

**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>	Friday February 10 – Wednesday February 22, <b>2017</b> Arrival at field site on Feb. 10 (afternoon) so depart from Canada on or before Feb. 9; depart from course field site in early morning of Feb. 22.
<b>Location:</b>	Cassino, Rio Grande do Sul, BRAZIL (host: Dr. Eduardo R. Secchi, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande)
<b>Cost:</b>	\$1,400-1,900 (\$350 deposit to home university; \$1025-\$1550 balance) plus tuition payable at your home institution. ~\$1,300-1500 for airfare not included. Course fee includes ground transportation, accommodations and meals, field and laboratory expenses. Deposit (cheque) is required with application. Balance of the remaining course fee is due in early January 2017 A cheque payable to <u>University of Waterloo</u> sent to Sue Whyte, Department of Biology, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1. The student is responsible for all fees incurred by the home or host university due to any bounced cheque.
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	A second year ecology course. Some experience with statistics is also recommended
<b>Enrolment:</b>	20 students (12 student minimum) (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 (25%) Presentations (20%) Critiquing paper assignment (10%) Written final examination (25%) Research project paper due 2 weeks after returning from Brazil (20%)