

# CP Marine Science Syllabus



**Dutch Fork High School  
Science Department  
Marine Science CP  
2026-2027 Course Syllabus**

**Madison Cribbs - Room Number: 360**

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**Department Head: Dr. Eli Martin**

**Asst. Principal for Instruction: Katherine Hayes**

**Planning Periods: 4A and 7B**

**Academic Assistance: By Appointment**

**Website: <https://www.lexrich5.org/dfhs>**

**Phone: 803-476-3517**

### **I. Course Catalog Description**

Marine Science is a course that will prepare students in the studies of organisms that make the ocean their home. Students will study the nonliving or geological, chemical, physical, and chemical parts of the marine environment. The students will also be introduced to the past and present influences of marine life.

### **II. Course Standards or Objectives**

The standards for this course are designed by the instructional staff in order to prepare students for a college level class at a local university or technical school. [South Carolina State Science Standards](#). The District 5 of Lexington and Richland Counties success criteria for [Marine Science](#).

### **III. Instructional Goals**

This course is designed to present students with opportunities to increase skills in laboratory techniques, to learn physical and chemical ocean systems, and attain a general understanding of the diversity of life within ocean ecosystems. Throughout this course students will be challenged with conceptual content, performance tasks, and written communication of scientific ideas. Students will become familiar with all the major processes that play a role in the climate of the Earth, and how life adapts to changes in the environment. The final exam for this course consists of a research presentation and project.

All students will be required to meet high standards of academic performance. Lab safety is of highest concern, students will behave in a safe and mature manner in the lab at all times, any improper behavior will have consequences that may include failing the lab, detention and in some cases greater punishment. The parent and the student must sign a detailed lab safety agreement prior to attending the first lab experiment.

#### IV. Course Sequence/Pacing Overview

| Nine Weeks              | Topics Covered                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter | The nature of water (2), Water: A physically Unique Molecule (3), The Energy of Life (9), The Air and Sea Interaction (10) |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter | Ocean Currents (11), Waves and Tides (23,24), Ocean at depth (12)                                                          |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter | Marine Biodiversity (14), Invertebrates (18), Vertebrates (19,20,21)                                                       |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter | Marine Resources (32), Pollution (30), The future (33,34)                                                                  |

#### V. Textbooks and Additional Resources

Textbook: *Marine Science The Dynamic Ocean* (2012), Meghan. E. Marrero, Glen Schuster. Pearson, Prentice Hall, US Satellite Laboratory.

Materials students will need: Binder for handouts, Set of coloring pencils, poster presentation board, Goggles. Optional: Vinyl gloves for dissections.

#### VI. Course Grading Policies and Assessments

- A. Classroom instruction will vary but will include direct instruction, inquiry, problem based learning, the use of technology, and classroom discussion. Students will work in small groups at times to aid each other in developing problem solving skills. Students will work with assigned laboratory partners during laboratory exercises. This is a laboratory science course, and we will be spending approximately 30% of class time doing lab activities. CP students will write one formal lab report and complete eight informal reports. This course includes a year long research project on a topic of interest that requires a presentation for the final exam.
- B. Assessments will be given the following weights:  
**Major 60%**{Tests = 30%, lab reports and activities =30% }  
**Minor 40%** {Quizzes= 20% Classwork/ Homework 20% }  
 Homework is given in the CP course and includes a variety of practice assignments.
- C. Late homework will be accepted with a minimum penalty of 50%. Any missed tests or quizzes must be made up in the Science Department Testing Center or during Academic assistance within two days of the original assessment date. Lab experiments can only be made up during academic assistance, and must be made up within two days of the original assigned date. No additional scheduling opportunities will be available after school hours.
- D. There will be a midterm and a final exam in this class. The midterm will count for 20% of the Semester 1 grade and the final exam will count 20% of the Semester 2 grade.
- E. **Late work:** (student was present but did not complete the work) Students will receive no more than 60% credit up until the assessment date. It is at the teachers' discretion to allow for more credit on tests, projects, or assignments that would fall under the major grade category.

## **VII. Grading Procedures**

Continuing in the 2026-2027 school year, grades for minor assignments must be posted within 5 school days, and major or extended assignment grades must be posted within 10 school days.

- **Major Grades** - Assignments that students are given 2 or more classes (more than 48 hours) to produce or prepare. The following will be major grades in all content areas:
  - Test
  - Essay
  - Research paper
  - Speech/Presentation
  - Project
  - Cumulative Assignments
  - Summative Assignments
  - Lab Reports
- **Minor Grades** - Assignments that students are given 1 class (48 hours) to produce or on-the-spot work. The following will be minor assignments in all content areas:
  - Homework
  - Quiz
  - Vocabulary
  - Classwork
  - Formative Assessments
  - Journal Entries
  - Other department specific assignments

## **VIII. Exam Exemptions -**

Seniors on track for graduation can exempt final exams in semester classes and year long classes if they meet the following conditions:

1. Grade of 80 or higher in the course.
2. Has not had an Out of School Suspension.
3. Has no seat time.

## **IX. Honor Code**

In order to foster an environment of mutual trust and respect, we believe, within the community of School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, each individual should accept the personal responsibility to exhibit and promote academic and social integrity. *Students will not cheat or plagiarize.*

## **X. Suggestions for Success in Course**

Below is a list of suggested study methods and others that should be done less frequently.

| <b>Use These More Often</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Use These Less Often</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept Flashcards</li> <li>• Self-Quizzes</li> <li>• Self Quizzes with 5 and 5</li> <li>• Group Study</li> <li>• Identification of objectives not understood and relearning them</li> <li>• Card sequences</li> <li>• Concept maps</li> <li>• Rewrite and summarize information from the book reading, in class presentations or handouts in your own words.</li> <li>• Relate new items to other items you already know. Explain in paragraphs.</li> <li>• Read from text book and then write out your own summary.</li> <li>• Explain a complex process in your own words after studying, and then compare your work with that of the book or information piece.</li> <li>• Note exchange with another student to see how they compare. Discuss and revise.</li> <li>• Make your own quiz for a friend and them, you. Take the quiz and correct your mistakes.</li> <li>• After getting a quiz or test back, determine why you missed what you did and write out the correct answers for future studying.</li> <li>• Short videos or animations and then writing the concepts out in your own words. Watch the video again for clarification.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rereading the book</li> <li>• Writing notes from the book over and over</li> <li>• Rereading your notes from class</li> <li>• Rereading or memorizing a study guide</li> <li>• Memorization without knowing underlying principles</li> <li>• Cramming</li> <li>• Not reviewing missed test items</li> <li>• Memory Flash Cards</li> <li>• Highlighting notes</li> </ul> |

### **Remediation Plan**

1. Students may make up and turn in missing/ late assignments before the end of the quarter for credit.
2. Students may utilize Remediation assignments when available through Edmentum for test failures.

## **XI. Classroom Management Plan**

A. Classroom rules and consequences:

**1. Be ready to learn.** Come to class on time (the Dutch Fork tardy policy will be enforced) with everything you need to be successful including something to write with, your class binder, chromebook and lab goggles. Upon entering class take your seat and get everything out you will need for class and start your warm up! Ms. Cribbs expects students to do this as efficiently as possible and without being directed to do so!

**2. Dream big.** *Set goals for class that you want to achieve and work hard to meet them.*

**3. Be respectful.** Treat others the way you want to be treated, say please and thank you, put your cell phone away during class, and be mindful that you are here to learn!

**4. Try new things, take risks and make mistakes.** You are here to learn and part of learning is making mistakes. Research shows that you learn more when you struggle with the material, make mistakes, and learn from those mistakes!

**5. Follow directions.** Not only does this make the class run more smoothly, but it also prevents you from having to spend more time on an assignment to do it over again!

**6. Raise your hand.** Since everyone will have an opportunity to speak, one person speaking at a time will allow everyone to hear the question and the answer.

**7. Believe in yourself and work hard!** Science is a difficult subject that requires hard work to achieve success!

### **Consequences**

1. Warning
2. Student/Teacher Conference after class.
3. Call home or email to parent/guardian.
4. Referral to administrator.

\*Serious offenses will automatically result in referral to an administrator.

### **Classroom procedures:**

1. **Entering class:** Upon entering class take your seat, get everything out you will need for class, and start your warm up. I should not have to tell you to do this!
2. **Turning in assignments:** All assignments requiring a grade must be turned in by placing it in the in-box, located on the side of the classroom. If you do not have your assignment you will turn in a Late work form instead.
3. **Lab:** Lab rules will be followed at all times. Students who do not follow lab rules will be removed from the lab. Students are expected to bring their goggles to class daily in case there is a lab. Students will not be allowed to go and search for goggles elsewhere in the building.  
**Students who are unable to attend lab due to one of the following: failure to follow lab rules, failure to bring appropriate equipment (goggles and closed toed shoes), or failure to be prepared for lab will receive a 40-point deduction on their lab grade assignment and will be expected to complete lab analysis with provided results.**
4. **Absent/Missed class:** When you miss a class, your missed work with instructions will be placed in the out-box with all other returned work. It is your responsibility upon returning to class to pick up your missed work from the out-box, complete it, and return it within the time limit given in Dutch Fork's make-up work policy. If a student misses a test or quiz the assessment will be placed in SDTC for the student to make up within the time limit of Dutch Fork's make-up policy. **Students who miss test day will be given a different make-up test that covers the same standards.**
5. **Re-test: is not available for Marine Science classes**
  - B. Students are expected to follow all rules and guidelines listed in the Student Handbook on the school's website.
  - C. Students are expected to use school and personal technology responsibly and follow rules included in the [26-27 District Issued Device Guide](#) and [Acceptable Use Agreement](#). This includes:
    - a. Having a charged mobile device (district-issued Chromebook or comparable personal device) at school EVERYDAY.
    - b. Not using devices assigned to other students.

- c. Being responsible for their own devices and should keep them secured at school and off campus.
- d. Following all teacher directions regarding appropriate times for use of the device.

## **XII. Uniform Grading Scale**

See [State Department of Education website](#) for complete details.

| <b>10 Point Grading Scale</b>                           |                     |                               |                         |                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions</b> |                     |                               |                         |                                    |
| <b>Numerical Average</b>                                | <b>Letter Grade</b> | <b>College Prep Weighting</b> | <b>Honors Weighting</b> | <b>AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting</b> |
| 100                                                     | A                   | 5.000                         | 5.500                   | 6.000                              |
| 99                                                      | A                   | 4.900                         | 5.400                   | 5.900                              |
| 98                                                      | A                   | 4.800                         | 5.300                   | 5.800                              |
| 97                                                      | A                   | 4.700                         | 5.200                   | 5.700                              |
| 96                                                      | A                   | 4.600                         | 5.100                   | 5.600                              |
| 95                                                      | A                   | 4.500                         | 5.000                   | 5.500                              |
| 94                                                      | A                   | 4.400                         | 4.900                   | 5.400                              |
| 93                                                      | A                   | 4.300                         | 4.800                   | 5.300                              |
| 92                                                      | A                   | 4.200                         | 4.700                   | 5.200                              |
| 91                                                      | A                   | 4.100                         | 4.600                   | 5.100                              |
| 90                                                      | A                   | 4.000                         | 4.500                   | 5.000                              |
| 89                                                      | B                   | 3.900                         | 4.400                   | 4.900                              |
| 88                                                      | B                   | 3.800                         | 4.300                   | 4.800                              |
| 87                                                      | B                   | 3.700                         | 4.200                   | 4.700                              |
| 86                                                      | B                   | 3.600                         | 4.100                   | 4.600                              |
| 85                                                      | B                   | 3.500                         | 4.000                   | 4.500                              |
| 84                                                      | B                   | 3.400                         | 3.900                   | 4.400                              |
| 83                                                      | B                   | 3.300                         | 3.800                   | 4.300                              |
| 82                                                      | B                   | 3.200                         | 3.700                   | 4.200                              |
| 81                                                      | B                   | 3.100                         | 3.600                   | 4.100                              |
| 80                                                      | B                   | 3.000                         | 3.500                   | 4.000                              |
| 79                                                      | C                   | 2.900                         | 3.400                   | 3.900                              |
| 78                                                      | C                   | 2.800                         | 3.300                   | 3.800                              |
| 77                                                      | C                   | 2.700                         | 3.200                   | 3.700                              |
| 76                                                      | C                   | 2.600                         | 3.100                   | 3.600                              |
| 75                                                      | C                   | 2.500                         | 3.000                   | 3.500                              |
| 74                                                      | C                   | 2.400                         | 2.900                   | 3.400                              |
| 73                                                      | C                   | 2.300                         | 2.800                   | 3.300                              |
| 72                                                      | C                   | 2.200                         | 2.700                   | 3.200                              |
| 71                                                      | C                   | 2.100                         | 2.600                   | 3.100                              |
| 70                                                      | C                   | 2.000                         | 2.500                   | 3.000                              |
| 69                                                      | D                   | 1.900                         | 2.400                   | 2.900                              |
| 68                                                      | D                   | 1.800                         | 2.300                   | 2.800                              |
| 67                                                      | D                   | 1.700                         | 2.200                   | 2.700                              |
| 66                                                      | D                   | 1.600                         | 2.100                   | 2.600                              |
| 65                                                      | D                   | 1.500                         | 2.000                   | 2.500                              |
| 64                                                      | D                   | 1.400                         | 1.900                   | 2.400                              |
| 63                                                      | D                   | 1.300                         | 1.800                   | 2.300                              |
| 62                                                      | D                   | 1.200                         | 1.700                   | 2.200                              |
| 61                                                      | D                   | 1.100                         | 1.600                   | 2.100                              |
| 60                                                      | D                   | 1.000                         | 1.500                   | 2.000                              |
| 59                                                      | F                   | 0.900                         | 1.400                   | 1.900                              |
| 58                                                      | F                   | 0.800                         | 1.300                   | 1.800                              |
| 57                                                      | F                   | 0.700                         | 1.200                   | 1.700                              |
| 56                                                      | F                   | 0.600                         | 1.100                   | 1.600                              |
| 55                                                      | F                   | 0.500                         | 1.000                   | 1.500                              |
| 54                                                      | F                   | 0.400                         | 0.900                   | 1.400                              |
| 53                                                      | F                   | 0.300                         | 0.800                   | 1.300                              |
| 52                                                      | F                   | 0.200                         | 0.700                   | 1.200                              |
| 51                                                      | F                   | 0.100                         | 0.600                   | 1.100                              |

All report cards and transcripts will use numerical grades.

A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79;  
D=60-69; F=Below 60

Each final grade (numerical) will have different weighting for the basis of computing GPR. The chart included gives the weighting for each numerical value.

Extra weight is given to honors (.5) and AP (1.0) courses. This policy also establishes that courses may not be dropped after the fifth (5th) day in a semester class or after the tenth (10th) day in a yearly class without penalty.

Students may only retake a class at the same difficulty under the following conditions: Only a course in which a D or F was earned may be retaken.

The course must be retaken at the first opportunity within the next year. The student's record will reflect all courses taken and the grade earned, except for courses taken prior to the ninth grade.

### **XIII. Student/Teacher and Parent/Teacher Communication**

- A. All students should use district issued email accounts for communicating with teachers (studentnumber@stu.lexrich5.org).
- B. All students should check school email, Google Classroom and Google Calendar every school day.
- C. Parents and students should check the teachers' websites for classroom calendars/assignment sheets.
- D. Parents may contact teachers via email in order to receive invitations to Google Classroom parent/guardian signup. Parents will receive an email from Google and then need to register to receive emails from Google Classroom. Once a parent is registered to receive emails from one class, he/she will receive emails from all Google Classroom groups. It is not necessary to contact all teachers to register.
- E. Emails and phone calls to teachers will be returned within two business days.
- F. Parents and students who would like access to the parent/student PowerSchool portals should visit the DFHS attendance office for login information.

### **XIV. School Attendance and Make-up Work Policy**

Students are encouraged to attend school regularly. If, however, a student must be absent from school for any reason, **it is his/her responsibility to make up all missed work.**

**Late work:** (student was present but did not complete the work) Students will receive no more than 60% credit up until the assessment date. It is at the teachers' discretion to allow for more credit on tests, projects, or assignments that would fall under the major grade category.

Students who miss more than one half of an instructional block will be marked absent for that block of instruction. See the Student Handbook on the school website for the full attendance and absence policy or this [FAQ for Attendance](#).

Since it is in the student's best interest to make up all missed work as quickly as possible, the following guidelines have been established for make-up work:

- A. *When a student misses a class meeting*, all previously assigned work that was due the day of the absence is due no later than the beginning of the next class meeting in which the student is present. All work missed as a result of the absence is to be completed by the beginning of the second class meeting from the absence.
- B. *When a student misses two consecutive class meetings*, all previously assigned work due while the student was absent and all work missed as a result of the absence should be completed by the beginning of the second class meeting from the absence.
- C. *When a student misses three or more consecutive class meetings*, he/she must make specific arrangements for make-up work with each teacher the day he/she returns to class. The amount of time given for completion of work will be up to the teacher's discretion based on the amount of work missed and the level of difficulty of the material.
- D. Long term projects and papers are due when the teacher says they are due. In the event of an absence, the student or the student's parent should notify the teacher in advance or upon immediate return to school.

- E. Students are responsible for the work they miss while on a field trip or attending any other school event. Students should contact each of the teachers whose classes they will be missing to make specific arrangements with them regarding all make-up work. Teachers may choose for work to be submitted in advance. If the student does not follow the teacher's guidelines, the student will receive the academic penalty as assigned by the teacher.
- F. Students must make every effort to complete all make-up work according to these established guidelines. If the student has not submitted his/her make-up work within the specified timeframes outlined above or as directed by the teacher, the teacher has the option of not accepting the work. As with anything, regular communication with the teacher is encouraged.

#### **XV. Syllabus Acknowledgement and Information Form**

Parents should acknowledge reading this syllabus by signing the syllabus acknowledgement form students received on the first day of class.



# Syllabus Acknowledgement Form

**Syllabus Acknowledgement and Information Sheet**  
**Dutch Fork High School 2026-27**  
**Ms. Cribbs**  
**Marine Science CP**

"I have read the syllabus with great detail and thoroughly understand the expectations, rules, and procedures that are expected of me as a student enrolled in this course. I realize that I am responsible for all rules, regulations, procedures, and course requirements set forth in these documents and in the Student Handbook and district policy manual. I agree to be held accountable for the contents of this class syllabus and all supporting documents."

Student Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

"I have read thoroughly the contents of this syllabus and discussed with my child the expectations of him/her in this course. "

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information**

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Number: (Mother) \_\_\_\_\_ (Father) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number: (Mother) \_\_\_\_\_ (Father) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: (Mother) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: (Father) \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_