At a Glance…

UVA in the Bahamas
Marine Biology/Coral Reef Ecology
BIOL 3660/EVSC 3660 (4 Credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the plants and animals found in the marine and terrestrial environments of the Caribbean and to study their adaptations in the context of community ecology. Fishes, invertebrates, reptiles, and marine algae will be the major groups encountered and snorkeling will be used for observation and underwater field work. SCUBA certification is not required.

Dates
This program is held May 12-June 1

Costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-state</td>
<td>$3,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-state</td>
<td>$3,629</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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View the program Budget Sheet online for additional cost estimates such as airfare to Nassau and incidentals.

**These costs include airfare to and from San Salvador from Nassau, Bahamas. Students are responsible for housing in Charlottesville (if applicable).

To Apply:
1. Visit www.studyabroad.virginia.edu
2. View the Education Abroad Workshop
3. Complete the program application

Application Deadline
March 1

Financial aid and scholarships are available for education abroad. Financial information is available at:

www.virginia.edu/studyabroad/planningbudgeting.html

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Course and Credit
First year and upper-class students are invited to apply. This is a serious upper-level course but it is not restricted to biology majors or those planning careers in biology/ecology. For Biology B.A. candidates, it meets the upper level/lab requirement or it can be used as 4 upper level hours toward a B.S. degree in Biology.

A three or four day orientation session in Charlottesville just prior to departure will be used for lectures, discussions, and to introduce the observation, collection and identification techniques to be employed in the course. Also, a local field trip and possibly an overnight field trip will be scheduled. During the first week of the 15 days spent on San Salvador the course emphasis is on visiting all of the 12 or more different ecological sites on the island. Following each site visit there are discussions about adaptations seen in the field and the significance of these adaptations in the context of morphology, anatomy, physiology, behavior, development and ecology. Another major focus of the course is on the variety of organismal interactions that occur on the reefs and their ecological/evolutionary implications.

Although the major theme of the course is biological, it is also appropriate that attention be paid to the significant social, cultural, and historical attractions found on the island.