



[Term] 20xx. Section xx. (*n between 1 and 4*) Credits.

MCES 397: Marine Coastal Environmental Science Senior Thesis Research Methods

Student: *Name*

Title: *Short project title*

Instructor: *Any MSCI faculty member*
Science Annex 2 xxx

843-349-xxxx
faculty_name@coastal.edu

Description: Marine Coastal Environmental Science Senior Thesis Research Methods (1 to 4 credits) (This course is restricted to MCES majors) (Prereq: A grade of B or better in both lecture and lab for two of the four MSCI core courses: MSCI 301/MSCI 301L, MSCI 302/MSCI 302L, MSCI 304/MSCI 304L, MSCI 305/MSCI 305L; or permission of the instructor. A contract must be approved by the instructor and the department chair by the time of registration.) Students will develop mastery of basic laboratory, field, and research methods required to conduct their Marine Coastal Environmental Science Senior Thesis projects under the guidance and supervision of a marine science faculty member. Students will develop a thesis proposal for approval by the faculty research mentor during the course. No more than six total credit hours of 396, 397, 398, 399, 497, 498, and/or 499 may be used for major credit. F, S, Su.

Objectives: Students will develop mastery of basic laboratory, field, and/or research methods required to conduct their Marine Coastal Environmental Science Senior Thesis projects under the guidance and supervision of a marine science faculty member. Students will develop a thesis proposal for approval by the faculty research mentor during the course.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, a student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate skill sets appropriate to the particular project
2. Describe and explain concepts in the specific area of study
3. Write a research proposal applying the skill(s) and concept(s)

Project Objectives/ Outcomes/ Requirements Upon completion of this course, a student should be able to:

1. *[Insert relevant project-specific elements/activities/milestones]*
2. Apply and synthesize the elements above to create a thesis proposal.

Grading Policy: The grading for the course will be based on *[relevant project-specific products]* and a completed thesis proposal.

[List of products itemized above above with explicit descriptions of expectations for each]

Thesis proposal: The thesis proposal will be based in the primary peer-reviewed literature. It will present relevant background context, a clear statement of the research question(s) to be addressed by the thesis, an overview of the proposed sampling scheme, field and laboratory methods, a well-developed, realistic timeline, and a literature cited section following the *[insert name of discipline specific format]*

identified by the faculty member] citation format. The proposal will be 12 pt font and double spaced. The proposal will be due on the last day of the semester.

The grade for the course will be based on a [list of identified project specific elements from above] and a thesis proposal (number equivalent to 15-50% of the total). A grading rubric will be used to determine grades for the research paper.

The grading scale for the course is: A (≥ 90), B+ (88.0-89.9), B (80.0-87.9), C+ (78.0-79.9), C (70-77.9), D+ (68-69.9), D (60-67.9), F (0-59.9).

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to meet all attendance requirements as specified by the supervisor of the syllabus. [Explicit statements about project- and course-specific expectations]. A minimum of 50 hours will be spent on the project during the semester per credit hour.

Honesty Policy: CCU Statement of Community Standards: Coastal Carolina University is an academic community that expects the highest standards of honesty, integrity and personal responsibility. Members of this community are accountable for their actions and are committed to creating an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust.

University Policies for Accessibility and Disability Services Coastal Carolina University is committed to equitable access and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Individuals seeking reasonable accommodations should contact Accessibility and Disability Services (843-349-2503 or <https://www.coastal.edu/disabilityservices/>). The ADA indicates "title II and title III entities must permit service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas where members of the public are allowed to go." As such, service animals are permitted in lab settings at CCU. Emotional support animals are not permitted in lab settings unless it is approved as a classroom accommodation. Students with service animals are strongly encouraged, but not required, to inform lab instructors of the use of a service animal. This communication provides both the student and the instructor with an opportunity to discuss and plan for the safety of the service animal as well as any other safety concerns. Students should contact Accessibility and Disability Services regarding any potential accommodations for support and assistance.

Laboratory Safety Students are expected to know about chemical hygiene plan documents, chemical inventory and storage, emergency equipment, use of protective measures, standard operating procedures for their lab room and procedures in case of an accident. Students must follow posted safety measures or given instructions in regard to appropriate clothing (close-toed shoes, appropriate length garments, protective gear). Students not conforming to these rules will be asked to leave and cannot return until they are in compliance.