

Formal Public Announcement of New Marine Biology Curriculum 11/7/09

Recently there have been several listserv inquiries about developing a high school marine biology course. The COSEE-West website has posted a Marine Biology course that has been approved at one school as a Biology lab course prerequisite by the University of California. The course focuses on California state science standards, but the content is usable anywhere. Please take advantage of it!

Teach Marine Biology Instead of Biology – or Enhance your Biology Course!

Access to the “Teach Marine Bio Instead of Bio!” course, resources, & information:

<http://www.usc.edu/org/cosee-west/curricula.html#teachmarinebio>

This comprehensive Marine Biology course for Grades 9-12 was created by Mark Friedman, science teacher at Animo Leadership HS (mfriedman@animo.org), with the participation of other Los Angeles high school teachers and COSEE-West staff. The course focuses on marine life and includes lesson plans, labs, activities, games, web interactives/web quests, and more.

The course matrix links every California Biology Standard to multiple marine Biology activities. We hope this will show how easy it can be to pull out activities - or to propose a change in courses to administrators by showing how all the activities are directly aligned. Although the course is written to teach all required California Biology standards, it can be adapted by teachers outside California.

Please use any and all of the materials posted on the above website for free.

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**Your input is needed and appreciated!**

### **The course is a work in progress.**

We need to relate more standard Biology lessons to the marine environment, and because COSEE-West is located in California, we also need to cover all the State Science Standards that are taught in California high school Biology courses. We are constantly working toward both of these goals and appreciate your input.

### **How you can help:**

- Submit your favorite lesson plans, labs, resources, etc.

If you are a California teacher, tell us which CA Biology standards they support.

We promise to credit you for any of your resources that we post on the COSEE-West website (only with your prior permission!).

- Help align the existing and incoming materials with the Ocean Literacy Essential Principles and Fundamental Concepts (OLEPFC).

(For more information about Ocean Literacy, visit this website: <http://www.coexploration.org/oceanliteracy/>)

You can download a PDF brochure about the OLEPFC here:

<http://www.coexploration.org/oceanliteracy/documents/OceanLitChart.pdf> )

- If you are a scientist who has data or biological information that we can use to create new lesson plans or incorporate into existing ones, please let us know. We want to keep the content as current and accurate as possible.

We would appreciate feedback if you use any of these materials! We'd like to know, for example, if you use them to integrate marine science into an existing course or create a new marine course. Any other information, such as who supports your efforts (e.g., other teachers, administrators), would be useful to us. We also need to know about any errors that must be fixed.

### **Send your input to:**

Dr. Rachel Kennison, Co-Director, COSEE-West, UCLA, email: [rlk@ucla.edu](mailto:rlk@ucla.edu)

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