**MARINE AND COASTAL LAW AND POLICY COMPRESSED COURSE**

**LAW 6930 Section 1F04 (1 credit)**

Thomas T. Ankersen, ankersen@law.ufl.edu

1. **COURSE GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

This field course addresses the science, law and policy of marine ecosystem restoration in Florida, specifically the restoration of sea grasses, sponges and corals. These ecosystems have suffered degradation from pollution, disease, climate change and overuse, including harvesting and human recreation. They not only serve as key ecosystems in the marine environment, but also provide valuable ecosystem services. The course will address the proprietary and regulatory context within which marine restoration activities take place, including submerged lands law, federal and state permitting, application of the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. Faculty from Florida Sea Grant will assist in course instruction. The course will be conducted over 3.5 days at the Mote Marine Institute coral reef facility on Summerland Key in the Florida Keys and include hands-on experience with restoration activities. A program fee covers housing and field activities (including boat time) and some meals.

1. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Students will develop their knowledge and skills through an integrated, interdisciplinary and experiential approach to the study of marine conservation. Students will understand the meaning and use of policy-relevant science to guide decision-making, particularly as they concern restoration activities. Students will benefit from cohort interactions with marine science and education specialists associated with Florida Sea Grant. Students will gain insight into the challenges and opportunities that results-based interdisciplinary collaboration poses, especially under the pressures of time and travel.

1. **REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

A course packet will be provided in digital format through the Canvas E-learning platform.

1. **METHOD OF EVALUATING STUDENTS AND DETERMINING GRADES**

The course will include a pre-course restoration science quiz designed to test student’s knowledge prior to taking the course, and a post-course science quiz administered on site at the conclusion of the course. Completion is all that is required for these quizzes. Law students will take a final exam that will account for 90% of the final grade. The remaining 10% will be based on participation as described in the class expectations below.

1. **CLASS EXPECTATIONS**

Students are expected to arrive to class and the field exercises in a timely fashion, having reviewed the applicable course materials. Students are expected to participate in class discussion and engage in active listening throughout. Students should plan to fully immerse themselves in the field restoration exercises. Students should recognize that they come to the course with different disciplinary backgrounds and life experience and treat their colleagues with respect, while adding value through their respective disciplinary lens’.

1. **SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

**[See attached spread sheet]**

1. **CLASS ATTENDANCE**

Student requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

1. **CLASSROOM DEMEANOR, COMPUTER USE, AND CELL PHONE USE**

Student participation is encouraged. Students may use their computer during class for the purpose of taking class notes and course-relevant research only. Students are requested to silence or turn off their cell phone and all other electronic devices prior to the start of class, and to not turn them on or use them during class.

1. **OFFICE HOURS**

Before and after class, as announced during class, and as set by appointment.

1. **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The University of Florida is committed to providing equal educational access to students with disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester. Please contact the Disability Resource Center at 352-392-8565 or at accessuf@dso.ufl.edu if you have any questions.

1. **COURSE EVALUATIONS**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary of the results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

1. **HONOR POLICY**

All UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment. The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/%20sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the professor.

1. **CAMPUS RESOURCES**

Contact the Counseling and Wellness Center at 352-392-1575 or <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>.

Contact the University Police Department at 352-392-1111 or <http://www.police.ufl.edu>.

Call 9-1-1 for emergencies.

1. **AMENDMENT**

This syllabus may be changed as the need arises.