



# Honors Marine Ecology 2023-2024



### Teacher Contact Information

**Teacher Name:**  
B. Carl Rush

**Email:**  
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**Twitter:**  
[@sciencrush](https://twitter.com/sciencrush)

### Accessing the Course

**Link to WakeID Portal:**  
<http://wakeid2.wcpss.net>

**Website:**  
[www.sciencrush.net](http://www.sciencrush.net)

### Course Description

Marine Ecology focuses on the interrelationships among marine organisms and the physical, chemical, geological, and biological factors in their environment. The importance of the marine environment will be stressed along with coastal processes in NC. The recommended prerequisites for Honors Marine Ecology are Biology and either Earth Science or AP Environmental Science. Students will also be expected to have common algebraic math skills.

### Course Standards

[WCPSS Honors Marine Ecology State Standards](#)

### Course Progression

#### Quarter 1 (or 3) – 40% of Final Grade

- 1-Chemical & Physical Oceanography
- 2-Prehistoric Oceans
- 3-Plankton
- 4-Benthos & Meiofauna
- 5-Oceanic Nekton Part One: Fishes

#### Quarter 2 (or 4) – 40% of Final Grade

- 6-Oceanic Nekton Part Two: Tetrapods
- 7-The Deep Sea
- 8-Tropical Communities & Symbiotic Relationships
- 9-Intertidal Ecology, Estuaries & Salt Marshes
- 10-Human Impact on the Sea

CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM – 20% of Final Grade

### Grading

- Grade Weights  
Major Assessments: 60% - Tests & Projects  
Minor Assessments: 40% - Labs & Classwork
- Late Work is accepted with 5 point deduction for each day until end of unit, with a 20 point cap on deduction.

### Materials

Notebook (3-ring binder preferred)  
notebook paper / graph paper / pencils  
wetland boots (optional)

### Field Experiences & Dissection

Marine Ecology has a field component, and students are required to participate in field experiences during class. Dissection is one of many instructional methods that may be used in laboratory science courses. Students may request alternatives to dissection from the teacher. Alternatives may be completed for full credit.

### Correspondence

Emails will generally be responded to within two hours between 6 AM and 9 PM, seven days a week.

### PowerSchool

Grades are updated in PowerSchool frequently. Both students and parents should check PowerSchool weekly.

### SMART Lunch

- The APES room (316) is open all of lunch every day for extra help.
- Priority Day for Science is Wednesday