

NSCI 6900
MASTER'S RESEARCH FOR COURSE CREDIT

Term Fall 2009

Number of Credits: 2

INSTRUCTOR: K.D. Hyrenbach

MEETING TIME: TBA

STUDENT NAME: Devon Francke

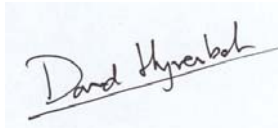
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TELEPHONE AND E-MAIL FOR INSTRUCTOR: (808) 228-4464 khyrenbach@hpu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

(include problem being addressed, general nature of work done, location of work, other pertinent information)

Devon Francke will start working on his MS thesis research project in fall 2009, which will entail quantifying the distribution and movement patterns of green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) in Kaimalino Cove and surrounding areas of Kailua Bay (Oahu). This ongoing project, initiated by graduate student Brenda Asuncion of Hawaii Pacific University, will be conducted in collaboration with Dr. George Balazs from NOAA. The objective of this research is to augment the ongoing acoustic monitoring of turtle distribution and movements using static receivers, with additional real-time tracking during kayak surveys using a directional receiver. This dual approach will allow Devon to study their residency patterns in Kaimalino Cove and to identify the passageways used by the turtles to travel in and out of the study area. The specific research objectives for the fall semester will be: (i) gaining field work experience, through participation in turtle tagging and data retrieval from acoustic receivers; (ii) analysis of the acoustic information collected by the static receivers to gain familiarity with the equipment and the data output; and (iii) discussion of the relevant literature relating to green sea turtle movements and habitat use patterns and real-time tracking methods. Devon will meet with Dr. Hyrenbach (~2 hrs / week) to review and discuss related studies, as well as Brenda's research.



(Print) K. David Hyrenbach (Sign)
THESIS COMMITTEE co-CHAIR

(Date) May 1, 2009

(Print) _____ (Sign) _____ (Date) _____
ASSOCIATE DEAN OF MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAMS