

COAS 6000 SYLLABUS

This is a modular course based on the scientific diver training standards defined by the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS). Modules generally consist of an online academic section, confined water lab, and openwater diver qualification. Online academics are self paced, but must be completed prior to participation in individual lab modules or qualification dives. Confined water sections may be completed during the fall or spring semesters, or may be divided over both. Openwater qualification dives are conducted after the close of spring exams and require approx. 10 days. This course lays the fundamental groundwork necessary for students to meet the academic, confined water, and openwater requirements for scientific diver certification as outlined by the AAUS. This foundation is essential for persons interesting in pursuing any area of scientific endeavor involving scuba or other compressed gas diving. The students are exposed to a variety of diving and sampling techniques and practices from several academic areas involved in scientific diving (Biology, Geology, and Maritime Studies). The students are evaluated through the use of academic and skills testing for basic proficiency in activities deemed pertinent for scientific diving practices in which ECU is involved. The goal is to produce well-educated scientific divers-in-training possessing basic knowledge and skills required for participation in scientific diver qualification associated with several fields of study. This course also provides the classroom, confined water, and openwater instruction necessary to obtain ECU Scientific Diving Certification. However, this course by itself will not meet all of the requirements for Scientific Diver Certification and participation in and/or completion of this course will not guarantee ECU/AAUS Scientific Diver Certification. Information on medical examination and other requirements for ECU Scientific Diver Certification may be obtained by visiting the DSO Web Site at <http://www.ecu.edu/diving>.

Prerequisites: SCUBA Certification.

Recommended Text: NOAA Diving Manual Fourth Edition.

Additional Texts: ECU Diving Safety Manual, DAN Diving First Aid for Professional Divers, The American Safety & Health Institute First Aid /CPR for Bystanders and Professional Rescuers.

Grading: This is a “complete” style course and does not produce a letter grade. However, the minimum score necessary to receive credit for successfully completing an online workbook for a given academic module is 70%. The minimum score necessary to receive credit for successfully completing the proctored final examination for a given training module is 80%. Student’s confined water and openwater skills receive a subjective evaluation by the instructional staff. To receive credit for successfully completing the confined and openwater sections of a given training module, students are required to demonstrate safe individual diving skills, sound judgment, and adherence to accepted scientific diving standards and practices.

Completion Requirements: Successful completion of all portions of a training module is required to receive credit for the module. Successful completion of all required training modules, as well as meeting all other standards requirements, is necessary to receive ECU/AAUS scientific diver certification. Additional standards requirements are outlined in the ECU Diving Safety Manual.

It is possible to complete this course but not receive ECU/AAUS scientific diver certification. The minimum participation requirement to have this course registered as “complete” with the registrars’ office is completion of the academic and confined water sections of all required modules.

Costs: The lab fee for the COAS 6000 course is \$365.00 (Non refundable). This covers additional texts, associated certifications, and openwater training. Payment is to be made with tuition.

Additional information such as the specific class schedule and a copy of the ECU Diving Safety Manual is available on line at: <http://www.ecu.edu/diving>.