The University of North Florida and the Florida Institute of Oceanography offers:

A Study Abroad in Florida Experience

Field Studies in Marine Biology; BSC 4933/BSC 4930; 3 credits

What type of course? A 5 week, three day field intensive course designed to expand student knowledge of the biodiversity, geochemistry and human impact of Florida’s coastal and offshore ecosystems through a round-robin trip around Florida to explore marine ecosystems. This course will take students from the reefs of the Florida Keys to the open Gulf of Mexico aboard state of the art research vessels as well as the shallow tropical estuaries of the western Everglades and north to the temperate Estuarine and beach dunes of Northeast Florida. Students will be staying at universities and research stations.

Who? Any upper level student in Biology or related Science. Prerequisites: Two semesters of Biology BSC (1010C & 1011C) and two semesters of Chemistry (CHM 2045C & 2046C).

When and Where? May 13 - June 19, 2015. After an intense 2 1/2 day introduction at UNF, students will spend five weeks on tropical reefs in the Florida Keys, bays and mangrove forests of Southwest Florida, sea grass meadows in Tampa Bay, collecting oceanographic data aboard an FIO research vessel in the Gulf of Mexico, along the seashores and sounds of the Florida Panhandle, examining the salt water- Freshwater boundary of the St Johns River and exploring dunes, oyster reefs and salt marshes in Northeast Florida.

Registration? Students can register during the spring registration period at the University of North Florida. Students from other universities may register as transient students. UNF students have priority registration at UNF until the end of online Pre-registration.

Cost? Tuition $525.63 (in-state), $1956.51 (out of state) for 3 credit hours and Lab Fee of $1610. A $500.00 deposit is due by 4/5/15 to lock in your spot. See below. Class is limited to 16 students. Ten competitive $500 awards will be awarded to students at Florida Institute of Oceanography affiliated institutions prior to the start of the course.

What’s Included? Meals- 5 days/week; housing at all sites except for Saturday nights. Students needed a Saturday night room can be accommodated for an additional fee.

What’s Not Included? Transportation between institutions and meals on weekends.

*****If interested, you must*****:
1. Complete a typed, 1 page Statement of Interest as to how this course will benefit your studies and future career decisions. This document may be used in the determination of a financial award. Include: Complete name, email, home address, phone number, grade level, and Biology/Chemistry/Geology courses taken to date. Obtain an override permission form at the UNF Biology Office in Building 59, Room 1300 and schedule an interview.
2. Turn both your Statement of Interest and Override form into the Biology Office.
3. Students will be contacted via email by 4/10/14 to confirm status of enrollment. A $500.00 deposit will be due by 4/5/14 to lock in your spot.

QUESTIONS? Contact Dr. Courtney Hackney, c.hackney@unf.edu or Dr. Kelly Smith, ksmith@unf.edu

Don’t forget to check out last semester’s blog and short video: