FAS 2024: Sustainable Fisheries

Instructor: Dr. Debra J. Murie

Main Office: Program of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, School of Forest Resources and Conservation, 7922 NW 71st Street, Gainesville

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday from 10:15-11:00 a.m. in McCarty B Room G109 (on campus), or by arrangement (call or email to set up a time).

Telephone: (352) 273-3601 (main office out at Fisheries)

E-mail: dmurie@ufl.edu

Course Description:

Fish biology, ecology, and habitats relevant to sustainable fisheries on both a global and regional (Florida) scale. Follows the fisheries occurring from cold, mountain rivers to the depths of the ocean, with a focus on resource use. Special topics are covered along this aquatic highway, including invasive species, aquaculture, dams and reservoirs, artificial reefs, fisheries bycatch, climate change, and marine protected areas. Intended for non-science and science majors.

This is a General Education course (3 credits of Biological Sciences).

Prerequisites: none.

Course Outcomes:

On completion of this course, students should be able to:
- Discuss and explain general fish biology and basic fisheries concepts with both non-scientists and fisheries professionals alike
- Compare and contrast fish biology, fish habitats, and fisheries that occur in freshwater, estuarine, and marine waters on a regional, national, and global scale
- Understand the processes of large-scale weather patterns, such as El Nino, in relation to fisheries and food webs
- Discuss the basic principles of fisheries sustainability and management options used in regulating fisheries

Course Communication:

Course information will be posted on Canvas (http://elearning.ufl.edu) and will allow you day-to-day access to lecture outlines and your grades.
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Course Format:

This course is offered for three (3) credits every Spring semester. It consists of three hours of lecture each week and the course meets the requirements for Biology (B) under the general education guidelines.

Lectures are based on PowerPoint presentations to facilitate the use of visual representation of fishes, habitats, and fisheries. PowerPoint outlines of lecture topics will be posted to Canvas and should be printed out prior to class. It will be your responsibility to take notes to accompany these outlines and to get lecture notes from a classmate if you miss any lectures.

Overall, please conduct yourself in a professional manner and give consideration to your fellow classmates. Please do not use electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, computers, iPads) to perform activities (e.g., texting, Facebook, web surfing) that can distract your neighbors or interrupt the class. The instructor reserves the right to request that you leave if you engage in distractive behavior.

Course Assessments:

Exams: Lecture exams will be based on material given during class lectures. Supplemental readings from the recommended textbook (Fish: An enthusiast’s guide by Peter Moyle) will aid in understanding this material. Exam questions may include multiple-choice, matching, true/false, brief explanations, short answers, and paragraphs.

Exams will be given on a quarterly basis. Quarterly exam material is not generally cumulative unless specifically indicated in later lectures. The final grade will be calculated in part (75% of final grade) based on the final quarterly exam (Quarterly Exam D), which everyone must take (25% of final grade), and the best two out of three of Quarterly Exams A, B, or C (25 % x 2 = 50% of final grade).

Project: For the project, you will choose a fish species (either freshwater or marine) that is harvested (recreationally or commercially) and combine sources of information about this fish into your project. You will need to provide information on: 1) the biology of the harvested fish species; 2) the distribution and habitat of the fish; and 3) its fishery and management. Your project can be put together as a narrated PowerPoint, a poster, a poem, a music video, a children’s book, a cooking show, or whatever drives you creatively while pushing your critical thinking! Projects must be done in groups of 2 or 3 students; I will facilitate you finding project members with an interest in the same species. The project will be graded based on both required content and effective presentation. Projects will be uploaded to our Canvas site and available for viewing online and you will provide anonymous, peer evaluations of at least three of the projects.
Further information and a grading rubric will be provided during the course. (15% of final grade).

**In-class Quizzes:** To grasp the comparative aspect of the course, which is based on visiting different habitats and fisheries along an aquatic highway, it is important that you consistently attend lectures. To facilitate this, you will be given in-class quizzes on a random basis throughout the course. These quizzes will consist of 2-4 questions (multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer) that will be handed out at the beginning of the lecture, answered during the lecture, and handed in at the end of the lecture. The best 10 of 15 quizzes given during the course will count towards 10% of your final grade.

Grade assignments are based on the following: A (93-100%), A- (90-92.9), B+ (86-89.9%), B (82-85.9%), B- (78-81.9%), C+ (74-77.9%), C (67-73.9%), C- (63-66.9%), D+ (59-62.9%), D (55-58.9%), D- (51-54.9%), and E (<50.9%), and will be comprised of:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Percent of Final Grade</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarterly Exams</td>
<td>A (25%)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Lowest of Exam A, B, or C will be dropped</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B (25%)</td>
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<td>C (25%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarterly Exam D</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class Quizzes</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Required</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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**Recommended Text (Not required):**


**Academic Honesty:**

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.”

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit 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.” It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations will be reported to the
Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code.

Accommodating Students with Disabilities:

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Dean of Students Office (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

UF Student Life, Wellness, and Counseling Help

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals which interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

- Counseling and Wellness resources http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
- U Matter, We Care http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- Career Resource Center http://career.ufl.edu/

Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.