



Offers the
25th in-water course on
Biology and Conservation of Marine Turtles

August 7 - 19, 2022

This intensive, 2-week course provides an introduction to marine turtle biology and conservation. Participants will receive practical experience with in-water sea turtle research.

Course Leaders:

Dr. Daniel R. Evans • Jennifer Gray • Rick Herren • Dr. Gaëlle Roth





Students will participate in the Bermuda Turtle Project (BTP), which is a joint project of the Bermuda Zoological Society (BZS) and the Sea Turtle Conservancy. Its mission is to study the juvenile marine turtles that inhabit the near-shore waters around Bermuda. Dr. Dan Evans and Rick Herren serve as principal scientists for the project. Students will assist with the in-water capture of turtles, tagging and data collection, and learn about current sea turtle research techniques, including satellite telemetry. In addition, a hands-on overview of sea turtle anatomy will be taught during the necropsy session led by Dr. Gaëlle Roth, DVM.

Students will engage daily in group discussions of the papers included in the course reading list and participants will be expected to lead a class discussion. These talks usually take place on board the research vessel RV Endurance, on route to/from the day's sampling site. Topics include life history, feeding biology, physiology, migration, reproduction, genetics, threats and conservation management.

Students are encouraged to exchange information and discuss methods used in their home country and/or turtle conservation program.



Enrollment is limited to 10 students, ages 18 and older. Applications are accepted from all over the world, but priority will be given to candidates from regions connected to the Bermuda sea turtle population, or to those who are in the best position to implement the methods learned during the course.

The course is physically demanding; fieldwork is scheduled Monday through Friday (8 am – 5 pm, with occasional evening classes), for both weeks with a necropsy session planned for the weekend in between. Students must be strong swimmers, able to swim two or more miles a day (with fins and snorkel gear), and be comfortable diving to depths up to 20 feet to retrieve turtles from the net. Each net deployment can last up to two hours, and there can be up to three sets per day.

There is no course tuition fee but applicants must cover transportation, lodging and food. All participants will be expected to bring their own snorkeling gear.

A small number of scholarships are available.

All participants must adhere to the Bermuda Government Covid 19 rules and BZS protocols.



The course application deadline is April 15, 2022

Application forms are available on the Bermuda Turtle Project website: www.conserveturtles.org/bermuda

Please send all enquiries to gaelleroth@hotmail.com