

Life on Mount Desert Rock: Experiencing Marine Mammals in their environment

This outline is preliminary and subject to change due to weather, but also the interests and backgrounds of the participants. Listed topics will be covered in formal or informal lectures, discussions, and readings.

Day	Location*	Topics and Activities
Tue – 7/5	COA	2pm check-in – Dine together in COA dining hall
Wed – 7/6	COA	Meet and Greet, Intro to course, location, species ID; walk to Bar Island, or similar
Thu – 7/7	COA Osprey	Exploration of Frenchman Bay;
Fri – 7/8	Osprey MDR**	Sail to MDR; Intro to MDR; Marine mammal science on the rock and at COA; Cataloguing whales
Sat – 7/9	MDR**	Field observations; Evolution of marine mammals; Reading paper; Aquatic adaptations;
Sun – 7/10	MDR** Osprey	Whale watching: species identification; Navigating on a chart
Mon – 7/11	MDR**	Field observations; Feeding ecology; Communication; Social systems
Tue – 7/12	MDR** Osprey	Whale watching: Recording behavioral observations; discussion of paper
Wed – 7/13	Osprey COA	Sail to COA; stop by GDI (?); Reading paper
Thu – 7/14	COA	Dissection (if available); Historical and current whaling; Whale intelligence and culture;
Fri – 7/15	COA	Studying anthropogenic impacts; Marine mammal conservation; Discussion of paper
Sat – 7/16	COA	9 am - vacate dorms– head home with some great photos and adventures to share

*COA = College of the Atlantic; MDR = Mount Desert Rock; GDI = Great Duck Island; Osprey = COA vessel

** The plan is to spend five days on Mount Desert Rock – however sailing dates and the number of days spent on MDR may be slightly altered due to weather.