

SCUBA DIVING + CERTIFICATION

WSCB & Wi Hoofers SCUBA Collaboration



About WSCB

We are the Wisconsin Society for Conservation Biology Student Chapter here at UW-Madison

Our group brings students together to learn, build skills, do outreach, and collaborate with others in the field of conservation biology

We host socials, certification opportunities, professional development events, and volunteer within the community





What is conservation biology?

Definition: A synthetic and multidisciplinary field of science that seeks to understand and maintain biodiversity

3 main goals

1. Document Earth's biodiversity
2. Investigate human's impact on genes, species and ecosystems
3. Develop and test practical approaches to prevent extinctions, maintain genetic diversity, and protect + restore ecosystems

Has 5 moral tenets



Scuba Diving

- A mode of underwater diving with an air source independent from the surface
 - Freshwater or saltwater bodies
- Recreational or professional
 - Applications in science, military, public safety, and photography/videography
- Move through water using fins, carry compressed air tank to breathe, and wear mask + suit



Conservation Biology & Scuba

- Marine life has experienced 50% decline in past 40 years (Cayless, 2016)
- Elevated role as expert in the marine realm
 - Observation & data collection
- Access to a new natural realm
 - Host of unique biomes
- Hands-on conservation work
 - Pollution clean-up
 - Aquatic life surveys
- Careers in variety of sectors

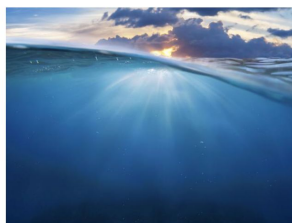


Certification through Hoofers



It's Easy To Get Certified!

- First place to look:
<https://www.padi.com/education/learn-to-dive>
- Getting Started
 - Discover Scuba Diving (DSD)
 - Open Water Diver (OW)



1 Learn to Dive Close to Home

Complete all three parts of your scuba certification near home: knowledge development, pool practice and open water training dives.

Benefits: Take as much time as you need, connect with your local dive community, explore regional dive sites and you will be fully certified for your next vacation.



2 Start at Home, Finish on Vacation

If you want to get a head start on your scuba certification but prefer to complete your open water training dives on vacation where you will be doing most of your diving, you can complete your knowledge development and pool practice at home first.

Benefits: Use [PADI eLearning](#) to finish independent study online and complete pool practice with a dive shop before travel. You'll minimize classroom time on vacation and gain more time to explore the underwater world.



3 Learn on Vacation

Complete all three parts of the course on vacation: knowledge development, pool practice and open water dives. If you want to save time and get a head start, use [PADI eLearning](#) to complete your independent study online before or during travel to minimize classroom time, then connect with your chosen Dive Shop to finish your certification.

Benefits: Learn to scuba dive abroad where you want to start your underwater adventure and meet divers from other parts of the globe.

What to expect from the open water certification course?

1. eLearning course - complete at your own pace
2. 2 pool sessions - located at the Nick pool on campus
3. 2 open water diving sessions - located at local lakes around Madison (summer / fall only)

**** in the spring we will offer referral course: you complete the eLearning & pool portions of the course and complete the open water dives anytime within 1 calendar year to get full certification**



SCUBA CLUB

WISCONSIN HOOFERS

- **What we do...**
 - Local fun dives
 - Winter, Spring, & Summer break dive trips
 - Certification courses - next semester
 - Conservation!



The background is a vibrant teal color with a subtle, wavy pattern. In the top right and bottom right corners, there are dark teal silhouettes of coral or seaweed. Small white dots, representing bubbles or particles, are scattered around the coral. A dark teal rounded rectangle is centered horizontally, containing the text "Questions?".

Questions?

**Special thanks to everyone at
Hooper's SCUBA for making this
meeting possible**



Sources

- Cayless, O. 2016. DIVING FOR A DIFFERENCE: MARINE CONSERVATION EDUCATION. The Road Less Traveled. Retrieved 11/22/2022 from <https://www.theroadlesstraveled.com/blog/scuba-diving-to-make-a-difference>
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