

MARB - MARINE BIOLOGY (MARB)

MARB 101 Succeeding in Science

Credit 1. 1 Lecture Hour.

An orientation of the biological sciences including the nature of science, functions of scientists, and a better understanding of the fundamentals of science; hands-on experiences that provide opportunities to work with faculty, graduate and other undergraduate students.

MARB 285 Directed Studies

Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Other Hours.

Special topics and problems in field and/or laboratory work suited to analysis by individuals or small groups concerning aspects of marine biology. Usually requires a report describing techniques and results. Only 3 credit hours may be used in the degree plan curriculum.

Prerequisites: 2.25 GPR, Approval of instructor.

MARB 289 Special Topics in Marine Biology

Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.

Study of selected topics in an identified area of marine biology.

Prerequisite: Approval of instructor.

MARB 300 Scientific Methods in Marine Biology

Credits 2. 1 Lecture Hour. 3 Lab Hours.

An introduction to field, laboratory and analytical methods, equipment and instruments. The field portion will include making proper observations, sampling techniques, and data recording. The laboratory portion will include sample analysis methods, use of instruments, introduction to data analysis including elementary statistics, introduction to scientific literature and report writing style.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112. Curriculum sophomore, junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 301 Genetics

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Fundamental principles of genetics; physical basis of Mendelian inheritance; expression and interaction of genes, linkage, sex linkage, biochemical nature of genetic material, and mutation.

Prerequisites: CHEM 227, 228, 237 and 238. Curriculum junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 302 The Sea World Experience

Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Exploration of marine organisms, survey topics in vertebrate marine biology and the role that aquatic oriented parks play in education, research and conservation; hands-on experiences by participating in aspects of maintaining aquatic organisms in captivity including animal care and nutrition, physiology, behavior, animal training and water quality; exposure to marine organismal taxonomy, natural history, anatomy and ecology.

Prerequisites: BIOL 111 with a grade of C or better; GPA greater than 2.00.

MARB 303 Biostatistics

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.

Descriptive statistics, data visualization, introduction to probability and probability distribution, parameter estimation, and testing of hypotheses, analysis of variance, correlation and regression, parametric and non-parametric techniques with emphasis on methods applied to biological investigations.

Prerequisites: MATH 142, MATH 147 or MATH 151; sophomore, junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 310 Introduction to Cell Biology

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Cellular structure/function; prokaryotic vs. eukaryotic cells; examination of cellular membranes and membrane transport; analysis of DNA replication, transcription, and protein translation (an extension of their treatment in MARB 301); introduction to the components and genetics of immunology.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112, CHEM 228, MARB 301; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor; MARS 360 is recommended but not required.

MARB 311 Ichthyology

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Freshwater and marine fishes. Subject will be mainly systematic, but evolution, ecology, life history, and economics of more important species will be treated.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112 and MARB 315. Curriculum sophomore, junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 315 Natural History of Vertebrates

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Natural history of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals, with emphasis on coastal Texas vertebrates.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112. Curriculum sophomore, junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 320 Fisheries Techniques

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

An introduction to theory and techniques in fisheries biology and ecology. Experience with fisheries equipment and techniques will be provided in both field and laboratory. Practical sampling design, collection, and interpretation of data from estuarine, coastal and offshore environments will be addressed.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112, MARB 311. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 334 Biology of Sea Turtles

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Living sea turtles of the world, with emphasis on species in the Atlantic, Gulf and Caribbean basins. Emphasis includes phylogeny, population biology, ecology, life history, behavior, social and economic aspects and their impact on sea turtle conservation and recovery.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112, MARB 315 or instructor approval.

MARB 335 Fish Physiology

Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.

Study of the basic physiology of fishes. Examination of fish cardiovascular, renal, digestive, locomotor, reproductive, and central/peripheral nervous systems. Discussion of physiological adaptations enhancing survival in a water medium.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 340 Tropical Marine Ecology

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Field-oriented experience in coral reef, mangrove, sea grass and other tropical marine ecosystems; emphasis on biodiversity, ecology and conservation issues specific to Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112; all students who dive must either be a current AAUS scientific diver or present a current medical examination (which will be provided by the Diving Safety Officer or instructor) completed within the past 12 months and signed by a doctor, to the instructor before class participation in the pool will be allowed; prior to using scuba equipment, all students must provide proof of open water certification or equivalent diving experience (advanced certification recommended); approval of instructor and the Diving Safety Officer is required before any pool activity takes place; Divers Alert Network insurance, or equivalent, is required.

MARB 360 Marine Conservation Biology

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Lectures and laboratories cover the major principles of conservation biology; a new synthetic field that applies concepts of ecology, systematics and evolution, biogeology, genetics, behavioral sciences, and social sciences to the conservation of marine fisheries resources. Lab exercises include morphometric and genetic variation, GIS, molecular systematics and phylogenetic inference.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 400 Biology of Marine Mammals

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

A broad-spectrum course on the taxonomy, evolution, morphology, behavior, and ecology of marine mammals, including sirenians, carnivores, baleen and toothed whales and dolphins.

Prerequisite: MARB 315.

MARB 401 Physiological Ecology of Marine Mammals

Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours. 0 Lab Hours.

Anatomy, taxonomy, phylogeny and physiological adaptations of marine mammals.

Prerequisites: MARB 315; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 403 Cetacean Behavior and Behavioral Ecology

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

This course consists of lecture of up to date descriptions of Cetacean behavior and ecology; and of labs that evaluate the literature of topics of present relevance.

Prerequisite: MARB 315. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 405 Marine Parasitology

Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.

Fundamentals of parasitology, with emphasis on marine applications. Survey of major parasites of marine animals and the diseases they cause, especially in ecologically and commercially-important host species.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112, junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 406 Life in Extreme Environments

Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.

Key metabolic and physiological innovations of extremophile organisms; topics include the molecular biology, biochemistry and physiology of organisms living in extreme environments.

Prerequisites: MARB 315; CHEM 228; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 407 Research and Conservation in Greece-Dolphins, Fisheries and Cultural Heritage

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Lectures, readings and labs on the ecology and behavior of the vertebrate fauna of Greece; laboratory hands-on experience of the marine environment from boats, readings, videos, interpretation and select major peer-review scientific papers and books.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification; MARB 315 or approval of instructor.

MARB 408 Marine Botany

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Morphology, systematics, ecology, and biochemistry of representative algae, fungi, and submarine grasses.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 409 Biology of Sharks and their Relatives

Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

Applied knowledge from ichthyology, marine ecology, and oceanography related to sharks, skates and rays in subtropical and tropical latitudes; emphasis placed on hands-on learning experiences coupled with traditional lectures and reading on Chondrichthyan morphology, physiology, life history, behavior and conservation.

Prerequisites: MARB 315; junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor; MARB 311 recommended.

MARB 410 Animal Behavior

Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.

Examination of ethological concepts. Discussion of the development, genetics, physiology, and evolution of animal behavior patterns involved in reproduction, territoriality, aggression, communication, population dispersion, sociality, and sociobiology of invertebrates and vertebrates.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112. Curriculum sophomore, junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 414 Toxicology

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.

History and scope of toxicology as it applies to mammals; where possible, marine species will be used for examples and assigned papers.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112, CHEM 227 and CHEM 228.

MARB 415/WFSC 415 Coastal Marine Biology and Geology of Alaska

Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.

Field course conducted in south-central Alaska for two weeks; work at the remote Alice Cove Research Station located in Prince William Sound; conduct research on marine mammals behavior and ecology; exploration of the geology and glaciology.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112.

Cross Listing: WFSC 415/MARB 415.

MARB 416 Marine and Coastal Biology of Patagonia, Argentina

Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 2 Lab Hours.

Study of the marine and coastal biology of Peninsula Valdez located in Patagonia, Argentina; augmented lectures with field observations of marine and terrestrial wildlife and local habitats, visits to a nature center and paleontological museum and cruises to observe marine mammals.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 420 Comparative Animal Physiology**Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Principles of animal physiology are examined using invertebrate and vertebrate model systems. Topics include osmoregulation in marine vs. freshwater vs. terrestrial organisms, excretion, fluid circulation, nervous system structure and function, muscle activity, sensory neurobiology, and endocrine mediation.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112, CHEM 228, MARB 310. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor. , MARS 360 is recommended but not required.

MARB 423 Mariculture**Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Study of factors determining the success of efforts to cultivate estuarine and marine species of economic importance. Mariculture practices used worldwide in the production of algae, mollusks, crustaceans, and fishes will be discussed.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 425 Marine Ecology**Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Relationship between various marine environments and their inhabitants; intra- and interspecific relationships between organisms; structure and function among marine communities. Laboratory emphasis is placed on study of living material and natural habitats in the Gulf of Mexico.

Prerequisites: MARB 315; senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 426 Aquatic Animal Nutrition**Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.**

Chemistry, digestion, absorption and intermediary metabolism of nutrient classes with special emphasis on their relationship to warmwater fish nutrition. Determination of nutrient requirements, feed evaluation, feed processing, ration formulation and feeding practices.

Prerequisites: CHEM 227. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 430 Coastal Plant Ecology**Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Study of the identification, distribution, production, and ecological importance of estuarine, coastal marsh, and dune vascular plants; the interaction of plants with their abiotic and biotic environments; and techniques of vegetation management and evaluation.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 433 Applied Bioinformatics**Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Fundamental concepts and methods in bioinformatics using sequence analysis and practical applications; includes biological databases, sequence and structure alignments, structural bioinformatics, gene prediction and genome analysis; emphasis on understanding and application of these concepts.

Prerequisites: MARB 301; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 435 Marine Invertebrate Zoology**Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Marine Invertebrate Zoology. General biology of marine invertebrate animals; morphology, evolution, and systematics. Laboratory will stress studies of local fauna.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 437 Pathology of Marine Animals**Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.**

Examination of changes or loss of physiological function as related to common diseases (viral, bacterial, parasitic) or injury; mechanisms of disease in cells, tissues and organ systems of marine vertebrates; emphasis on marine mammals; fishes and marine reptiles/birds; clinical manifestations, diagnostics and treatments.

Prerequisites: MARB 315; junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 438 Coastal Ornithology**Credits 3. 2 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Coastal Ornithology. Field and laboratory studies on the identification, classification, distribution and ecology of birds with special emphasis on birds of the Texas Gulf Coast. Classroom lectures to include anatomy, physiology, behavior and migration. Field trips required.

Prerequisites: MARB 315. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 445 Marine Fisheries Management**Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.**

Basic knowledge from marine ichthyology, biology of fishes and biological oceanography related to applied aspects of marine fisheries sciences; emphasis placed on management techniques applicable to tidal-influenced inland water, estuaries, and oceans.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification, or approval of instructor.

MARB 460 Fisheries Population Dynamics**Credits 4. 3 Lecture Hours. 3 Lab Hours.**

Principles and concepts of population dynamics related to fish; methods of estimating abundance, mortality, recruitment and sustainable harvest levels; introduction to models for population analysis with emphasis on stock assessments and quantitative fisheries; basic computer programming to explore population behavior and interactions.

Prerequisites: MATH 142, MATH 147, or MATH 151; MARB 311 or approval of instructor.

MARB 466 Evolutionary Biology**Credits 3. 3 Lecture Hours.**

A conceptual examination of evolutionary theory, not a survey of specific organismal evolutions. Evidence for the abiotic origin of life is presented, followed by a discussion of micro-evolutionary (including drift and natural selection) and macro-evolutionary (including evolutionary trends) mechanisms. The course concludes with application of these concepts to human evolution.

Prerequisites: BIOL 112. Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor. MARB 301 is recommended but not required.

MARB 482 Seminar in Marine Biology**Credit 1. 1 Lecture Hour.**

Compilation of literature pertaining to topics in marine biology. Emphasis placed on preparation of a written report and presentation of a synopsis of that report.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 484 Undergraduate Internship**Credits 0 to 9. 0 to 9 Other Hours.**

Supervised study in a research or teaching laboratory remote from TAMUG. Student involvement is to consist of real-life learning or marine biological research, teaching, management, or a combination of these.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 485 Directed Studies

Credits 1 to 6. 1 to 3 Other Hours.

Per Semester. Special topics and problems in field and/or laboratory work suited to analysis by individuals or small groups concerning aspects of marine biology. Usually requires a report describing techniques and results. Only 3 credit hours may be used in the degree plan curriculum.

Prerequisites: 2.25 GPR. Curriculum sophomore, junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 489 Special Topics in Marine Biology

Credits 1 to 4. 1 to 4 Lecture Hours.

Study of selected topics in an identified area of marine biology.

Prerequisite: Junior or senior classification or approval of instructor.

MARB 491 Research in Marine Biology

Credits 0 to 4. 0 to 4 Other Hours.

Research conducted under the direction of faculty member in Marine Biology. Please see academic advisor in department. Registration in multiple sections of this course is possible within a given semester provided that the per semester credit hour limit is not exceeded. May be repeated for credit.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior classification and approval of instructor.