



MASTERS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES

## EVSS FACULTY HIGHLIGHT: DR. ANDREW SHEDLOCK

Photo: Graduate students in the EVSS 627 Marine Tetrapod Biology, "Pod Squad," help colleagues from the University of Central Florida release an entangled green sea turtle hatchling at Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge in Melbourne Beach, FL. From right to left: Andy Shedlock, Evan Wilson, Andrew Cheever, Courtney Bayles, Alyssa Marian, Katherine Hoffman, Meghan Reilly, Ryan Donnelly and Jessica Karan.

Dr. Andrew Shedlock began his professorship at the College of Charleston's Department of Biology in 2010 to "integrate graduate student instruction in vertebrate biology with new advances in predictive environmental genomics and biodiversity science."

During the past decade at the College, he has taught many courses for our EVSS graduate students: Marine Tetrapod Biology, Vertebrate Genome Biology, and Conservation Genetics and Genomics. In these courses, he utilizes hands-on learning as a pedagogical tool to engage students with local professionals in both the basic and applied fields of environmental science. He focuses on the "4 C's of active learning: **C**ritical thinking, **C**ommunication, **C**ollaboration, and **C**reative problem solving."

Dr. Shedlock is offering a special topics course for EVSS students called Biodiversity Management for the first time in Spring 2021. This course is being offered online, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as a precursor to an in-person integrated lecture-lab series in Fall 2021. Dr. Shedlock was inspired to create and teach this course from his "own restless

life-long investigation of the sources of biological complexity and diversity in nature."

Not only does Dr. Shedlock teach courses for EVSS students, but he also serves as a research advisor and committee member.

He has collaborated with faculty across campus, like Dr. Norm Levine, one of the leading GIS specialists of the Geology Department. This partnership allows for "computationally intensive integration of geospatial mapping data with genomics-enabled strategies to manage biodiversity." He currently advises concurrent student Evan Wilson, on his thesis project investigating the genetic variation of immunity in wild and hatchery strains of Alaskan Chinook salmon. From

this research, Dr. Shedlock and Evan aim to analyze the socioeconomic impacts of aquaculture on stakeholders of the local community.

Through advising and teaching, Dr. Shedlock enjoys "the diverse backgrounds and eclectic life experiences of EVSS students." He continues to enrich the EVSS Program with his passions in student research and mentorship, along with collaboration with fellow EVSS faculty.

*All quotes from Dr. Andrew Shedlock  
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