

International School of

# Marine Conservation Science

## isMCS



Koper, Slovenia (EU)  
21-30 June 2018

<http://ismcs.famnit.upr.si/en/>

### Why isMCS?

The lack of professionals trained in integrated and interdisciplinary marine conservation has been identified as one of the key problems in the field of marine conservation science. Therefore, three institutions from Europe and USA have come together and launched the International School of Marine Conservation Science (isMCS). Our goal is to enhance education and capacity building in the field of marine conservation by training a new generation of conservation scientists. We seek to identify the link between biological systems, human impacts and the critical role of social science, education, and policy in marine conservation planning.

### isMCS Content

isMCS is a 10-day intensive international graduate-level course focused on the key concepts of evidence-based conservation in marine ecosystems. The program covers multiple aspects of marine conservation, including the physical, biological, and human dimension components. It is comprised of lectures, laboratory exercises, readings and discussions, student projects, guest lectures, and field courses in Slovenia, Italy and Croatia. The School is accredited by both U.S. (5 credits) and the European credit transfer systems (6 ECTS), by the Oregon State University and the University of Primorska.

### Who should apply?

isMCS is directed at MSc and PhD students with a basic degree in biology/ecology, environmental sciences or related subjects.

### isMCS Instructors

isMCS is taught by an international team of lecturers, guest speakers and field instructors from Europe and USA who will present the latest trends and state of the art knowledge in the field of marine conservation science.

- **Prof. Selina S. Heppell, PhD**  
Head, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University
- **Assoc. Prof. Scott A. Heppell, PhD**  
Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University
- **Assoc. Prof. Bojan Lazar, PhD**  
Department of Biodiversity, University of Primorska
- **Asst. Prof. Peter Mackelworth, PhD**  
Department of Biodiversity, University of Primorska & Blue World Institute
- **Senior Lecturer Matthew Witt, PhD**  
Centre for Ecology and Conservation, University of Exeter

DAY	LECTURE TOPICS	LABS / FIELD COURSES
1	<b>Introduction to the Science of Marine Conservation: Why might the oceans be in trouble? Linking biological and social science in marine conservation</b>	<b>Lab:</b> Communicating with decision makers and stakeholders, facilitation, conflict resolution <b>Field trip:</b> Marine Reserve of Miramare (Italy): Biodiversity field sampling #1
2	<b>Marine Biodiversity: biodiversity metrics, conservation genetics, functional biodiversity</b>	<b>Life history lab:</b> Age and growth, yield per recruit; population trend analysis
3	<b>Fisheries biology: life history traits; population assessment; linking behavioural ecology and marine conservation</b>	<b>Field trip:</b> Nature Park Strunjan (Slovenia): Biodiversity field sampling #2, Biodiversity Lab
4	<b>Impact of fisheries on marine species and habitats; solutions to fisheries impacts</b>	<b>Lab:</b> Population modelling and extinction risk analysis
5	<b>Population assessment, extinction risk analysis and IUCN Red Listing, management strategy evaluation</b>	<b>Lab:</b> Marine spatial ecology, marine reserve design
6	<b>Marine spatial ecology: habitats, impacts; marine protected areas; human dimension of marine conservation</b>	<b>Field trip:</b> Sečovje Salina Nature Park (Slovenia)
7	<b>Ecosystem-based management: dynamic marine spatial planning, EBM tools; human dimensions of EBM and transboundary marine conservation</b>	<b>Field trip:</b> Sea Turtle Rescue Center, Aquarium Pula (Croatia)
8	<b>Marine Conservation in practice: biological and social values of rescue centres and aquaria</b>	<b>Field Trip:</b> Blue World Institute, Veli Lošinj (Croatia)
9	<b>Marine Conservation in practice: Adriatic Dolphin Project</b>	<b>Field Trip:</b> Blue World Institute, Veli Lošinj (Croatia)
10	<b>Marine Conservation in practice: Integrating interdisciplinary knowledge in marine conservation science</b>	<b>Field Trip:</b> Blue World Institute, Veli Lošinj (Croatia)

**HOW TO APPLY?** All information and registration is available on line at isMCS web page: <http://ismcs.famnit.upr.si/en/>. There you can also find detailed information on the isMCS program, instructors, course and lab topics, field trips, accommodation and travel.

REGISTRATION  
DEADLINE

1<sup>st</sup> February 2018

TUITION PAYMENT  
DEADLINE

1<sup>st</sup> April 2018

TUITION FEE

- 450 Euros for students seeking credits through the University of Primorska (6 ECTS)
- 2,250 US\$ for students seeking credits through the Oregon State University (5 credits)

