Course Description: Coastal oceans are among the most valuable and heavily impacted environments on earth. Human activities such as commercial and recreational fishing, water management, aquaculture, land development, shipping, and mineral exploitation have significant ecological effects on coastal environments. In addition, human activities that occur far inland affect coastal oceans through runoff and atmospheric deposition. In this course, faculty of the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium will present a series of lectures on the effects of human activities on the chemistry, biology, geology, ecology and ecosystem structure and function within coastal marine environments. The course will focus on changing coastal oceans from the perspective of human activities including direct and indirect human influences on coastal ecosystems and resources. The course will be structured around a series of 4 topic modules. During each module, there will be lecture/discussion led by each of the 4 instructors focused on different aspects of the module topic. The final session of each module will be devoted to a group discussion synthesizing what has been covered throughout the module. The course includes a mandatory weekend field trip to LUMCON’s DeFelice Marine Center in Cocodrie, where the instructors will use the local coastal environment to illustrate topics that have been discussed in lectures.

Course Requirements: Advanced undergraduate or graduate level with some background in science, or permission of the lead instructor (Dr. Brian Roberts, broberts@lumcon.edu).

Venue: Offered by LUMCON faculty via GoToMeeting video conferencing

Credit: Lecture (2.5 hrs per week) and 1 weekend field trip: 3 credits

Level: Offered as advanced undergraduate / graduate level Special Problems/Special Topics Course

Course Times: Jan 20 – April 21, 2022: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Course Contact: Murt Conover, education@lumcon.edu