

Scientific Diving Syllabus

MSL 220

Spring 2009

Fees: \$450 This covers: pool work, gear rental, tanks, lodging and food during spring break

*This does not cover: transportation to the lab, medical physical, CPR, First Aid, O2 certifications.

Instructor: Brenda Konar

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Open office hours – 225 ONL just come by

Scientific Diving Web Site: <http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/dive/>

TTW Instructors: Mitch Osborne TTW telephone: 490-4444

TA: Melissa Deiman

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TA : Nathan Stewart

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Classes will be held at either UAF or Hamme Pool. See schedule for locations

UAF: 214 O'Niell Bldg, unless otherwise specified

Hamme Pool: at Lathrop High School (bring: lock, swim suit, towel & any personal dive gear)

Course Description:

The *goal* of this course is to allow students to become eligible to join the UA dive program.

As a member of the UA dive program, students may dive on UA sanctioned diving projects and have reciprocity to dive with other universities and government agencies. The UA dive program follows the guidelines and meets the national standards of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS). Along with becoming a UA diver, completion of this course has the following learning objectives.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) train students in a new research tool
 - a. Students will be trained so that they meet AAUS standards and are eligible to dive for the UA dive program.
- 2) assist students in becoming proficient in cold water diving techniques
 - a. Students will be trained in dry suit diving.
- 3) introduce students to some basic research diving techniques
 - a. Students will be introduced to various research diving sampling techniques. The specific techniques will vary depending on time available on student skill level.
- 4) introduce students to local marine fauna and flora
 - a. Students will be introduced to local marine flora and fauna that are commonly encountered in Kachemak Bay. This is only an introduction, with no resulting test.

We will spend several weeks in Fairbanks mastering skills and passing the swim and scuba evaluations set forth by AAUS. We will then spend Spring Break diving at the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory. After several check-out dives at the lab for specific skills, the students will assist with diving projects being conducted by the Field Studies in Subtidal Ecology students.

This course also can certify students with a Research Diver Specialty and Dry Suit Specialty (PADI). We do the coursework for these specialties. If you would like a PADI card, there is a PADI card fee.

Prerequisite: This course is open to both undergraduates and graduates. An Open Water SCUBA certification is required. Current CPR, First Aid and Emergency Oxygen Administration certifications also are required. Certification cards from a reputable source (NAUI, PADI, Red Cross, DAN, etc...) will need to be shown the first week of class. If a student does not have these required certifications, courses will be offered at a reduced rate through this class. A scuba medical physical also is required. If a student does not have a current AAUS sanctioned physical, the health center offers most of the required tests, however, some must be done at other locations. Students are responsible for the cost of the scuba physical. Graduate students and staff within UAF should talk with Konar about special conditions regarding physicals.

Required Books to be purchased: none

Scientific Diving Manual must be reviewed:

<http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/dive/manual/contents.html>

Organism keys and field guides will be provided while at the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory.

Grading: Pass/Fail. A pass will result after the successful completion of all pool and open ocean skills.