

The Voyage of the Beagle

UnCommon Reads

IDH 2930-14B6

Time: Monday (9th period: 4:05-4:55)

Location: Little Hall 17

Spring 2018

Instructor

Lorena Endara

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Office: 217 Carr Hall

Office hours: Wednesday 11:00 am – 2:00 pm or by appointment

Course Description

The class is part of the UnCommon read series offered by the UF Honors Program and is centered around a single book, *The Voyage of the Beagle*, that describes Charles Darwin's five years journey around the world. Every week students will independently read two chapters of the book and answer few questions provided by the instructor that will serve as the foundation for class discussion. At the end of each class we will have a short graphic presentation prepared by students of sites that Darwin visited.

Course Objectives

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

1. Identify the sites Darwin visited during his five years journey in the Beagle.
2. Discuss Darwin's observations and experiences and understand how these influenced his ideas.
3. Recognize the differences between past and modern scientific explorations.
4. Understand how exploration and traveling can influence our careers.
5. Develop and propose a natural history expedition of your interest.

Required Materials

Required book: *The Voyage of the Beagle*, The Floating Boat Press, ISBN 9781775413127. This version is an E-book available in the UF Library. There are other versions available; you could choose other versions as long as they follow the organization of the E-book chosen for the class (21 chapters).

Other materials: You will need access to a computer with an internet connection to download the *Voyage of the Beagle* e-book and to access and download additional reading materials and software that will be made available on Canvas or freely available on the internet.

Course Requirements

1. **Weekly Readings:** Prior to each class, read the assigned chapter or chapters. Answer the guiding questions provided by the instructor. Please submit your answers to these questions via Canvas no later than Mondays before 1:00 p.m.

When reading take notes on phrases or ideas you don't understand or you would like to discuss during class, please share them during class.

- 2. Class Participation:** The success of this class depends on your engagement and active participation. Participation will be evaluated by attendance, your active participation in discussions and presentations. Class participation is worth 50% of your final grade.

Course Schedule

| Week | Date | Class activities & discussions | Reading assignments and projects |
|------|---------------|---|--|
| 1 | Jan 8 | Introduction to course, objectives and the book | Introduction <i>Chapter 1:</i> St. Jago –Cape de Verde Islands <i>Chapter 2:</i> Rio de Janeiro *Answer and submit questions |
| 2 | Jan 15 | Holiday | |
| 3 | Jan 22 | Discussion of Introduction and chapters 1 & 2 | <i>Chapter 3:</i> Maldonado <i>Chapter 4:</i> Rio Negro to Bahia Blanca *Answer and submit questions |
| 4 | Jan 29 | Discussion of chapters 3 & 4 | <i>Chapter 5:</i> Bahia Blanca <i>Chapter 6:</i> Bahia Blanca to Buenos Ayres *Answer and submit questions |
| 5 | Feb 5 | Discussion chapters 5 & 6 | <i>Chapter 7:</i> Buenos Ayres to Santa Fe <i>Chapter 8:</i> Banda Oriental and Patagonia *Answer and submit questions |
| 6 | Feb 12 | Discussion of chapters 7 & 8 | <i>Chapter 9:</i> Santa Cruz, Patagonia, and the Falkland Islands <i>Chapter 10:</i> Tierra de Fuego *Answer and submit questions |
| 7 | Feb 19 | Discussion of chapters 9 & 10 | <i>Chapter 11:</i> Strait of Magellan, Climate of the Southern Coast <i>Chapter 12:</i> Central Chile Answer and submit questions |
| 8 | Feb 26 | Discussion of chapters 11 & 12 | <i>Chapter 13:</i> Chiloe and Chonos Islands <i>Chapter 14:</i> Chiloe and Concepcion: Great Earthquake *Answer and submit questions |
| 9 | Mar 5 | SPRING BREAK | |
| 10 | Mar 12 | Discussion of chapters 13 & 14 Introduction to personal projects | <i>Chapter 15:</i> Passage of the Cordillera <i>Chapter 16:</i> Northern Chile and Peru *Answer and submit questions |
| 11 | Mar 19 | Discussion of chapters 15 & 16 | <i>Chapter 17:</i> Galapagos Archipelago <i>Chapter 18:</i> Tahiti and New Zealand *Answer and submit questions |
| 12 | Mar 26 | Discussion of chapters 17 & 18 | <i>Chapter 19:</i> Australia <i>Chapter 20:</i> Keeling Island: Coral formations |

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|----|--------|--|---|
| | | | *Answer and submit questions |
| 13 | Apr 2 | Discussion of chapters 19 & 20 | <i>Chapter 21: Mauritius to England</i> *Answer and submit questions |
| 14 | Apr 9 | Discussion of chapters 21 Programs and grants for student travel | Prepare individual projects |
| 15 | Apr 16 | Presentations: Your life-changing journey | |
| 16 | Apr 23 | Presentations: Your life-changing journey | |

Evaluation of Grades

| Assignment | Description | Percent of Grade |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Participation | Attendance Participation in class | 50% |
| Assignments | Answer questions Presentation | 25% |
| Final project | | 25% |
| TOTAL | | 100% |

Grading Policy

| Score | Percent | Grade | Grade Points |
|----------|-----------|-------|--------------|
| 934-1000 | 93.4-100 | A | 4.00 |
| 900-933 | 90.0-93.3 | A- | 3.67 |
| 867-899 | 86.7-89.9 | B+ | |
| 834-866 | 83.4-86.6 | B | 3.00 |
| 800-833 | 80.0-83.3 | B- | 2.67 |
| 767-799 | 76.7-79.9 | C+ | 2.33 |
| 734-766 | 73.4-76.6 | C | 2.00 |
| 700-733 | 70.0-73.3 | C- | 1.67 |
| 667-699 | 66.7-69.9 | D+ | 1.33 |
| 634-666 | 63.4-66.6 | D | 1.00 |
| 600-633 | 60.0-63.3 | D- | 0.67 |
| 0-599 | 0-599 | E | 0.00 |

More information on grades and grading policies is here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy

Class attendance is expected. Each unexcused absence will result in a 10 point reduction in the final grade. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) and require appropriate documentation.

Late essay response papers will not be accepted. A makeup midterm and makeup final exam will be provided for students who miss either exam due to extreme, documented circumstances. A cumulative make-up quiz will be provided at the end of the semester for any and all quizzes missed. This score will replace all missing quiz grades. Students should arrange with the instructor for makeup material, and the student will receive one to prepare for any makeup assignment, if circumstances allow it.

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Materials and Supplies Fees

There are no additional fees for this course.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Counseling and Wellness Center

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies