

Problems Without Passports, Xiamen, China

Our Future Changing Ocean

BISC 499, 4 units, July 8 - Aug. 1, 2019

Course description: Have you ever wondered what kind of impacts humans are having on the oceans? In this course, you will be introduced to the basics of ocean science, and how human-induced global change is changing this economically and ecologically vital ecosystem. Global change in the ocean encompasses many issues, including climate change, fisheries collapse, ocean acidification, and pollution. Each of these issues poses a significant threat to the health of the ocean and the many resources it supplies to us, and in fact together they may fundamentally alter the Earth as we know it.



This course will take place in China, which is a leader in investigating ocean global change issues. Our host institution, Xiamen University (XMU), is located in Xiamen, a coastal city in southern China (Fujian province) historically known for its world-class port and currently known for its seafood and tree-lined beaches. Students will learn about the major problems plaguing the ocean and international efforts to study these issues through lectures by USC faculty and XMU guest speakers and assigned literature

readings. First-hand research experiences will include conducting fieldwork at sea on XMU's research vessel, and laboratory training under XMU faculty and students. Excursions will explore all that the Xiamen area has to offer, including the UNESCO World Heritage Sites Gulangyu (Piano Island), Tulou and Wuyisan (Wuyi Mountains). XMU is generously providing free room and board at their Xiangan campus for USC students enrolled in the course.

Eligibility: This class is open to all undergraduates and graduate students with an interest in ocean sciences, global change, and/or international scientific research efforts. 100-level or equivalent Biology, Geology, or Environmental Studies as well as 100-level Math will be helpful, but not required.

For more information contact: `

Administrative Contacts: Feixue Fu (ffu@usc.edu) or Linda Bazilian (bazilian@usc.edu)

Instructor: David Hutchins, Professor, USC MEB; dahutch@usc.edu

Teaching Assistant: Nina Yang, Ph.D. Candidate, USC MEB; ninayang@usc.edu

Department: Marine and Environmental Biology, Department of Biological Sciences

