BIOL 394: Caribbean Marine Biology
Field Trip to the Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences
March 11 – 18*, 2018

Course Instructors:
Dr. Don Sakaguchi, GDCB, Rm. 505 Sci. II, Ph. 294-3112, (dssakagu@iastate.edu)
Dr. Jeanne Serb, EEOB, Rm. 245 Bessey, Ph. 294-7479, (serb@iastate.edu)

BIO 394: COURSE SYLLABUS
Biology 394A (Sect. HN): Pre-trip Course Syllabus (1 credit)
Class meets on Thursday’s, 5:45-7:45 PM, in Room 119 Science II (unless an alternate location is specified).

Course schedule/syllabus (Subject to change)

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<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC OF DISCUSSION</th>
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| Jan. 11 | 1) Introductions: meet your classmates.  
2) Discuss class and field trip organization and logistics.  
3) Introduction to formulation of research projects.  
4) Reef creature identification quiz. |
| Jan. 18 | 1) Health considerations while traveling abroad: Presentation by Sue Dekkers BSN, RN-BC ISU-Thielen Student Health Center representative.  
2) What is a marine biologist. |
| Jan. 25 | 1) Pre-departure Orientation Program: Jodi Cornell, Global Agriculture Programs  
2) Marine invertebrates and discussion of their life history traits. |
| Feb. 1 | 1) Discuss snorkeling gear.  
2) Reef fish ID 1  
3) Discussion of your research projects. (Past examples/titles) |
| Feb. 8 | 1) Coral reef development, some of the major problems facing corals globally (especially ocean acidification and bleaching), and how corals can be used as proxy climate archives Prof. Al Wanamaker, ISU, Geological and Atmospheric Sci.  
2) Discussion of your research projects. Submit proposed group research project title (to be approved by Serb and Sakaguchi)  
Assignment due next class: prepare group research proposal (due: next class Feb. 15) |
| Feb. 15 | 1) Coastal Marine Policy: Prof. Arnold Van Der Valk, ISU, EEOB.  
2) Submit 1st complete draft of group research proposal and be prepared to present to class  
Comments from Jeanne and Don will be provided by Feb. 22.  
Based on class discussion, begin making revisions to your research proposal  
3) Reef fish ID 2 |
2) Discussion of your research projects |
| Mar. 1 | 1) Revised research project proposals. Submit final draft before class on March 1  
2) Discussion of your research projects. Finalize projects.  
3) Field trip organization and logistics. |
| Mar. 8 | 1) “A day in the life of a Bio 394 student”  
2) Discussion of your research projects.  
3) Finalize field trip organization and logistics. |
Mar. 11-18 | **Marine Biology Field Trip to Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences (RIMS)**

**Mar. 22** | No class. However, get your images (photos/videos) uploaded to the course CyBox folder this week.

**Mar. 29** | Post trip discussions.
Final exam: Reef creature identification
REEF surveys, discuss Research Symposium

**Apr. 5** | Further discussion of REEF surveys, Transect Line Survey and additional discussion about next week’s Research Symposium

**Apr. 12** | ISU BIO 394 Research Symposium: Student presentations.
5:45-7:45 PM, Room 119 Science II. Refreshments provided.

**Apr. 19** | Awards Ceremony.
Course Notebook/Field trip journals are due at 6:00 PM in room 119 Sci II.
Final papers are due by class. Please submit them electronically to Jeanne and Don

**Apr. 26** | TBD

**May 3** | Finals week: Your final papers and class notebook/journal available for pickup.

* Please note: Our departure is very early on Sunday morning March 11 from Des Moines (DSM), flying to Roatan (RTB) via Dallas/Fort Worth. However, our return on Sunday March 18 has 2 connections, first through DFW, then through Chicago (ORD). We arrive at ORD at ~12:30 AM Monday, March 19 early morning. Our connecting flight from ORD to DSM departs at ~7:30 AM on Monday morning arriving in DSM at ~8:45 AM. As such, you will be missing classes on Monday morning, March 19 and will therefore have to plan accordingly.

**Assignments:**

1) Numerous assignments to collect information about Roatan (marine environment, ecosystems, culture, history, economy, etc.). Information may be obtained from various resources: library, World Wide Web-based, etc.

2) Develop group research project proposal. Conduct research projects on site on the coral reefs surrounding Roatan Island. Projects will be discussed during 394A class - projects must be approved by the course instructors.

3) Oral presentation (10-15 minutes) on your research topic in coral reef marine biology. To be presented during our Research Symposium on April 12, 2018 beginning at 5:45 PM. Presentations will be based on field observations of the marine environment.

4) Course notebook/field trip journal: You are required to maintain a Course Notebook/Field Trip Journal. These journals will be collected in class on April 19, 2018.

5) Term paper on a selected topic dealing with some aspect of coral reef marine biology. Papers must be at least 10 pages double-spaced (12-page maximum) and include at least 10 references. Topics for these papers must be approved by the course instructors. Final papers are due by class on April 19, 2018. Email papers as an attachment to Jeanne and Don.

Marine Biology Field Trip homepage is located at the following web address:
[http://dssakagu.public.iastate.edu/Sakaguchi/classes/394.html](http://dssakagu.public.iastate.edu/Sakaguchi/classes/394.html)

Attendance at the seminar is compulsory unless you have a non-resolvable conflict. Anyone who will miss a seminar should Email: Don Sakaguchi (dssakagu@iastate.edu) and Jeanne Serb (serb@iastate.edu) with the reasons before the seminar.
Student Learning Outcomes / Course Goals:
A primary goal of this Program is to provide students with a coral reef marine biology field experience.

1. Students will gain an understanding and appreciation of the marine environment, especially the waters off Roatan, Honduras, through readings, lectures, discussions, and field observations.
2. Students will gain an understanding of ecological relationships among different marine organisms (e.g., predator-prey, competition, symbiosis).
3. Students will be able to recognize some of the organisms (e.g., marine invertebrates, marine fish) that occur in particular marine habitats around Roatan and the Roatan Institute of Marine Sciences.

Academic Dishonesty
The class will follow Iowa State University’s policy on academic dishonesty. Anyone suspected of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students Office.  
http://www.dso.iastate.edu/ja/academic/misconduct.html

Disability Accommodation
Iowa State University is committed to assuring that all educational activities are free from discrimination and harassment based on disability status. All students requesting accommodations are required to meet with staff in Student Disability Resources (SDR) to establish eligibility. A Student Academic Accommodation Request (SAAR) form will be provided to eligible students. The provision of reasonable accommodations in this course will be arranged after timely delivery of the SAAR form to the instructor. Students are encouraged to deliver completed SAAR forms as early in the semester as possible. SDR, a unit in the Dean of Students Office, is located in room 1076, Student Services Building or online at www.dso.iastate.edu/dr/. Contact SDR by e-mail at disabilityresources@iastate.edu or by phone at 515-294-7220 for additional information.

Dead Week
This class follows the Iowa State University Dead Week policy as noted in section 10.6.4 of the Faculty Handbook http://www.provost.iastate.edu/resources/faculty-handbook.

Harassment and Discrimination
Iowa State University strives to maintain our campus as a place of work and study for faculty, staff, and students that is free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and harassment based upon race, ethnicity, sex (including sexual assault), pregnancy, color, religion, national origin, physical or mental disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or status as a U.S. veteran. Any student who has concerns about such behavior should contact his/her instructor, Student Assistance at 515-294-1020 or email dso-sas@iastate.edu, or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance at 515-294-7612.

Religious Accommodation
If an academic or work requirement conflicts with your religious practices and/or observances, you may request reasonable accommodations. Your request must be in writing, and your instructor or supervisor will review the request. You or your instructor may also seek assistance from the Dean of Students Office or the Office of Equal Opportunity and Compliance.

Contact Information
If you are experiencing, or have experienced, a problem with any of the above issues, email academicissues@iastate.edu.