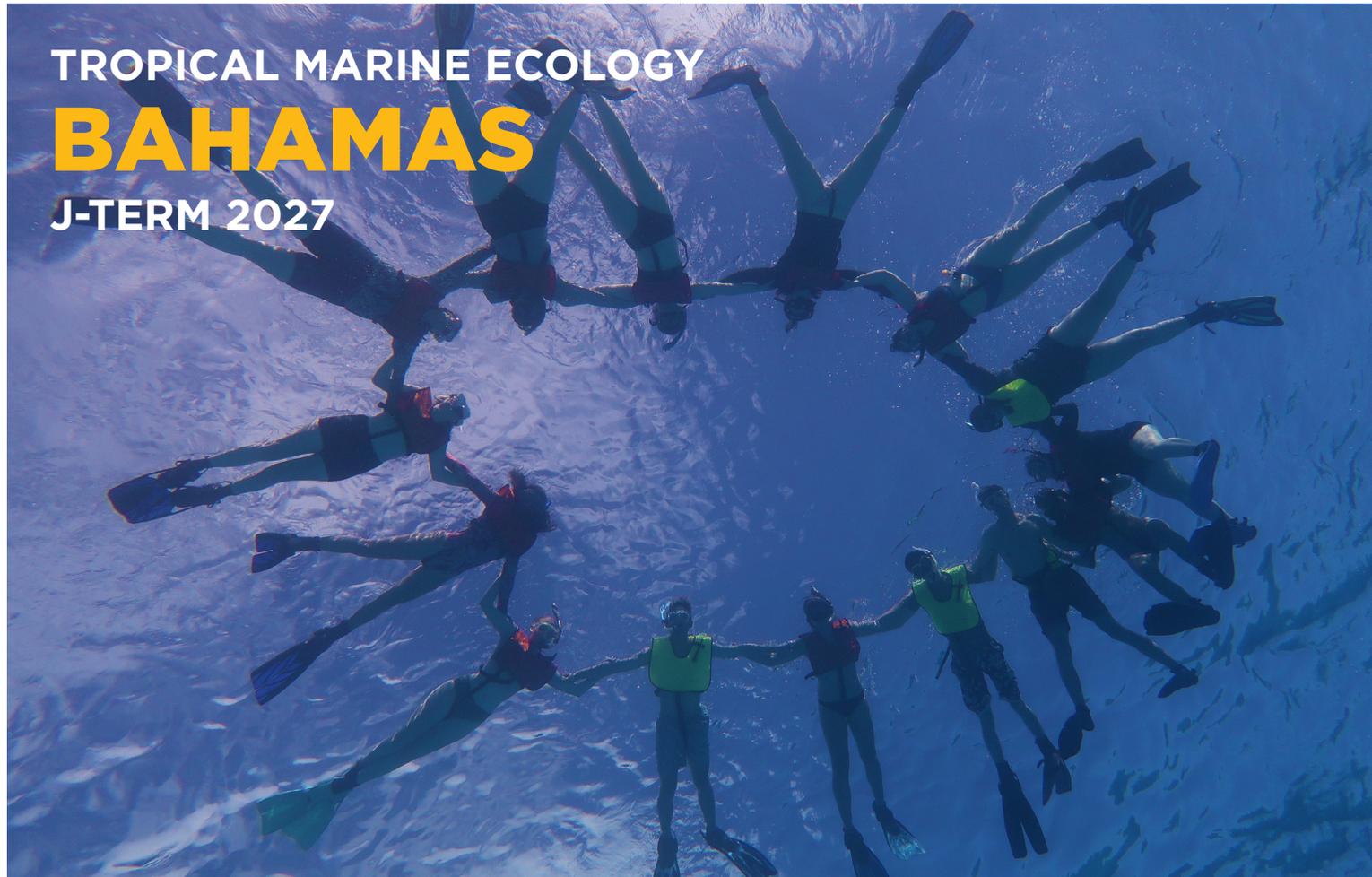


TROPICAL MARINE ECOLOGY

BAHAMAS

J-TERM 2027



COURSE OPTIONS

BIOL 363 and ENVT Environmental & Science credit

PREREQUISITES

BIOL 226; 2.0 minimum GPA

CREDITS

4

APPLICATION

- Apply online at studyaway.plu.edu
- Application Requirements:
 - \$50 non-refundable application fee
 - Application questions
 - 3 short-answer essays (250 words each)
 - 1 faculty recommendation
- Following the online application process, you may be contacted by the faculty leader(s) for an interview
- Supplemental application questions
- April 15th: Application Deadline
- May 8th: Decision Date

PROGRAM FEE

- Final program fee will be determined April 1, 2026. Check studyaway.plu.edu for pricing and details about inclusions and exclusions.
- * Global Scholar Award eligible (25% reduction of program fee)



plu.edu/j-term/bahamas

COURSE OVERVIEW

The students in this course will explore numerous tropical marine habitats on the Island of San Salvador (Bahamas), including coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds and sand flats. We will discover which species are associated with these habitats and what ecological forces structure these biological communities. Not only will we visit these communities daily, but student groups will design and conduct experiments to better understand the differences between communities and the species interactions that are important to them. We will also study the threats to these systems and what we can do to mediate local impacts on tropical ecosystems.

Why study Tropical Marine Biology in San Salvador, Bahamas?

San Salvador is a beautiful small Caribbean island that possesses all the major habitats found in shallow tropical oceans and most can be accessed from shore or via a short boat trip. The Gerace Research Centre is a safe and comfortable place that allows us to live and work feet from the ocean and have easy access to teaching and research resources. Finally, by staying in one location the entire course, we can intensively study the local areas using our observations, literature study and student research projects.

FACULTY LEADER

Michael Behrens
Professor of Biology
behrenmd@plu.edu