This course lays the fundamental groundwork necessary for students to meet the open water requirements for scientific diver certification as outlined by the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS). This foundation is essential for persons interested in pursuing any area of scientific endeavor involving scuba or other compressed gas diving. Students are exposed to a variety of diving and sampling techniques and practices from several academic areas involved in scientific diving (Biology, Geology, and Maritime Studies). The students are evaluated through the use of skills testing for basic proficiency in activities deemed pertinent for scientific diving practices in which ECU is involved. This course provides the open water instruction necessary to obtain ECU Scientific Diving Certification. However, this course by itself will not meet all of the requirements for Scientific Diver Certification and participation in and/or completion of this course will not guarantee ECU/AAUS Scientific Diver Certification. Information on medical examination and other requirements for ECU Scientific Diver Certification may be obtained by visiting the DSO Web Site at http://www.ecu.edu/diving.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of COAS 4000 and 4001 or equivalent.


Requirements: Successful completion of open water training.

Grading: Participation and Subjective Evaluation of skills by the instructor. The student is responsible for providing mask, fins, snorkel, regulator with octopus & gauges, BC, weight & belt, dive watch or underwater timing device, a dive knife or other suitable cutting tool, and proof of regulator maintenance. Additional information such as the specific class schedule and a copy of the ECU Diving Safety Manual is available on line at: http://www.ecu.edu/diving.