



Course Title: **Advanced Marine Environmental Science (Lab)**

Course Number: **ENV 415L**

Term: **Spring 2026**

Course Credits: **1**

Class Meeting Times:

**Thur 8:30-11:20**

Class Location: **Henry Hall Lab 4 & in the field**



Instructor Name: **Dr. Lupita Ruiz-Jones**

You can call me Dr. Lupita or Professor Lupita

Email: [guadalupe.ruiz-jones@chaminade.edu](mailto:guadalupe.ruiz-jones@chaminade.edu)

Office Location: **Wesselkamper 104**

Cell Phone (welcome to text, lmk who you are): **505.603.1985**

Office Hours: **Tues 12:00-1:00 / Wed 12:30-3:30 / Thur 11:30-1:00** in-person or zoom (zoom link in Canvas - text me to lmk you want to zoom). **Also happy to schedule a meeting for a time that works better for you!**

### **Course description from University catalog**

The lab portion of the course will be an opportunity for students to practice and cultivate the skills involved in the Hawaiian concept of kilo (keen observation), collaboration, data collection, and data analysis. Students will visit field sites and collaborate with community members on specific restoration projects. For the project component, students will work in teams to develop research questions, determine a data gathering plan, collect data, analyze data, and communicate their findings. Laboratory activities will be conducted in the field and on the Chaminade campus. Co-requisite: ENV 415

### **Course overview**

A running theme in the lab portion of the course will be the Hawaiian concept of kilo or keen observation. We will visit a coastal site where members of the community are

actively working on restoration projects. The field visits will be opportunities for you to practice kilo ~ being observant of what is going on in the environment and asking critical questions. After field visits where you collaborate with locals and contribute to restoration projects, you will submit short reflections on Canvas.

A second running theme for the lab will be data collection, analysis (with data science), and visualization. We will deploy environmental loggers at a loko i'a (fishpond) and a spring in the community. You will gain experience of what it is like to do field work by doing everything necessary to acquire and visualize environmental data from start to finish.

### **Types of lab activities and projects:**

- Collaborating with community members on restoration projects
- Photographing what you observe in the marine environment
- Calibrating, deploying, and retrieving environmental loggers
- Organizing and visualizing data with programming language R in the platform RStudio
- Communicating your field observations and data analysis with a scientific research poster

### **Environmental Science Program Learning Goals**

This course is part of the Environmental Science program. These are the Program Learning Outcomes for the program.

Upon completion of the undergraduate B.S. program in Environmental Science, students will be able to:

1. Authenticate their commitment to service, justice and peace through experiential project-based activities that enhance the condition of the integral ecology, care for creation and value all voices.
2. Apply scientific reasoning and methodology to environmental problems.
3. Identify the major physical, chemical and biological components, interactions and cycles of earth systems and ecosystems.
4. Propose, design and participate in scientific research projects that document, describe and/or help solve environmental problems and foster sustainability.
5. Pursue throughout their education new scientific knowledge and techniques that prepare them for the adaptation and change essential to environmental problem solving.

## **Course Learning Outcomes and their evaluation**

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. Think like a scientist by developing research questions and analyzing different types of sources.
  - a. Evaluated during lab activities and via Final Scientific Research Poster Project.
  - b. Satisfies part of Program Learning Outcome 2 and 4.
2. Analyze data figures and draw conclusions founded in evidence.
  - a. Evaluated during lab activities and via Final Scientific Research Poster Project.
  - b. Satisfies part of Program Learning Outcome 2.
3. Explain the significance of local marine restoration projects
  - a. Evaluated via Kilo Field Reflections post field visits.
  - b. Satisfies part of Program Learning Outcome 1.

## **See Canvas Modules for the tentative schedule**

### **Grading breakdown**

**\* The grade listed in Canvas is NOT accurate because it does not include Participation.**

**If you are ever curious about your grade ASK ME.**

10% = Attendance (roll call in Canvas)

15% = Engaged participation in the lab and in the field with peers, me, and guests (requires arriving to class prepared); also includes some canvas discussion posts.

- To earn an A involves:
  - Regularly asking questions and responding to questions.
  - Being prepared for lab activities.
  - Engaging attentively in lab activities.
- To earn a C involves:
  - Being present.
  - Demonstration of lack of preparedness for lab activities.

25% = Kilo Field Reflections submitted on Canvas after field visits

15% = Data Science Workshops and submission of R code and graphs generated

35% = Final Lab Project: Scientific Research Poster ~ data analysis and science communication

A = >90%: Outstanding scholarship and an unusual degree of intellectual initiative

B = 80-89.9%: Superior work done in a consistent and intellectual manner

C = 70-79.9%: Average grade indicating a competent grasp of subject matter

D = 60-69.9%: Inferior work of the lowest passing grade

F = <59.9%: Failed to grasp the minimum subject matter; no credit given

### **Late work policy**

This policy applies to components of the major projects: Final Lab Project: Scientific Research Poster. If something happens and you know you need an extension on an assignment, contact me. If we do not make a prior arrangement, 10% of the assignment points will be deducted for each day after the assignment due date. Generally canvas discussion posts are not accepted late.

### **Attendance and your grade**

As an enrolled student in the course, I expect that you will attend every class unless you are sick. **If you have more than two unexcused absences your grade will be negatively impacted.** An important aspect of learning is active engagement. There is no substitute for being in class when it comes to understanding and thinking critically about the material.

### **Workload Expectations ~ Credit Hour Policy**

- ENV415L is a 1 credit class requiring a MINIMUM of 45 clock hours of student engagement, per the official CUH Credit Hour Policy.
- We will meet once a week: 2h 50min each week for 15 weeks = ~42h for the semester
- Most weeks you will have reflections (Kilo Field Reflections and/or Presence Service Reflections) that are expected to take you ~1h per week (15h).
- It is expected that background research and preparation of your Final Scientific Research Poster will take you ~15h.

The unit of semester credit is defined as university-level credit that is awarded for the completion of coursework. One credit hour reflects the amount of work represented in the intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement for those learning outcomes. Each credit hour earned at Chaminade University should result in a minimum of 45 hours of engagement, regardless of varying credits, duration, modality, or degree level. This equates to one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester. Terms that have alternative lengths, such as 10 week terms, should have an equivalent amount of faculty instruction and out-of-class student work to meet each credit hour. Direct instructor engagement and out-of-class work result in total student engagement time of 45 hours for one credit. The number of engagement hours may be higher, as needed to meet specific learning outcomes.

### *Specific Credit Situations*

The minimum 45 hours of engagement per credit hour can be satisfied in fully online, internship, or other specialized courses through several means, including (a) regular online instruction or interaction with the faculty member and fellow students and (b) academic engagement through extensive reading, research, online discussion, online quizzes or exams; instruction, collaborative group work, internships, laboratory work, practica, studio work, and preparation of papers, presentations, or other forms of assessment. This policy is in accordance with federal regulations and regional accrediting agencies.

### **Course website**

We will use Canvas and google drive.

### **Course Policies - same as those listed in the lecture syllabus**

## **Important Information**

### **Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is an essential aspect of all learning, scholarship, and research. It is one of the values regarded most highly by academic communities throughout the world. Violations of the principle of academic honesty are extremely serious and will not be tolerated.

Students are responsible for promoting academic honesty at Chaminade by not participating in any act of dishonesty and by reporting any incidence of academic dishonesty to an instructor or to a University official. Academic dishonesty may include theft of records or examinations, alteration of grades, and plagiarism, in addition to more obvious dishonesty.

Questions of academic dishonesty in a particular class are first reviewed by the instructor, who must make a report with recommendations to the Dean of the Academic Division. Punishment for academic dishonesty will be determined by the instructor and the Dean of Academic Division and may include an "F" grade for the work in question, an "F" grade for the course, suspension, or dismissal from the University.

For the most up to date information, please refer to the [Academic Honesty Policy](#) on the Chaminade University Catalog website.

## **Title IX and Nondiscrimination Statement**

Chaminade University of Honolulu is committed to providing a learning, working and living environment that promotes the dignity of all people, inclusivity and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator.

## **Nondiscrimination Policy & Notice of Nondiscrimination**

Chaminade University of Honolulu does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment. Inquiries about Title IX may be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both and contact information may be found at the [Chaminade University Title IX Office Contact Information and Confidential Resources website](#). On-campus Confidential Resources may also be found here at [CAMPUS CONFIDENTIAL RESOURCES](#).

The University's Nondiscrimination Policy and Grievance Procedures can be located on the University webpage at:

<https://chaminade.edu/compliance/title-ix-nondiscrimination-policies-procedures/>.

To report information about conduct that may constitute sex discrimination or make a complaint of sex discrimination under Title IX, please refer to the [Campus Incident Report form](#). Chaminade University of Honolulu prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates. The NOTICE of NONDISCRIMINATION can be found here: [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#).

## **CUH Alert Emergency Notification**

To get the latest emergency communication from Chaminade University, students' cell numbers will be connected to Chaminade's emergency notification text system. When you log in to the Chaminade portal, you will be asked to provide some emergency contact information. If you provide a cellphone number, you will receive a text from our emergency notification system asking you to confirm your number. You must respond to that message to complete your registration and get emergency notifications on your phone.

## **Assessment for Student Work**

With the goal of continuing to improve the quality of educational services offered to students, Chaminade University conducts assessments of student achievement of course, program, and

institutional learning outcomes. Student work is used anonymously as the basis of these assessments, and the work you do in this course may be used in these assessment efforts.

### **Student with Disabilities Statement**

Chaminade University of Honolulu offers accommodations for all actively enrolled students with disabilities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and the ADA Amendments Act (2008).

Students are responsible for contacting Kokua Ike: Center for Student Learning to schedule an appointment. Verification of their disability will be requested through appropriate documentation and once received it will take up to approximately 2–3 weeks to review them. Appropriate paperwork will be completed by the student before notification will be sent out to their instructors. Accommodation paperwork will not be automatically sent out to instructors each semester, as the student is responsible to notify Kokua Ike via email at [ada@chaminade.edu](mailto:ada@chaminade.edu) each semester if changes or notifications are needed.

### **Kōkua 'Ike: Tutoring & Learning Services**

Chaminade is proud to offer free, one-on-one tutoring and writing assistance to all students. Tutoring and writing help is available on campus at Kōkua 'Ike: Center for Student Learning in a variety of subjects (including, but are not limited to biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc.) from trained Peer and Professional Tutors. Please check [Kōkua 'Ike's](#) website for the latest times, list of drop-in hours, and information on scheduling an appointment. Free online tutoring is also available via TutorMe. Tutor Me can be accessed 24/7 from your Canvas account. Simply click on Account > TutorMe. For more information, please contact Kōkua 'Ike at [tutoring@chaminade.edu](mailto:tutoring@chaminade.edu) or 808-739-8305.

*This syllabus and course schedule are living documents: they are free to change. I try to adhere as closely as possible, but there will be times in which we will take longer on a particular topic or add or delete a topic to enhance the course. I like to be able to react to you as the course proceeds and go with the flow a bit in order to make the course experience sort of custom fit to you!*

*You are responsible for all of the information in this document: not reading it does not make you exempt from knowing what's in it!*

*Use this syllabus to keep you organized and how your grade is determined.*