SYLLABUS

I. COURSE: Special Topics: Marine Science Field Camp 5 semester hours (3:4)
   Lecture: May 15-May30 excluding weekends & Holidays  Room TBD
   Laboratory: Campus: CS 240; LMFS
   Field Camp: LMFS

II. FACULTY:
   Dr. Roy L. Lehman  CS 247
   Phone: 825-5819  roy.lehman@tamucc.edu

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION:
   This is a two week field camp that includes a five day field research expedition at the Laguna
   Madre Field Station. Students will develop an understanding of the diversity of coastal habitats
   and learn the common flora, and fauna of the Texas Laguna Madre while participating in field
   research projects. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

IV. TEXTBOOK:
   Required:

   Station. 205 pp.

   Marine Science Field Camp Class and Laboratory Manual (Digital Version)
   Compiled by Roy L. Lehman. Includes supplemental readings as PDF’s. Offered as a free
download by Dr. Lehman.

V. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

   The student will:

   *describe the ecological and environmental properties which effect the growth,
   physiology and distribution of marine organism in the Laguna Madre.

   *identify the common flora and fauna that is associated with the Laguna Madre and
   explain each group’s role in the overall community structure and function.
*engage in field research activities: including collecting, evaluating data and reporting on results, both written and oral,

*describe techniques of field sampling, the proper use of research equipment and display accurate field and laboratory note taking skills,

*evaluate and describe human influences on coastal environments.

*dissent and explain methods of management of marine systems.

### VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING CRITERIA:

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.

**Dropping a Class**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. May 23, 2014 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

**Classroom/professional behavior**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

**Statement of Civility (can be in place of classroom/professional behavior)**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual
orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

**Grade Appeals (College of Science and Engineering Version)**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules website at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage (http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school, the Office of the College of Science and Engineering Dean, or the Office of the Provost.

**Disabilities Accommodations**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Statement of Academic Continuity**

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

**Required Equipment/Materials for the Class/Laboratory/Field Trips:**

- Snorkeling equipment
- Dissecting Kit
- Pocket Knife
- Field clothes & shoes
- Field Notebook
- Zip Loc Bags
FIELD/LABORATORY REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENT

1. Students will complete an introductory research project approved by the professor or engage in a current graduate research project being conducted in the Laguna Madre.

2. Students will be evaluated on the following field activities: The five day Field trip is **REQUIRED** and will occur May 19-23, 2014.

   Field Journal ........................................................................................................................................ 150
   Field/Laboratory Practical .................................................................................................................. 150
   Field Research Seminar ..................................................................................................................... 300
   TOTAL: .............................................................................................................................................. 600

VII. COMPONENTS OF COURSE GRADE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VALUE</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Lecture Examination</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Field/Laboratory Practical</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Field Journal</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Field Research Seminar</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
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**FINAL GRADE**: Total Number of points ÷ 900 = FG (%)

**FINAL EXAMINATION DATE**: May 30, 2014

*Grades Assigned as Follows:*
A = 90% or greater
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
F = <70%
VIII. LECTURE TOPICS

A. INTRODUCTION 1 Day
   1. Marine organisms of the Laguna Madre (Introduction)
   2. Overview of major habitat types found in the Laguna Madre

B. ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROPERTIES OF THE LAGUNA MADRE 1 Day
   1. Geological Factors and Descriptions
   2. Hydrological (Physical) Factors
   3. Chemical Factors
   4. Ecology and Geographic Distribution
   5. Research & Writing Skills (Introduction)

C. STUDY OF GROUPS OF ORGANISMS FIELD TRIP - 5 Days
   1. Plants of the Laguna Madre
   2. Plankton Populations of the Laguna Madre
   3. Estuarine Invertebrates of the Laguna Madre
   4. Estuarine Vertebrates of the Laguna Madre
   5. Birds associated with the Laguna Madre

D. FOLLOW-UP FIELD CAMP RESEARCH 4 DAYS LEC. & LAB
   1. Research Skills
   2. Ecological Statistics
   3. Presentation Skills (power point)
   4. Writing Skills
   5. Final Exams & Seminar