

“Microbes down below! Exploring life beneath the ocean floor”

Monday, November 4 – Friday, November 15, 2013



Registration now open log onto <http://www.coexploration.org/C-DEBI>

*Designed for community college instructors and high school teachers;
open to all*



The Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations (C-DEBI) and the College of Exploration invite you to explore “life on the dark side” in a **free** online workshop: “Microbes down below! Exploring life beneath the ocean floor”

Materials and content will be especially designed for use in community college classes, with additional materials for high school classes. Participation is free and open to all.

C-DEBI scientists have drilled deep into the ocean floor to study how microbial life survives and thrives in sediments and rock below the bottom of the ocean, a dark world far below the sunlit photic zone. In the workshop, we will investigate life in extreme environments, chemosynthesis, microbial evolution, marine technology and engineering, and many other topics.

During the workshop you will **meet and interact personally** with C-DEBI scientists and collect resources and lessons to help you share this exciting research with your students. During Week One, Dr. John Kirkpatrick will introduce the C-DEBI project and explain the specialized tools and innovative methods used in “Studying Life Below the Sea Floor.” In Week Two, Dr. Brandi Reese will describe C-DEBI research on the limits of life and the extent of microbial life in extreme ocean environments in “The Biogeography of the Deep Biosphere.”

Teaching resources will be provided in topic-themed collections, for use in community college classes in biology, health sciences, Earth science, chemistry, and technology. In addition, materials will be available that are especially suitable for high school science classes in biology, chemistry, Earth science, general science, technology, and engineering.

Participants may choose to earn **graduate credit** from Framingham State University for this workshop.

Questions? Please contact Pat Harcourt pharcourt@gmail.com or Lynn Whitley lwhitley@usc.edu
Learn more about C-DEBI research at <http://www.darkenergybiosphere.org/>