

General Announcements
SMS324-Introduction to Research Diving
(2023)

Darling Marine Center Campus Orientation

All students and visitors are required to attend and participate in a DMC Campus orientation and safety training. This orientation covers basic details and safety information specific to the DMC.

Classroom Emergency Action Plan

Unless otherwise noted, this class will meet in the Mitchell Classroom and Dive & Field Staging Building at the Darling Marine Center. In the event you hear a Fire/Evacuation alarm you are to immediately evacuate this room by means of the nearest available exit. Full details are presented in the *DMC Campus-Wide Emergency Action Plan*.

If you detect a fire or fire related emergency you are to:

- Verbally warn others
- Activate the building Fire Alarm/Pull Station
- Evacuate and Report to the Rally Point
 - 1) The Rally Point for all academic buildings on the lower campus of the DMC is the **Brooke Hall/Dormitory Parking Lot**.
 - 2) The Rally Point for the Dormitory/Conference Center is the **Academic Building Parking Lot**.
- Call 911 from a safe place
- Meet the emergency responders and other assistance and information.
- DO NOT reenter the building until it is declared safe by the authorities.

(If you require assistance to safely evacuate or detect the alarm, please notify me.)

Field Emergency Action Plan

The emergency plan for illness or injuries that occur while in the field, or on diving ops is the *UMaine Diving Emergency Management Procedures* which can be found in the UMaine Scientific Diving Manual. Students will immediately notify the course instructor and/or any course assistants in the event of an illness or injury in the field.

If you believe you may be suffering from a diving related illness or injury outside of normal class hours, call 911 for emergencies. For non-emergency situations, students should feel free to call the course instructors at any time to inquire or report a diving related problem. *Any such reports must be made via voice call; do not use email or text.*

Illnesses and Absence from Class

---DO NOT COME TO CLASS IF YOU FEEL ILL---

Good health is essential for safe diving. Please respect the goals and desires of your fellow diving classmates and stay home if you are sick to avoid making others ill as well. If you cannot attend class, please notify me in advance if possible. In the event you cannot attend classes due to an illness, I will work with you to modify the format and requirements of the course to enable successful academic completion. In the event I cannot attend classes due to an illness, I will provide classroom notes and modify the syllabus to enable successful academic completion. A modified syllabus will not effect the academic portions of the course (ie. grades), but may effect the ability to complete/earn diving qualifications/certifications.

Please follow all UMaine, DMC, and CDC guidelines for the prevention of and response to COVID-19 and other Flu-Like Illnesses. Current UMaine guidelines can be found on the UMaine Return website: <https://umaine.edu/return/>

In addition, please consider the following tips for ensuring good health for diving:

- Stay away from sick people whenever possible.
- Practice good personal hygiene (wash hands frequently, etc.).
- Stay hydrated, eat healthy foods, avoid alcohol, and get plenty of rest (especially before and after diving).
- If you are susceptible to respiratory illnesses, consider a daily saline nasal wash or similar.
- DO NOT pre-medicate with decongestants prior to diving.

Participation in Diving Activities

This is a field based course, and participation in field/diving activities is essential to achieving the desired goals and purposes of the course. Nevertheless, the decision to dive is always that of the individual diver and no diver should at any time participate in diving activities if they feel it is unsafe or unwise for them to do so. If you choose not to participate in a dive, you must notify the course instructor. The decision not to dive will not affect your academic grade for the course, but may affect your ability to earn the available diving qualifications/certifications. Even if you will not be diving you are still expected to attend both the classroom and field portions of the course.