Marine Invertebrate Zoology (Summer 2015– Syllabus Supplement to Calendar handout)

- **Written Exams:** There will be two (2) lecture exams (a midterm and a final). Exams will cover material from the power point lectures, handouts, and any assigned textbook material.

- **Practical Exams:** There will be two (2) lab exams. Questions will include taxonomic identification and ecological information for estuarine and marine invertebrates including specimens collected during the class, preserved specimens provided for demonstration, and “unknowns” which students may not have seen before, but represent higher taxa covered in the course. (e.g., a specimen of an Australian crawfish: student should know that it is a Crustacean belonging to the Class Malacostraca and the order Decapoda).

Because the course is primarily field oriented and only taught over only 4 a week period, each of the two lab exams will include species representing both the higher and lower taxa (Cnidaria to Chordata) collected during class field trips.

- **Projects and research paper or Power Point Presentation:** Students will present a short Power Point presentation dealing with some aspect of marine invertebrate zoology or write a short well-referenced research paper. Student projects will primarily evolve in vivo observations on behavior (e.g. fiddler crab courtship display), ecology (e.g., invertebrate prey in diets of estuarine fish), symbiosis (e.g., parasite life cycles, commensal crustaceans with their borrow-dwelling hosts), or morphological study on a particular invertebrate or invertebrate group. Both the instructor and TA will be available to assist the students with their projects

- **Class participation:** Several students per major field trip will be assigned to: (1) collect salinity and temperature data, (2) prepare with assistance of the instructor and/or TA a general list of taxa collected trip to copy and pass out to the other students. These tasks will be credited toward part of the students "class participation."

- **Grades:**
  - **Lecture Section.** The two lecture exams will constitute 60% (30% for each exam) of the course grade. Class participation and the preparation of a short research paper (using primary as well as online information sources) or the presentation of a Power Point will comprise the remaining 40% of the grade.
  - **Lab Section.** The two Lab exams will constitute 60% (30% for each exam) of the course grade. Active participation in the field trips and completion of a small research project will make up the remaining 40%.

- **Instructors**
  - **Instructor:** Richard Heard, PhD, email: Richard.Heard@usm.edu, 228- 875 1470
  - **Teaching Assistant:** Andrew Claxton, email: Andrew.claxton@eagles.usm.edu
  - **Guest Lecturers:** Drs. Steve, Curran (Platyhelminthes, Nematoda), (Coelenterates), John Foster (Echinodermata), Jerry McLelland (Annelida, Chaetognatha)

- **ADA Syllabus Statement**
  If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or
chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies.

**Address:**

The University of Southern Mississippi  
Office for Disability Accommodations  
118 College Drive # 8586  
Hattiesburg, MS  39406-0001  
Voice Telephone:  601.266.5024 or 228.214.3232  
Fax: 601.266.6035  
Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the Mississippi Relay  
Service at 1.800.582.2233 (TTY) or email Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@usm.edu.