

# UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

## Ontario Universities Program in Field Biology

<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Field Ecology and Conservation of Brazilian Marine Mammals</b>	
<b>Instructor(s):</b>	Dr. John Wang (cetasiajohn@gmail.com) Dr. Claryana Araújo-Wang	
<b>Dates:</b>	February 16 – February 28, <b>2018</b> Arrival at field site on Feb. 16 (afternoon), so depart from Canada on or before Feb. 15; depart from course field site in morning of Feb. 28.	
<b>Location:</b>	Cassino, Rio Grande do Sul, BRAZIL (host: Dr. Eduardo R. Secchi, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande)	
<b>Cost:</b>	\$1,500-\$2,000 (\$350 deposit to home university; \$1150-1650 balance) <b>Includes:</b> ground transportation, accommodations and meals, field and laboratory expenses. <b>Excluded:</b> ~\$1,300-1500 for airfare <b>Balance:</b> is <b>due by December 15, 2017</b> . A cheque payable to University of Waterloo sent to Sue Whyte, Department of Biology, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1.	
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	A second year ecology course. Some experience with statistics is also recommended.	
<b>Enrolment:</b>	A minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 students (2 reserved for Waterloo)	
<b>Description:</b>	The growing and developing economy of Brazil presents some interesting and impending conservation issues with local marine mammal species (cetaceans and pinnipeds alike). This course will introduce students to many of the main wildlife conservation issues in the region with a focus on a charismatic group of organisms. Students will learn the kinds of biological information that are needed to assess and understand the impacts of human activities on local marine mammals and the field research methods used to obtain such information such as: exploratory surveys, line-transect surveys, photo-identification surveys, dissection and sampling of carcasses, examination of skeletal materials for species identification and species identification of living animals. They will also acquire basic skills and knowledge such as data collection, general marine mammal biology, conducting research projects and critical review of scientific literature. Students will also be introduced to other organisms of the local marine and coastal fauna and flora. This region will also provide students with an opportunity to experience various other wildlife found only in the southern hemisphere.	
<b>Evaluation:</b>	Evaluation will be based tentatively on the following:	
	Participation and discussions	20%
	Presentations	20%
	Critiquing paper assignment	10%
	Written final examination	30%
	Research project paper due 2 weeks after returning from Brazil	20%

\*\*\*\$350 Deposit is due at time of registration.

Tuition at your home institution is *in addition* to any field module costs.

Students who drop a field course should not expect a refund of any field course costs.

Students are encouraged to purchase cancellation insurance if airline tickets are required.

Students are responsible for all fees incurred by the home or host university due to any bounced cheque.