

Oceanography Lab Syllabus

OCE-3014L – OCEANOGRAPHY LAB

Earth Sciences Department

Fall 2009

PC 311

Instructor: Konstantinos Menelaou

Email: kmene002@fiu.edu

Section/Time: Tuesday 6.25pm-9.10pm

LAB OBJECTIVE

Oceanography lab covers major oceanographic processes active at Earth's surface: plate tectonics, marine geology and geographic features of ocean basins; marine sedimentation and microfossils; the physical properties of seawater; ocean circulation and currents; waves, tides, and coastal processes; and, extreme forces of nature. You will discover the hidden world beneath the seas and gain greater understanding of how the seas are a window to the past and a signpost to future environmental issues.

LAB MANUAL

Laboratory exercises & reading handouts are to be downloaded by the student prior to coming to lab at: <http://fiu.edu/~arnoldd>

In other words, there is no lab manual to buy; instead, it is your responsibility to print-out the lab exercises that you will complete in lab.

LAB SOP's

- Labs start on time—you have two hours and forty-five minutes to complete the assignment.
- Lab exercises are completed independently during lab. If working in a group, each member is to think independently, then complete the assignment using his/her own words/calculations.
- Definition of an excused absence: A signed medical excuse from the attending physician.
- If you plan to be absent from a lab to observe a religious holiday, notify your instructor the 1st week of lab (University rule).
- No food or drinks in the lab.
- **Cellular phones must be turned off and out of sight.**
- Each student will be responsible for lab equipment/materials and for cleaning up his/her area.
- Academic Integrity: Academic dishonesty or disruptive behavior will be reported immediately to the lab manager. Please familiarize yourself with The University's Code of Conduct http://www.fiu.edu/~jms/standards_of_conduct.htm.

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Week	Lab #	Topic	
1 Tues 8/25	Intro.	Maps & Contour Lines/Isobaths	Intro Handout (provided)
2 Tues 9/1	1	Bathymetry, Profiling, Seismic Reflection	Download #1
3 Tues 9/8	2	Plate Tectonics—Sea Floor Spreading, Ocean Geography	Download #2
4 Tues 9/15	3	Materials of the Sea floor	Download #3
5 Tues 9/22	4	Microfossils & Micropaleontology	Download #4
6 Tues 9/29		Midterm covering above topics (20% of Grade)	
7 Tues 10/6	5	Seawater Parameters	Download #5
8 Tues 10/13	6	Experiments Lab	Download #6
9 Tues 10/20	7	Currents: Surface Circulation & Upwelling	Download #7
10 Tues 10/27	8	Waves and Longshore Currents	Download #8
11 Tues 11/3	9	Forces of Nature: Hurricane Storm Surge & El Nino	Download #9
12 Tues 11/10	10	Remote Sensing & Course Review	Download #10
13 Tues 11/24		Final Exam – This is a comprehensive final; however emphasis is placed on labs 5-10 (30% of grade)	

GRADING

There are 11 lab exercises. The Introductory Lab counts! Each is worth a maximum of 10 points. At the end of the term your lowest lab score is dropped; then points are totaled for a maximum of 100 points. Remember, there are no make-up labs unless you present dated, signed medical documentation or police report/court summons.

Lab Exercise Point Total	100 points	50% of grade
Midterm Point Total	40 points	20% of grade
Final Point Total	60 points	30% of grade
	200 point	100%

A = 94-100, A- = 90-93, B+ = 87-89, B = 83-86, B- = 80-82, C+ = 77-79, C = 73-76, C- = 70-72, D+ = 67-69, D = 63-66, D- = 60-62, F = less than 60 percent.