

## Syllabus SMS Basic Scuba

Course Information	
Classification	<b>Basic Scuba Course; School of Marine Sciences</b> (NOTE: This is a non-credit bearing (no tuition) course; however, certain course fees apply as listed below)
Description/ Objectives	<p>This course will provide participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to conduct themselves with competence while using self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA). Training will be conducted under the minimum standards of both the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) and applicable recreational training agencies. Basic diver certification is a prerequisite to begin training as a scientific diver and utilize diving to pursue educational or career goals in the underwater sciences.</p> <p>Practical diving activities will be a large focus of the course. The course will be taught by the UMaine Diving Safety Officer; qualified course assistants will be utilized when available. Following successful completion of course objectives, students will receive a basic diver certification from an internationally recognized agency. Participation is not a guarantee of certification.</p>
Schedule/ Locations	<p><u>Academic/Pool Sessions (2020):</u>  <b>Tuesday, March 10, 6:00-10pm</b>  <b>Tuesday evenings, starting March 24, 2019; 6:00 pm- 10 pm</b>            (Exact Dates: March 10, 24, 31; April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5)</p> <p>The University of Maine            Wallace Pool, Athletic Complex            Orono, ME 04469</p> <p><u>Practical/Field Sessions (2020):</u>  <b>Sunday May 24; 3:00 pm- 5:00 pm</b> *NOTE-this is a holiday week, class will be held on Memorial Day *  <b>Monday-Saturday May 25-29; All day</b> (8:00 am- 6:00 pm)</p> <p>UMaine Darling Marine Center            193 Clark's Cove Road, Walpole, ME 04573            **Weather, tides, or other environmental factors may require changes to the field schedule.</p>
Registration & Fees	<p>Registration will be on a first come, first serve basis. Interested participants must email the course instructor and provide a valid contact email address and phone number. Space is limited to 8 students; preference will be given to students who also intend to register for SMS324-<i>Introduction to Research Diving</i>. If more than 8 students register, a waiting list will be generated in the order registration requests are received.</p> <p><u>Course Fee</u> (\$600): Covers the cost of academic, pool, and field sessions, including any/all equipment provided by or rented from UMaine. Course fee is due no later than "Last Day to Drop Classes". Submit payment to The School of Marine Sciences, 360 Aubert Hall.</p> <p><u>Lodging</u> (~\$400): Covers the cost of lodging and meal-plan at the Darling Marine Center for the duration of the practical/field sessions. Basic Scuba is a Residential Program; all participating students are <u>required</u> to stay on-campus at the DMC. This structure allows for potentially long field days and schedule changes. Exact cost to be determined; billed by/paid to DMC, payment due by "Last Day of Classes" for Spring Term.</p>
Course Requirements	
Prerequisites	<p>Each student <u>must</u> complete/show proof of the following prior to beginning the course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicable Medical and Legal Documentation</li> <li>• UMaine Diver's Physical Examination (<i>only if enrolled as an aspect of employment, or to meet scientific objectives</i>)</li> </ul>
Swim-Test	<p>This course is not designed to teach basic swimming skills; students <u>must be proficient swimmers</u> and demonstrate general watermanship abilities acceptable to the instructor prior to engaging in any in-water training. Prior to practical/field sessions, students must demonstrate specific watermanship skills, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swim underwater 25 meters/yards without surfacing.</li> <li>• Swim 400 meters/yards in less than 10 minutes.</li> <li>• Tread water for 15 minutes (last 2 minutes without the use of hands).</li> <li>• Snorkel with fins 800 meters/yards in less than 17 minutes.</li> </ul>
Attendance	Participation in all class sessions is mandatory; absence or inability to participate will likely disqualify the student from certification. Make-up sessions will be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Materials	
Academic Materials	<p><u>Required:</u> Open Water Diver Training Materials (training agency TBD). Provided upon payment of course fee.</p> <p><u>Recommended:</u> "Marine Life of the North Atlantic", A. Martinez, DownEast Books, 1994</p>
Equipment	<p><u>Personal/ Student Provided:</u> Student divers will be required to provide the personal equipment listed below. All equipment must be appropriate for the cold-water diving environment and conform to the minimum standards of the AAUS and UMaine Scientific Diving Program</p> <p>Minimum equipment required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mask, Fins, Snorkel (simple j-tube snorkel recommended)</li> <li>• Exposure Suit (7mm wetsuit at minimum; 2-piece/farmer john style recommended)</li> <li>• Hood, Gloves, and Boots (7mm recommended)</li> <li>• Diver's tool/ Knife</li> <li>• Underwater Watch (simple \$25-40 Timex, Casio, Freestyle recommended)</li> <li>• Equipment Bag</li> <li>• Swimsuit &amp; Towel</li> </ul> <p><u>University Provided:</u> UMaine will provide all students with the equipment listed below for both confined and open water sections of the course. Students who wish to purchase/use their own equipment may do so at their discretion, however, all equipment must be adequate and appropriate for the diving environment and when indicated (*) must be accompanied by proof of annual service.</p> <p>Provided equipment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scuba Regulator (w/ Alt. Air source, Low Pressure Inflator hose, Pressure Gauge, Depth Gauge, Compass) (*)</li> <li>• Diving Computer (*)</li> <li>• Buoyancy Compensator Device (BCD)</li> <li>• Weight System and Weights</li> <li>• Scuba Cylinder and Breathing Air (*)</li> </ul>

Instructor Information	
Primary Instructor	Christopher M. Rigaud, UMaine Diving Safety Officer
Address	<p>Darling Marine Center, 193 Clark's Cove Road, Walpole, ME 04573</p> <p>Phone: 207-563-8273</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:crigaud@maine.edu">crigaud@maine.edu</a></p>
Office hours	8-4 weekdays
Biography	<p>Chris has served as the UMaine Diving Safety Officer since 2003. He studied marine science at LIU-Southampton College, (B.S.) and Texas A&amp;M University Corpus Christi (M.S.). He has been a PADI Scuba Instructor for over 20 years, and is also an AAUS, SDI/TDI, and DAN Instructor, Emergency Medical Technician, and Public Safety Rescue Swimmer. He has served as a Diving Supervisor on scientific projects for numerous institutions including: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Texas A&amp;M-Corpus Christi, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Harte Research Center, Gulf of Mexico Foundation, UMaine and others. Chris is an active participant of the greater scientific diving community, and has served multiple terms on the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences, the US Antarctic Program Diving Control Board, and as a guest instructor for the National Park Service.</p>