantha Howley: samanthahowley@ufl.edu

Office location: 610 Bartram Hall

Office hours: TBD

Course Description

This course addresses the pressing questions, “How much water do we need, and how do we balance conflicting demands for this critical resource?” We will examine the physical and biological science

behind the various stages of the water cycle through lectures and readings, and we will learn about watershed hydrology and the science of environmental flows through online simulations. We will analyze anthropogenic impacts on water resources through participation in a hypothesis-driven experiment testing the influence of stressors on living stream mesocosms, and we will read and discuss local examples of water resource challenges and solutions. We will reflect on our own use of water through recording a water use diary and calculating our water footprint. We will also reflect on the social and cultural roles of water through readings and discussions, and we will evaluate the role of water in our own lives through creation of a water curation project. This course is part of the **Gulf Scholars Program**, and it includes material in each component of the course exploring links between changing watersheds and changing coastal ecosystems.

General Education Designation: Biological Sciences (B)

Biological science courses provide instruction in the basic concepts, theories and terms of the scientific method in the context of the life sciences. Courses focus on major scientific developments and their impacts on society, science and the environment, and the relevant processes that govern biological systems. Students will formulate empirically testable hypotheses derived from the study of living things, apply logical reasoning skills through scientific criticism and argument, and apply techniques of discovery and critical thinking to evaluate outcomes of experiments.

Required & Recommended Course Materials

Readings will be scientific articles from the primary literature and materials provided by the course instructor. Everything will be made available on the course Canvas site.

Materials and Supplies Fees: n/a

II. Grading

Attendance and Make-ups

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>. Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work.

Grading Scale

Grading rubrics will be provided for all written assignments and for the water curation project.

For information on how UF assigns grade points, visit: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

A	94 – 100% of possible points		C	74 – 76%
A-	90 – 93%		C-	70 – 73%
B+	87 – 89%		D+	67 – 69%
B	84 – 86%		D	64 – 66%

B-	80 – 83%		D-	60 – 63%
C+	77 – 79%		E	<60

III. Course Policies and Resources

Teaching Philosophy

We will endeavor to help you succeed in accomplishing the above objectives. We will do our best to address your concerns and questions regarding the course materials, policies, and grading. You are encouraged to ask questions during lectures and discussion sections. You are also welcome to speak with us during office hours, make an appointment, or contact us by e-mail through Canvas.

Your thoughtful participation and scholarship are essential to the success of this course. A significant portion of lecture and discussion time will be devoted to open discussion and exchange of ideas. Students are encouraged to employ critical thinking and to rely on data and verifiable sources to interrogate all assigned readings and subject matter in this course as a way of determining whether they agree with their classmates and/or their instructor. No lesson is intended to espouse, promote, advance, inculcate, or compel a particular feeling, perception, viewpoint or belief.

Students Requiring Accommodation

Students who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code

and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Resources Available to Students

Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care*: <https://umatter.ufl.edu>; umatter@ufl.edu; 392-1575
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>; 392-1575
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)*: <https://umatter.ufl.edu/helping-students/sexual-violence-response/>; Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- *University Police Department*: <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

Academic Resources

- *E-learning technical support*: Learningsupport@ufl.edu; <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>; 352-392-4357 (opt. 2)
- *Career Resource Center*: <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>; Reitz Union; 392-1601
- *Library Support*: <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- *Teaching Center*: <https://umatter.ufl.edu/office/teaching-center/>; Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- *Writing Studio*: <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>; 302 Tigert Hall; 846-1138

Procedure for Conflict Resolution

Any classroom issues, disagreements or grade disputes should be discussed first between the instructor and the student. If the problem cannot be resolved, please contact the Undergraduate Coordinator or the Department Chair. Be prepared to provide documentation of the problem, as well as all graded materials for the semester. Issues that cannot be resolved departmentally will be referred to the University Ombuds Office (<http://www.ombuds.ufl.edu>; 392-1308) or the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu>; 392-1261). For further information refer to https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf (for residential classes) or <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess> (for online classes).