Spring Mini-Session
JANUARY 2-13, 2014

Coastal and Marine Geology  Dr. Ervin Otvos

This introductory class discusses basic geological principles required for the understanding of the origins, development and significance of various coastal and nearshore environments, processes and landforms including barrier islands, man-made and eroding shore sectors. Coastal field trips are planned to illustrate these highly dynamic and ever-changing coastal environments.

Prerequisites: Two semesters of science or permission of instructor. Dr. Ervin Otvos. COA 409/509. Three semester hours credit. Course field fee is $100.00.

Coastal Ornithology  Dr. Mark Woodrey

This course explores the highly diverse avian habitats found along the Mississippi Gulf Coast with a focus on the study of avian ecology in the field. Class activities will include a significant emphasis on the use of both sight and sound as means of field identification. During this course students will explore Barrier Island nesting grounds, boat the pristine Pascagoula River area, and explore local marshes and other unique coastal habitats. Students will also be introduced to a variety of ornithology field techniques including bird-banding, call-broadcast surveys, and monitoring methodologies.

Prerequisites: Two semesters of biology or permission of instructor (Ecology recommended but not required). Dr. Mark Woodrey. Coastal Ornithology; COA 411/511. Three semester hours credit. Course field fee is $100.00.

Woody Plants of the Gulf Coast  Dr. Ron Jones

Students will be introduced to the wide range of coastal habitats and the associated woody plants of the Gulf Coastal Plain of southeastern United States. Emphasis will be on the identification of trees, shrubs, and woody vines. Their distinctive features, distribution, rarity, and wetland indicator categories will be discussed. Participants will learn the specific terminology associated with woody plants, and the use of dichotomous keys in their identification. Habitats to be studied include: salt marsh, estuary and intermediate marsh, freshwater marsh, pitcher-plant savanna, riverine, forested wetlands, sea-shore, dune, and relic dune. Land-based field trips will include visits to the DeSoto National Forest, the Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge and the Gulf Islands National Seashore, or similar areas. Boat trips to barrier islands or major river systems will be scheduled if possible.

Prerequisite: A semester in General Biology or General Botany or permission of instructor. Dr. Ron Jones. Special Topics: Woody Plants of the Gulf Coast; COA 490/590. Three semester hours credit. Course field fee is $100.00.

Got Questions?

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ADMISSIONS DEADLINE
Applications for the spring mini-session classes are now being accepted. To apply submit all paperwork and a non-refundable $35.00 application fee (not applicable to current USM students) by Dec. 6, 2013, to:

OFFICE OF STUDENT SERVICES
Department of Coastal Sciences
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory
Attn: Margaret Firth
703 East Beach Drive; Ocean Springs, MS 39564
228.818.8852

FEES
Tuition per semester hour:
Undergraduate: $281.00
Graduate: $375.00
Room and Board: $480.00
Field Fees: $100.00

www.usm.edu/gcrl