FALL TERM 2023

September 27 - December 8, 2023

Behavioral Ecology of Marine Animals

FW 466 / 566 (CRN 19978), 3 CREDITS, M 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM HATFIELD MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

Course Description: Examines how the social lives of animals contributes to solving fundamental life challenges—eat, not be eaten, reproduce—from an evolutionary and ecological perspective. Examines how group-living shape animal societies in terms of structure, organization, mating and care systems. Explores fundamental concepts of behavioral ecology, sociobiology, social evolution, with emphasis on marine megafauna (cetaceans, pinnipeds, seabirds, elasmobranchs). Combines lectures, groups discussions, field activities, and data analyses on animal societies.

Recommended: Biology 200-level series, FW 302, or background in vertebrate ecology or animal behavior.

Additional Information: Familiarity with R computer programming is desirable for some of the field and out-of-class assignments (but guidance will be provided in class, especially for undergraduate students).

Instructor: Mauricio Cantor, Assistant Professor

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