CR COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS   Syllabus for Introduction to Oceanography

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2023
Course ID & Section #: OCEAN-10-V4580 and V4581
Instructor's name: Emily Wright
Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office location: HU 125A
Office hours: by appointment at WhenIsGood.net/WrightOfficeHour
Email address: emily-wright@redwoods.edu
Preferred contact method: Pronto or Canvas message

Catalog Description

An introduction to the Earth's ocean including marine environments, geology, plate tectonics, fundamental chemical and physical properties of seawater, atmospheric-oceanic relationships, oceanic circulation, coastal environments and biological productivity.

Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. Use the formal methodology of the scientific method as an inquiry-based tool to critically evaluate oceanic phenomena.
2. Describe how energy is transferred between different elements of the Earth's geologic, oceanic, atmospheric and biological systems.
3. Apply oceanographic principles to describe how coastal materials and landscapes change over time.
4. Apply concepts of physics and chemistry to quantitatively explain variations in the characteristics of the oceanic environment.

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

If you are taking online classes DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. In the case of face-to-face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the needed accommodation so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

This course uses a *grading rubric, NOT a percentage-based grade*. Letter grades are earned according to the rubric below. To earn a grade, you must meet the requirements for that grade in *all* categories. Categories are *not* averaged.

Grade	Exams	Writing Portfolio	Minimum Total Points
A	10 total crowns	Exceeds expectations on two portfolio assignments	At least 400 total points
A-	9 total crowns	Exceeds expectations on one portfolio assignment and meets expectations on another	
B+	8 total crowns	Meets expectations on two portfolio assignments	
B	7 total crowns		
B-	6 total crowns	Meets expectations on one portfolio assignment	
C+	5 total crowns		
C	4 total crowns		
D	3 total crowns	Does not meet expectations on any portfolio assignments	
F	Less than 3 crowns		Less than 400 points

Examples:

- A student who has earned 700 points, 7 total crowns, turned in two writing portfolio assignments both earning "approaching expectations" has earned a D in the class because they have not met expectations on at least one portfolio assignment.
- A student who has earned 800 points, 7 total crowns and has met expectations on two portfolio assignments has earned a B in the class. One more crown would bring this same student to a B+, but to get to an A-, they would also need to improve their writing portfolio.

Exams

There are four exams throughout the semester. Each exam has three levels. For each exam, you will earn the crowns for the highest crown-level exam that you complete. For example, if you complete all three levels, you'll earn three crowns for that exam.

- The maximum possible number of crowns that you can earn in the semester is 12.
- Earning 10 crowns requires passing 2 exams at the triple crown level and two at the double crown level.
- Earning 4 crowns can be achieved by passing all exams at the single crown level.

Exam Level	Question difficulty	Number of attempts allowed	Passing score
Single crown	Easy	Unlimited	9 of 10 questions correct
Double crown	Easy to moderate	5	
Triple crown	Moderate to hard	3	

Exams are open note, open book, but closed discussion and closed to help from Artificial Intelligence (AI). Discussing answers with your classmates, family, roommates, etc. while the exam is open is considered academic dishonesty (cheating), as is sharing exam results (correct answers) with classmates who have not yet taken the exam. Looking up definitions of words is acceptable but asking a computer or program to answer a question for you is considered academic dishonesty.

Writing Portfolio

There are four possible writing portfolio assignments, three of which are available to all students (the Field Project Report is not an option for students who not also enrolled in the lab). You must choose one or two of these (depending on your goal grade) to complete as part of your Writing Portfolio.

Learning Reflection (highest available grade is "Meets Expectations")
Answer a series of short essay questions asking you to explain an oceanography concept of your choice. This is the least challenging and least time-consuming writing portfolio option, but there is no "Exceeds Expectations" score available for this assignment. Therefore, prospective A students should choose a more challenging option.

Science Blog
Read a peer-reviewed scientific journal article and write a science blog post explaining this research to the general public.

Research Paper
This may be an expansion on your Science Blog to include additional research, or you can choose a different topic. You will conduct secondary research (i.e. the library kind of research) about an area of active primary research (e.g. the kind of research that's done on a research vessel).

Field Project Report (only for lab students)
This report is a requirement of the lab class, but if you choose, you may also submit this report as one of your writing portfolio assignments for this class.

Minimum Total Points

Much like in a more traditional point and percentage grading system, you will earn points for completing assignments, scoring well on exams, or getting a good evaluation on a writing assignment. Unlike in the points and percentage grading system, these points alone do not determine your grade.

There are at least 1,000 (probably more) theoretically possible points in this class, but I do not expect you to earn all of them. Every student needs to earn at least 400 of these 1000 points to pass the class. Above the 400-point threshold, more points will not directly affect your grade. Although, since most assignments worth points are designed to prepare you for exams or writing portfolio assignments, earning more points is *likely (but not guaranteed)* to help you earn a better grade.

Course Pacing

Due dates in this class are every Wednesday and Sunday, apart from the final due date, which is a Friday. Units, which are based on textbook chapters, will typically span two due dates.

To unlock the majority of the course, you must first complete the "Start Here" module. You also must move through Unit 1 activities in a specific order, so that you become familiar with all assignment types. After Unit 1, you only need to complete the Unit Pre-Quiz to unlock each unit, then you may choose which activities to complete from each unit.

Late Work Policy

Points

To keep you motivated to complete your work on time, there is a small point penalty for late work. The penalty is 1% per day. However, if you find yourself falling behind for any reason, I am willing to work with you to get you back on track. An example deal that I would make with you could be something like, "if you get caught up with your work by [some date we agree on], I will remove all of your late penalties".

Exam Crowns

There is no late penalty for crowns earned on Exams. Once published, all exams at all levels will remain open for the entire semester. You may attempt any level of any exam at any point in the semester to earn more crowns (so long as you have not used all your attempts on that exam already).

Writing Portfolio

For any assignment to be considered for your writing portfolio, you must submit a full draft of that assignment no later than **Sunday April 30**. This deadline exists to ensure that there is adequate time for instructor feedback. Keep in mind that some writing portfolio first draft assignments will be locked until you have received a passing score on prior work (e.g., a bibliography check). Any extension to this deadline will be granted *only* to students who have already met expectations on one portfolio assignment and are working on your second. **Students who have not submitted any draft by this deadline can do no better than a D in the class.**

Learning Activities

The following are examples of activities that will earn you points. Remember that you do not need to participate in all activities, other than pre-quizzes, which are required, you can choose assignments that you feel will help you achieve your learning goals and earn a minimum of 400 points.

Pre-Quizzes

Each unit begins with a pre-quiz, usually 10-12 questions in length. This is the only required element of each unit. Pre-quizzes do not earn you points, but you must submit the pre-quiz to unlock the rest of the unit. The questions on the pre-quiz are identical to those in the summary quizzes, but you are allowed only one attempt at each pre-quiz. The purpose of the pre-quiz is to help you understand what you might already know from this unit and give you some idea of what you need to learn. **I do not expect you to do well on these quizzes.** If you are acing these quizzes, you are in the wrong class.

Perusall Reading

If you choose to access the online textbook through Perusall, you can earn points for reading each chapter, as well as asking or answering questions and making comments on either the textbook reading or the assigned videos.

Lessons

Lessons are activities designed to present course content in an interactive way. I've created these lessons with a program called SoftChalk, which allows me to integrate multiple choice questions and other activities with written and video content.

Discussions

These discussions are designed to give you an opportunity to study the material by elaborating on what you know and calibrating your knowledge with your peers. You'll earn some points for participating in discussions, regardless of the length of your post or the accuracy of your answer. However, there are bonus points available for any student who corrects a misconception expressed by another student. You can also earn points for responding to such a correction.

Writing Tasks

Writing Tasks include activities that will help you work towards final drafts for your writing portfolio, including intermediate drafts, bibliographies, peer reviews, etc. There are also a few other assignments directed at developing your science communication skills.

Summary Quizzes

At the end of each module there is a five-question summary quiz. The questions are pulled from a bank of around 10 – 12 questions. Some of these questions are identical to exam questions and others are similar, but not identical. Unlimited attempts allow you to make mistakes and learn from them. These quizzes are open book, open note, open peer discussion. You can work on these with a friend or study group if you want.

Turnitin

The Turnitin plagiarism check will be applied to essay submissions for the purpose of assisting your instructor in identifying plagiarism.

Class Participation and Attendance Policy

Your participation will be tracked through the completion of assignments such as lessons and discussions. School policy allows me to initiate a withdrawal for a student who has "excessive absences" prior to the *Last day for faculty-initiated W* deadline. For this online course "excessive absences" will be defined as missing one week or more of assignment deadlines with no communication with the instructor. I will typically reach out to you prior to dropping you from the course. It is your responsibility to participate in this course on a regular basis. If you intend to withdraw from the class, it is also your responsibility to do so through Web Advisor before the deadline. Do not assume that I will initiate the drop.

Contacting Your Instructor

The best way to reach me is through Pronto or Canvas messages. Sometimes I may be away from my computer or involved in other things and might not answer your message right away. Barring exceptional circumstances, such as illness or power outage, I will respond to messages in Pronto,

Canvas, or email within at most 24 hours Monday through Friday. If I am available weekends, I will respond to urgent messages, but I cannot guarantee that I will be in internet communication every weekend. If you have not heard back from me within a reasonable time frame, it is possible that I have lost your message, so please resend.

If you want to meet with me over video (or voice), we can also do this in Pronto or set up a Zoom meeting time. If my Pronto status is "online" (green dot) this means that I am most likely available to meet with you. Send me a message asking to meet. If I am not currently available, you can request an appointment using whenisgood.net/WrightOfficeHour and I will send you an invitation for a time that works for both of us. This a request form, not an appointment reservation form. The more availability you enter, the more likely I can find a time that works for me.

I also can potentially meet with you in-person on the Eureka campus on Thursdays (before and after lab). If you wish to guarantee my availability, please message me to set up an appointment.

Important Dates
Spring 2023 Dates
- *Classes begin: 1/14/23*
- ***Participate to avoid no-show drop by 1/26/23 (policy for this class only)***
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 1/27/23*
- *President's Day Weekend (no assignments due): 2/17/23 – 2/20/23*
- *Spring Break (no assignments due): 3/13/23 – 3/18/22*
- *Last day for student or faculty-initiated W (no refund): 3/31/23*
- ***First draft deadline 4/30/23 (policy for this class only)***
- *Final examinations: 5/6/23 – 5/12/23*
- *Semester ends (no assignments accepted after 11:59 pm): 5/12/23*

For other important dates, see the Admissions and Records Calendar

Academic dishonesty
In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the College Catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

Respectful Engagement in this Online Course
College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. There may be times in this class where you may wish to express disagreement with another student's opinion. You might also be asked to provide constructive criticism or correct another student's misconception. A learning environment is one in which everyone feels comfortable expressing criticism or disagreement. To achieve this, we must each

strive to criticize without insulting, and equally, to receive criticism without becoming insulted. It is important to engage in discussion in a manner that is respectful and inclusive. We all are responsible for ensuring that disagreement remains respectful by not letting challenges to ideas become attacks on personal identity.

In such (rare) cases where the instructor determines that a student's discourse in online discussions, chats or live sessions has disrupted the educational process or violates the student code of conduct in any way, the instructor will remove the offending post(s). In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the College Catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

Setting Your Preferred Name and Pronouns in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact Admissions & Records to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the Student Information Update form.

You can set your pronouns in Canvas in your account settings. If you haven't already, please do, it's very helpful for online classes!

Canvas Information

"Canvas" by Instructure is our online classroom. It is the main homepage where you will access all course materials.
Log into Canvas at https://redwoods.instructure.com
Password is your 8 digit birth date
For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160
Canvas Help for students: https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/
Canvas online orientation workshop: Canvas Student Orientation Course (instructure.com)

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges Health & Wellness website.

Wellness Central is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:
- CR-Online (Comprehensive information for online students)
- Library Articles & Databases
- Canvas help and tutorials

- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

Tentative Schedule

Due Dates	Unit	Writing assignment
Jan 18 W	Start Here Module	
Jan 18 W Jan 22 Su	Unit 1: Introduction to the Oceans	Discussion: Interpreting figures
Jan 25 W Jan 29 Su	Unit 2: Getting our Bearings	Discussion: Ocean Scientist Spotlight
Feb 1 W Feb 5 Su	Unit 3: The Origin and Structure of Earth	Reading: science journal vs. newspaper
Feb 8 W Feb 12 Su	Unit 4: Plate Tectonics and Marine Geology	Science Blog: Discussion: Brainstorm primary research articles
Feb 15 W	Exam 1	
Presidents Day Weekend		
Feb 22 W Feb 26 Su	Unit 5: Chemical Oceanography	Discussion: Citation styles Research Paper: Discussion: Topic Choice

Due Dates	Unit	Writing assignment
Mar 1 W Mar 5 Su	Unit 6: Physical Oceanography	Science Blog: Annotate primary research article
Mar 8 W	Unit 7: Primary Production	Research paper/ Field Project Report: Bibliography
Mar 12 Su	Exam 2	Science Blog: Draft 1 Learning Reflection: Draft 1
Spring Break		
Mar 22 W Mar 26 Su	Unit 8: Oceans and Climate	Science Blog: Peer reviews
Mar 29 W Apr 2 Su	Unit 9: Ocean Circulation and Ice (Chapters 9 and 14)	Research Paper: Partial Draft 1 Field Project Report: Partial Draft 1
Apr 5 W Apr 9 Su	Unit 10: Waves	Science Blog: Final draft Learning Reflection: Final draft
Apr 12 W Apr 16 Su	Chapter 11: Tides	Research Paper: Partial Draft 2 Field Project Report: Partial Draft 2
Apr 19 W Apr 23 Su	Exam 3	Research Paper: First full draft Field Project Report: First full draft
Apr 26 W Apr 30 Su	Chapter 12: Ocean Sediments	Peer Reviews: Research Paper and Project Report **First Draft Deadline Apr 30**
May 3 W May 7 Su	Chapter 13: Coastal Oceanography	
Finals May 10 W May 12 F	Exam 4	Research Paper: Final draft Field Project Report: Final draft

This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Please see the most current schedule in the "Modules" tab in Canvas.