Puerto Peñasco Marine Biology

Study Abroad 2016

**May 18-25, 2016**

**Wed May 18:**

* Travel to Puerto Peñasco by van.
* Move into quarters at CEDO.
* Introduction of course objectives.
* Tide pool safety. Tide pooling in the evening.
* Lecture on marine invertebrates of Puerto Peñasco.

**Thu May 19:**

* Tide pool collecting of specimens. Observation and identification of specimens in wet lab. All live specimens will then be returned to the ocean.
* Center for the Study of Deserts & Oceans (CEDO) slideshows on the natural history of Puerto Peñasco and marine mammals, including a talk on whales and the endangered Vaquita.
* Evening lecture on seabirds and wading shorebirds.

**Fri May 20**

* A field trip to Cholla Bay to study sandy intertidal area.
* Field trip to Cholla Bay’s outdoor shops to practice Spanish words & phrases.
* Lecture in afternoon on ecology and comparison of rocky and sandy intertidal areas.

**Sat May 21:**  Boat trip to Isla de San Jorge. Snorkeling and diving at island.

**Sun May 22:**

* Lecture on marine ecology and intertidal environments.
* Guided visit to Trona salt mines
* Transects of rocky intertidal area (continuing research project at CEDO).

**Mon May 23:**

* Kayaking the Morua Estuary (guided tour by CEDO) to study the ecology of an

estuarine habitat. Identification of wading shorebirds.

* Presentation by student groups based on tide pool observations (Porifera/cnidarians, Crustaceans, Molluscs, Echinoderms).
* Review for examination.

**Tue May 24:**

* Take part in long-term biological research (coordinated by CEDO)
* Video "Life on the Edge".
* Examination in the afternoon.
* Clean up at CEDO

**Wed May 25:** Return by van to Mesa Community College.

The order of activities varies from year to year depending on the weather and ocean conditions.