

May Term Travel 2025

Palau Expedition: Sustaining Life on a Blue Planet

EVST 281: Dr. Lei Lani Stelle



Enrollment Limit = 11-12

Course Fee = \$3650

Features Included in the Course Fee:

- Lodging
- Meals
- Boat & kayak trips
- Activities (optional Scuba has extra costs)
- Guides & meetings with experts
- Transportation within Palau

Estimated Expenses Beyond Course Fee: Roundtrip airfare from LAX ~\$1600-\$2000; Scuba diving (optional) = ~\$40 per dive (not including dive gear). Personal snorkel gear (required: mask & snorkel, fins) ~ \$50+; personal spending money varies (~\$100+).

Course Description: Palau is an island nation in Micronesia (~550 miles east of the Philippines) facing threats to its environment and way of life. This expedition combines the study of Palau's marine ecology and natural history, its clan-based system of social organization, and its efforts to achieve sustainable forms of development. Students will explore dozens of islands by hiking, kayaking, snorkeling (and/or Scuba) diving, learn scientific methods, and participate in interviews with members of the community. Grading will be based on quizzes, field activities, assignments, and written essays.

Class will meet on campus for a few days before the expedition to cover background material to maximize student learning while in the field.



Faculty Contact Information: Dr. Stelle, Leilani_stelle@redlands.edu; office Hedco 106

*****IMPORTANT:** All applicants must fill out a Palau course application and will be interviewed. Successful applicants must have strong swimming skills and a genuine interest in marine life.