Department: Chemistry, Geosciences & Environ. Sci.  Course Prefix/Number: E S 3403

Official Course Title: Oceanography

Master Syllabus Approved by Department on: _____/ _____/ _____
month date year

I. Catalog Description (50 words; brief synopsis of course content, emphases)

A study of our oceans from the physical, chemical, biological and geological aspects. Theory reinforced by practical field experience. Prerequisites: GEOL 1054, junior classification or approval of department head. Lab fee $5. Course fee $10.

II. Prerequisites?

GEOL 1054 and junior classification.

III. Expanded Course Description (150 words; primary course content, intended student level and role(s) course is to play in the curriculum)

This is an upper-level course that is recommended for multiple support areas in the Geoscience program. It is intended for students majoring or minoring in Geoscience, and especially those within the support areas of Environmental Science, Earth Science and Teacher Certification 8-12. It is also taken by Biology majors for Teacher Certification, and by biology majors with marine biology emphases. The course is an overview of ocean processes and an introduction to climatology. Topics covered include plate tectonics, seawater chemistry, marine sedimentology, oceanographic meteorology, currents, waves, tides, marine biology and ecology.

IV. Intended Student Learning Outcomes? Required; knowledge outcomes (what students who successfully complete the course will be expected to know). Optional; skill outcomes (what students who successfully complete the course will be able to do). Optional; value outcomes (what students who successfully complete the course will value or appreciate).

Knowledge Outcomes.

The student should generally understand how oceanographers construct hypotheses and how they analyze and interpret oceanographic data. The student should comprehend how the oceans influences human activities.
Value Outcomes.

Fifty percent of all people on Earth live in coastal areas. Human activities have impacted ocean resources, often detrimentally. This course is designed to make the student aware of some of these problems, and will hopefully provide them with a better appreciation of this critical Earth habitat.

V. Unless otherwise stipulated in this master syllabus by the department, the following items are subject to faculty discretion as described in each faculty member's individual course outline/syllabus:

a) Course Requirements? (grading/evaluation procedures; class attendance policy; term papers, projects, field assignments; examinations; class participation, etc.).

Grading is based on the averages of several lecture tests and a final exam. Class attendance is important, but a student will not be penalized for not attending the lectures. A field trip to the Gulf Coast of Texas is mandatory, where students apply what they have learned in the field.

b) Required Text(s)?

A text is required.

c) Bibliography?

Department Head Signature/Date:

______________________________         ___________/ ____ /_______
Signature                                             Date