



Course ISNS 2367-001 The Oceans
Professor Dr. Ignacio Pujana
Term Fall 2016 August 22th – December 15th.
Meetings Monday & Wednesday: 1:00pm-2:15pm [JO 3.516](#)

Professor's Contact Information

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Other Information UTD originated e-mails are the only ones answered.

General Course Information

**Pre-requisites,
Co-requisites,
& other
restrictions**

None

**Course
Description**

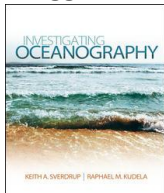
This course focuses on a scientific understanding of the world's oceans, the dominant feature of Earth's surface. The student will learn about: Origin of the universe, solar system and oceans; history of oceanographic knowledge; features on the ocean floor and their role in plate tectonics; sediments on the sea floor and how they are used to interpret the history of the oceans; chemistry of seawater; the role of the oceans in controlling weather; what causes tides, currents and waves; and life in the ocean. Last unit describe the problems and issues associated with exploitation of biological and mineral resources from the sea.

**Learning
Outcomes**

- Explain how our planet, its oceans and its life forms originated.
- Describe, in general terms, the geography of the world's oceans.
- Understand and explain plate tectonics.
- Describe the chemical and physical properties of seawater.
- Know the processes that characterize water movement in the world's oceans.
- Describe the relationship between oceans and climate
- Explain the type and distribution of ocean sediments, the processes by which they are deposited, and how the coastline influences this process.
- Know the organisms that live in the ocean and the factors that control their diversity.
- Describe the natural resources available from the ocean and the ocean's role as a waste disposal site.
- Understand and appreciate the relationship of the ocean to everything that we do on our planet.

Suggested Textbooks

**Texts &
Materials**



Any general Oceanography textbook will work, but we follow The text book described below, either an electronic copy or a printed textbook, access code is not required.
Investigating Oceanography 1st or 2nd Edition by Keith Sverdrup

**Suggested
Texts,
Readings, &
Materials**

Tests will be based on the lectures and will include approximately 50 multiple choice, fill in the blank, T/F, sketch/diagram, or short answer questions. Five tests will be required (see schedule of lectures) and a last optional comprehensive test. The first test will assess your knowledge of material covered in Units 1 to 3; the second will be over material covered in Units 4 to 7, third test will evaluate Units 8, 9 and 10, fourth test is over Units 11, 12, 13 and 14, finally the remaining units: 15 and 16 will be tested on the fifth Test.
A comprehensive optional test will be offered during the final week of the semester, this test will replace the lowest grade on the previous five.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

WEEK	DAY	Topic	Textbook
1	M- Aug. 22	Syllabus explanation, and Introduction	
1	W- Aug. 24	Unit 1: The Water Planet	Chapter 1
2	M- Aug. 29	Unit 2: Earth Structure and Plate Tectonics	Chapter 2
2	W- Aug. 31	Unit 2: Earth Structure and Plate Tectonics	Chapter 2
3	M- Sept. 5	Labor Day Holiday	Labor Day Holiday
3	W- Sept. 7	Unit 3: The Sea Floor and Its Sediments	Chapter 3
4	M- Sept. 12	Test 1 Units 1, 2 & 3	
4	W- Sept. 14	Unit 4: The Physical Properties of Sea Water	Chapter 4
5	M-Sept. 19	Unit 5: The Chemistry of Sea Water	Chapter 5
5	W. Sept. 21	Unit 6: The Atmosphere and the Oceans	Chapter 6
6	M-Sept. 26	Unit 6: The Atmosphere and the Oceans	Chapter 6
6	W- Sept. 28	Unit 7: Ocean Structure and Circulation	Chapter 7
7	M- Oct. 3	Unit 7: Ocean Structure and Circulation	Chapter 7
7	W- Oct. 5	Unit 8: The Waves	Chapter 8
8	M- Oct. 10	Mid Term: Units 4, 5, 6 & 7	
8	W- Oct. 12	Unit 9: The Tides	Chapter 9
9	M- Oct. 17	Unit 9: The Tides	Chapter 9
9	W- Oct. 19	Unit 10:Coasts, Beaches and Estuaries	Chapter 10
10	M- Oct. 24	Unit 10:Coasts, Beaches and Estuaries	Chapter 10
10	W-Oct. 26	Unit 11: Living Ocean	Chapter 11
11	M- Oct. 31	3rd Test Units: 8, 9, & 10	
11	W- Nov. 2	Unit 12: The Plankton Productivity & Food Webs	Chapter 12
12	M- Nov. 7	Unit 13: The Nekton: Swimmers of the Sea	Chapter 13
12	W- Nov. 9	Unit 14: The Benthos: Living on the Sea Floor	Chapter 14
13	M- Nov. 14	4th Test Units 11, 12, 13, & 14	
13	W- Nov. 16	Unit 15: Environmental Issues	Chapter 15
14	M- Nov. 21	Fall Break	
14	W- Nov. 23	Fall Break	
15	M- Nov. 28	Unit 16: The Oceans and Climate Disruption	Chapter 16
15	W- Nov. 30	Unit 16: The Oceans and Climate Disruption	Chapter 16
16	M- Dec. 5	5th Test Units 15, & 16	
16	W- Dec. 7	COMPREHENSIVE OPTIONAL TEST	

Course Policies

Grading (credit) Criteria	<p>Each test contributes equally towards your grade (19%). Each Lecture will have a miniquiz about the content of the lecture as posted on the Syllabus, it will last only 5 minutes. The completion and approval of this activity will count as much as 10% divided as a 5% normal score grade and 5 % as extra credit on your final grade. You can keep track of your grades by checking the course eLearning page (https://elearning.utdallas.edu).</p> <p>The final grade is based on the following percentile divisions A+: 97.1-100; A: 93.1-97; A-: 90.1-93; B+: 87.1-90; B: 83.1-87; B-: 80.1-83; C+: 77.1-80; C: 73.1-77; C-: 70.1-73, D=60.1-70, F<60.</p>
Make-up Exams	<p>Tests will be taken only during the scheduled in-class period, unless the instructor agrees to reschedule an individual's test as the result of a prior agreement, or a doctor's excuse certifies the student was too ill to attend class the day of the examination. If you have health problems, or extenuating circumstances, please contact the instructor as soon as possible so arrangements can be made.</p>

Extra Credit	Each Lecture will have a miniquiz about the content of the lecture as posted on the Syllabus, it will last only 5 minutes. The completion and approval of this activity will count as much as 10% divided a 5% towards normal grade and 5 % for extra credit on your final grade.
Class Attendance	Highly Recommended see above
Classroom Citizenship	According with UTD guidelines
Field Trip Policies	No Field trip
Student Conduct and Discipline	The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, <i>A to Z Guide</i> , which is provided to all registered students each academic year.
	The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the <i>Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3</i> , and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i> . Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).
	A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.
Academic Integrity	The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.
	Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.
	Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.
Email Use	The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be

	<p>used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.</p>
Withdrawal from Class	<p>The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.</p>
Student Grievance Procedures	<p>Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's <i>Handbook of Operating Procedures</i>. In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.</p> <p>Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.</p>
Incomplete Grades	<p>As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of <u>F</u>.</p>
Disability Services	<p>The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union.</p> <p>The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is: The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22 PO Box 830688 Richardson, Texas 75083-0688 (972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)</p> <p>Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.</p> <p>It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to</p>

	<p>faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.</p>
	<p>The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.</p>
Religious Holy Days	<p>The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.</p> <p>If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.</p>

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.