

Special Topics: Marine Biodiversity Research – ZOO 4926
Fall 2020 - Syllabus

Instructor: Gustav Paulay

Meetings: One, two-hour Zoom meeting per week, TBA based on everyone's schedule

Prerequisites: 'ology courses recommended

Text / Materials:

Assigned research papers and online resources

Grading Policy: 1 credit version: participation (50%) and exercises (50%); 2 credit version: additional mini-project for 50% of grade

Grading Scale: (minimum grade; grading will be on a curve, with grade cutoffs usually adjusted downward)

90-100% = A; 80-89.9% = B; 70-79.9% = C; 60-69.9% = D; <60% = E

Students with Special Needs: Students who will require a classroom accommodation for a disability must contact the Dean of Students Office and request proper documentation. Upon bringing that documentation to the Instructor, the student will be given the appropriate accommodations. No accommodations are available to students who lack this documentation. It is the policy of the University of Florida that the student, not the instructor, is responsible for arranging accommodations when needed. The instructor will not remind the student to schedule accommodations prior to each quiz or exam. If you require extra time for in-class work, you must initiate this request at least seven days before the exam or quiz.

Email communication: All email correspondence to course instructors must be from your ufl.edu account and include your full name. Emails from other sources may not be recognized by UF email filters, and may not reach us. PLEASE DO NOT use the e-mail system in Canvas as I do not monitor this account.

Course Website: on E-Learning (Canvas).

Zoom Meetings and Attendance Policy: Attendance and participation in all Zoom meetings is expected. If you miss a Zoom meeting due to illness, contact the instructor as soon as you are able to make arrangements for make-up work. Our class sessions will be audio-visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate verbally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. Unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Academic Honesty: All students are expected to hold themselves to a high standard of academic honesty. It is normal and reasonable for students in a laboratory course to work together on ungraded homework; however, students must work alone on all graded assignments (tests, quizzes, exams). Giving or receiving any unauthorized assistance during such an assignment will be treated as a deliberate violation of the UF Academic Honesty policy. This will result in a failing grade and can lead to dismissal from the university. Partial or total plagiarism on any written assignment is regarded as an especially flagrant form of dishonesty. If you are aware of a climate that promotes academic dishonesty, please notify the instructor or contact the Student Honor Court (392-1631) or the Cheating Hotline (392-6999).

Tentative schedule:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1-Sep	Overview of marine biodiversity
8-Sep	Taxonomic databases
15-Sep	Specimen databases
22-Sep	Sequence databases
29-Sep	Taxonomic foundations, integrative taxonomy
6-Oct	Species, species delineation
13-Oct	DNA sequence data, barcoding, and BOLD
20-Oct	Exploring cryptic diversity with BOLD and GenBank
27-Oct	Introduction to marine biogeography
3-Nov	Distributional data: OBIS, GBIF, iNaturalist
10-Nov	Biodiversity and ecology
17-Nov	Integrating diverse lines of evidence, InvertEBase
24-Nov	Case studies, projects
1-Dec	Case studies, projects
8-Dec	Case studies, projects