

Educational Expeditions: Student Science Programs in Bermuda



**Bermuda Institute
of Ocean Sciences**



**Julie Ann Wrigley
Global Futures Laboratory™**
Arizona State University

Group:	Daniel Hand High School	Nights:	6
Contact:	Elisa Brako	Students:	16
Dates:	April 11-17, 2026	Leaders:	2

Time	Saturday April 11	Sunday April 12	Monday April 13	Tuesday April 14	Wednesday April 15	Thursday April 16	Friday April 17
7:45-8:30		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00-11:30		Public Bus to Bermuda, Aquarium, Museum and Zoo	Walsingham Limestone Caves + Jumps at Blue Hole	Coopers Island (Natives and Endemics Restoration)	Coopers Island Microplastics Sampling	ROV Pool Test Course + Circuits Lab	Pack up Departures
11:45-12:30	Packed Lunch	Packed Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
1:00-4:30	Arrivals Orientation Walk to Whalebone for Required Swim Check	Public Bus (or walk 20 minutes) to Shelly Bay Shelly Bay Swim! Public Bus back to BIOS	Nonsuch Island Boat Trip	North Rock Boat Trip	1pm Microplastics Lab 3:30pm Crystal and Fantasy Caves	Warwick Long Bay + Horseshoe Bay + Gibbs Hill Lighthouse	
5:45-6:30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner out at Swizzle Inn**	Dinner	
Start at 6:30pm	Intro to Bermuda Lecture	Nonsuch Movie	Plankton: Lecture, Tow + Lab	Glider Lecture	Swizzle Inn Dinner	Night Snorkel at Tobacco Bay	



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Agenda



Why Bermuda and ASU BIOS?

**What does a Visiting Group
look like?**

Timeline



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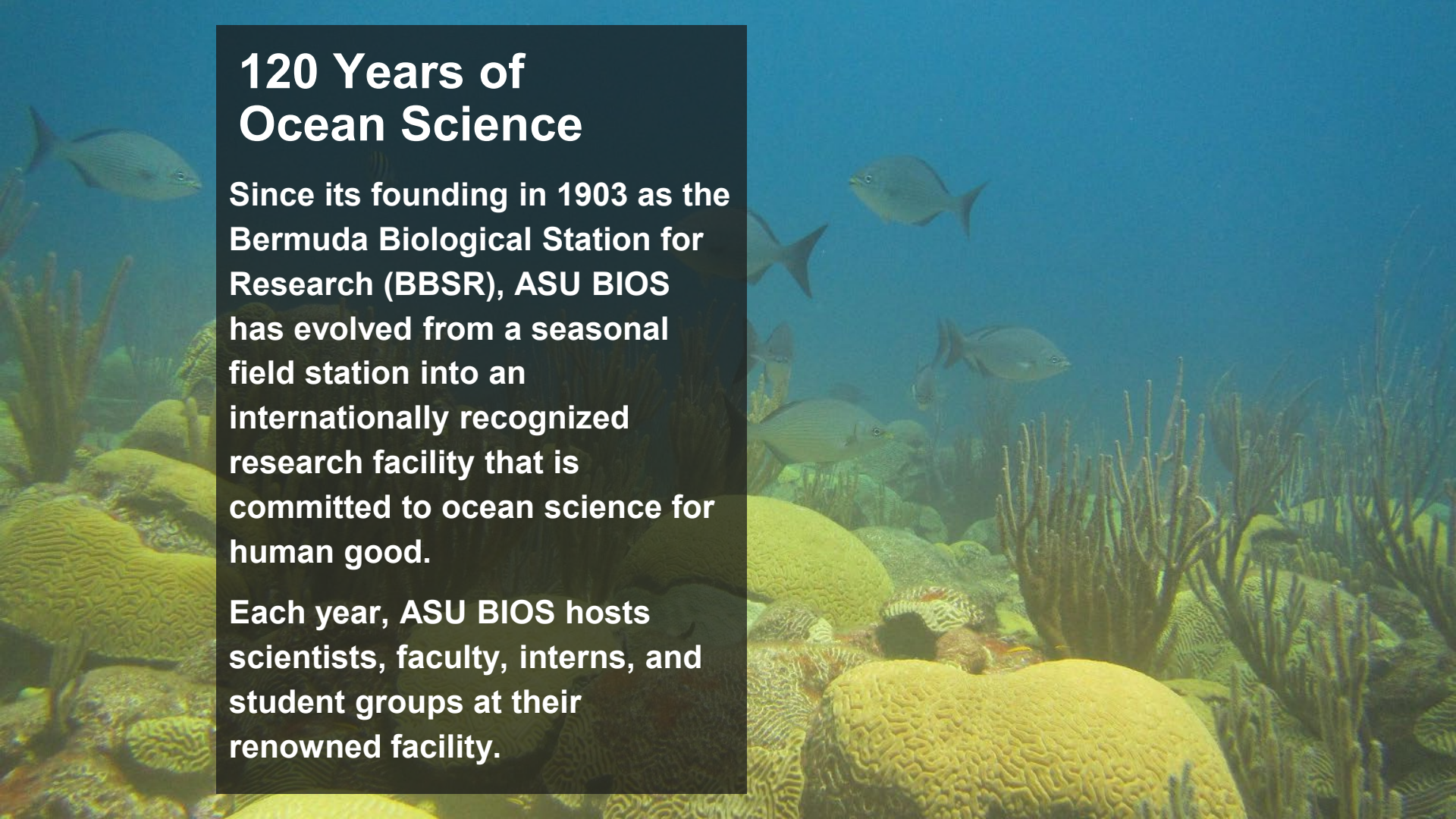


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120 Years of Ocean Science

Since its founding in 1903 as the Bermuda Biological Station for Research (BBSR), ASU BIOS has evolved from a seasonal field station into an internationally recognized research facility that is committed to ocean science for human good.

Each year, ASU BIOS hosts scientists, faculty, interns, and student groups at their renowned facility.



Why Bermuda?

There are many international locations to visit– what makes Bermuda special?

Proximity

Bermuda is a convenient 2 hour flight from the east coast of the United States (~700 miles).

Accessibility

Bermuda is a small island (21.5 square miles) so any location can be reached within an hour.

Geological History

The island originated as a seamount. There are many interesting geological formations to see.

Coral Reefs

Bermuda is home to the northernmost coral reefs in the world; a hotspot for science with global warming

Why ASU BIOS?

What opportunities are available for my students?

Laboratory Equipment

The Institute has state-of-the-art scientific equipment for students to get an introduction to the practical side of research.

Dormitories and Buffets

Living arrangements at BIOS are comfortable and reasonably priced. Three hearty meals are provided daily, as well as packed lunches for field visits.

Endless Excursions

BIOS bus is available for student transport around the island and for scientific excursions

Snorkels and Sampling

Access to research vessels such as R/V Stommel for snorkel trips and coring cruises.



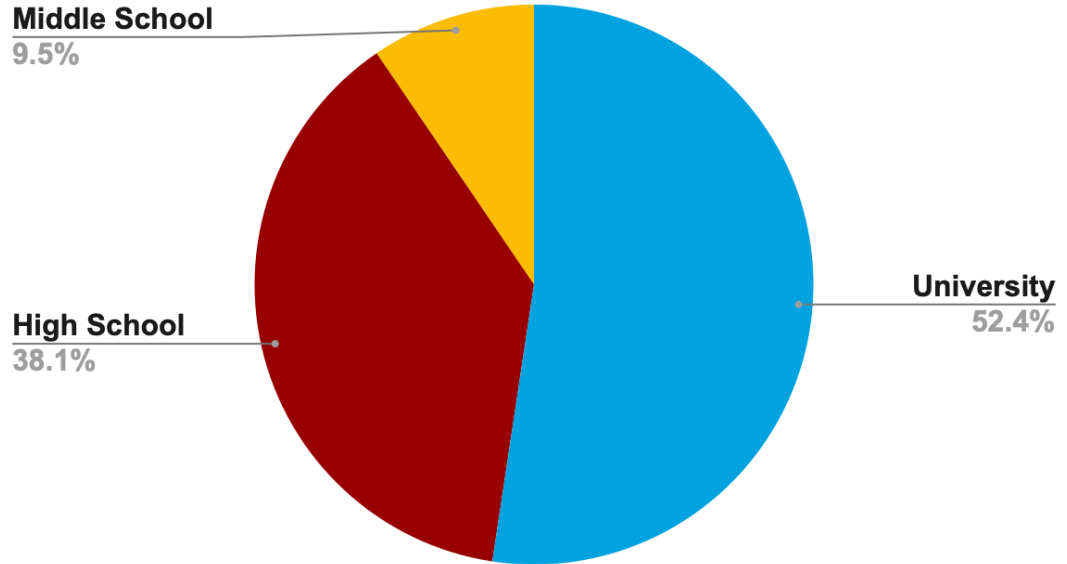
BIOS has been welcoming Education Groups for decades. Our Educational Expeditions program is targeted at 5-14 day trips to our research facility—giving students time to immerse themselves in the island and it's important ecological history.

Educational Expeditions by Age Group

Educational Expeditions are mainly from the United States, with annual groups from the United Kingdom and Canada.

In 2024, we welcomed over 350 students through our Visiting Groups program.

Group Attendance in 2023





The opportunities to not only learn about, but actively participate in research on marine plastics, the removal of invasive plants and the restoration of endemic plants was beyond engaging, it was transformative; providing our students with first-hand experiences that introduced them to importance of biodiversity and to possible career paths.”

– Dr. Martin Connaughton
Washington College



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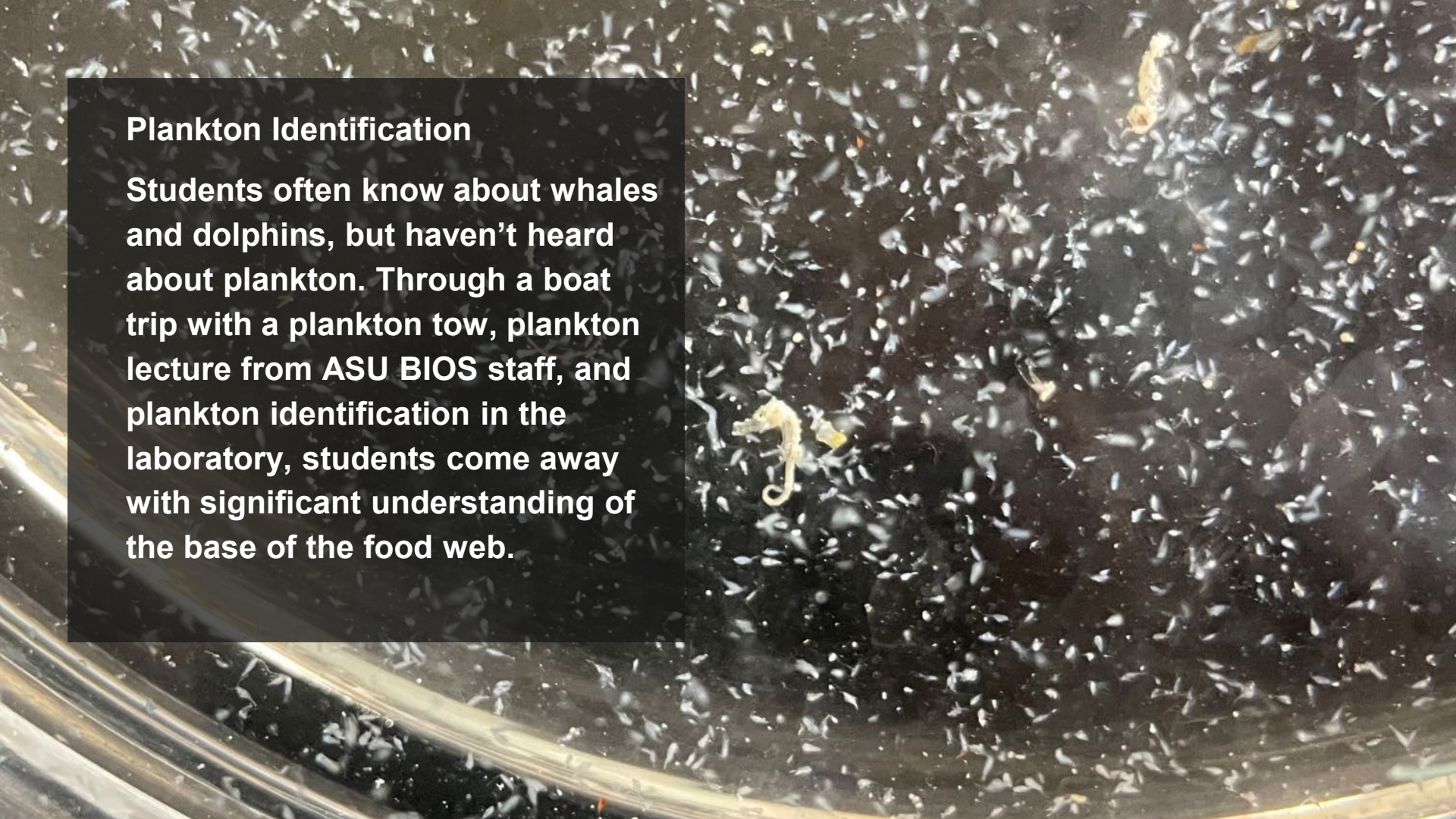
Boat Trips

Our small boats team is available to take students out for plankton tows, coring cruises, and exploring off-shore snorkel sites. All of our boats staff is safety trained and very used to the Bermuda weather!



Plankton Identification

Students often know about whales and dolphins, but haven't heard about plankton. Through a boat trip with a plankton tow, plankton lecture from ASU BIOS staff, and plankton identification in the laboratory, students come away with significant understanding of the base of the food web.



Coral Reef Research

We have a dedicated team of trained professionals to take students snorkeling to see Bermuda's coral reef ecosystem as well as practice hands-on research skills.



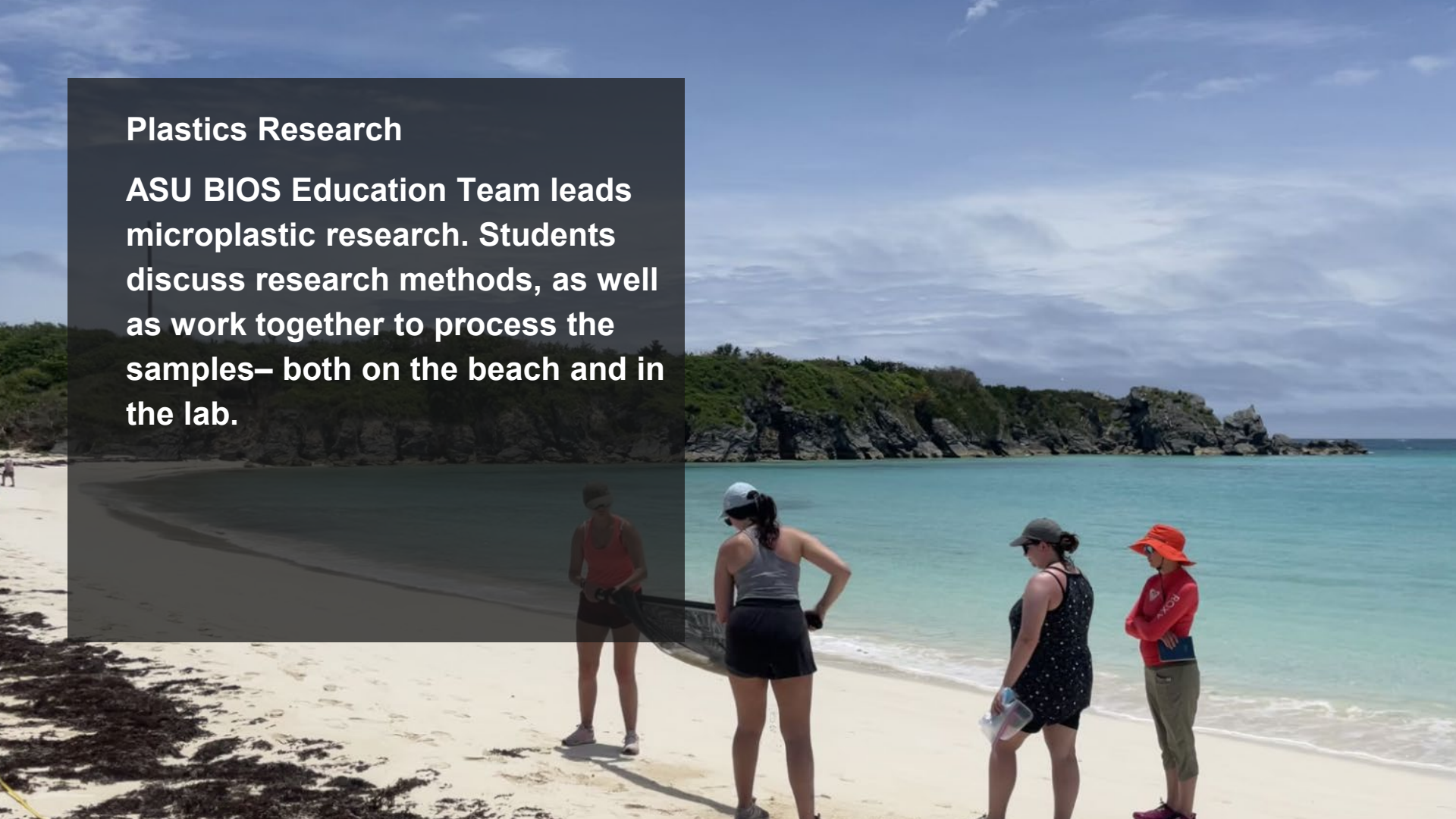
Native and Invasive Species

ASU BIOS Staff give practical examples of endemic, native, introduced, and invasive species that students will identify throughout their time at BIOS.



Plastics Research

ASU BIOS Education Team leads microplastic research. Students discuss research methods, as well as work together to process the samples— both on the beach and in the lab.



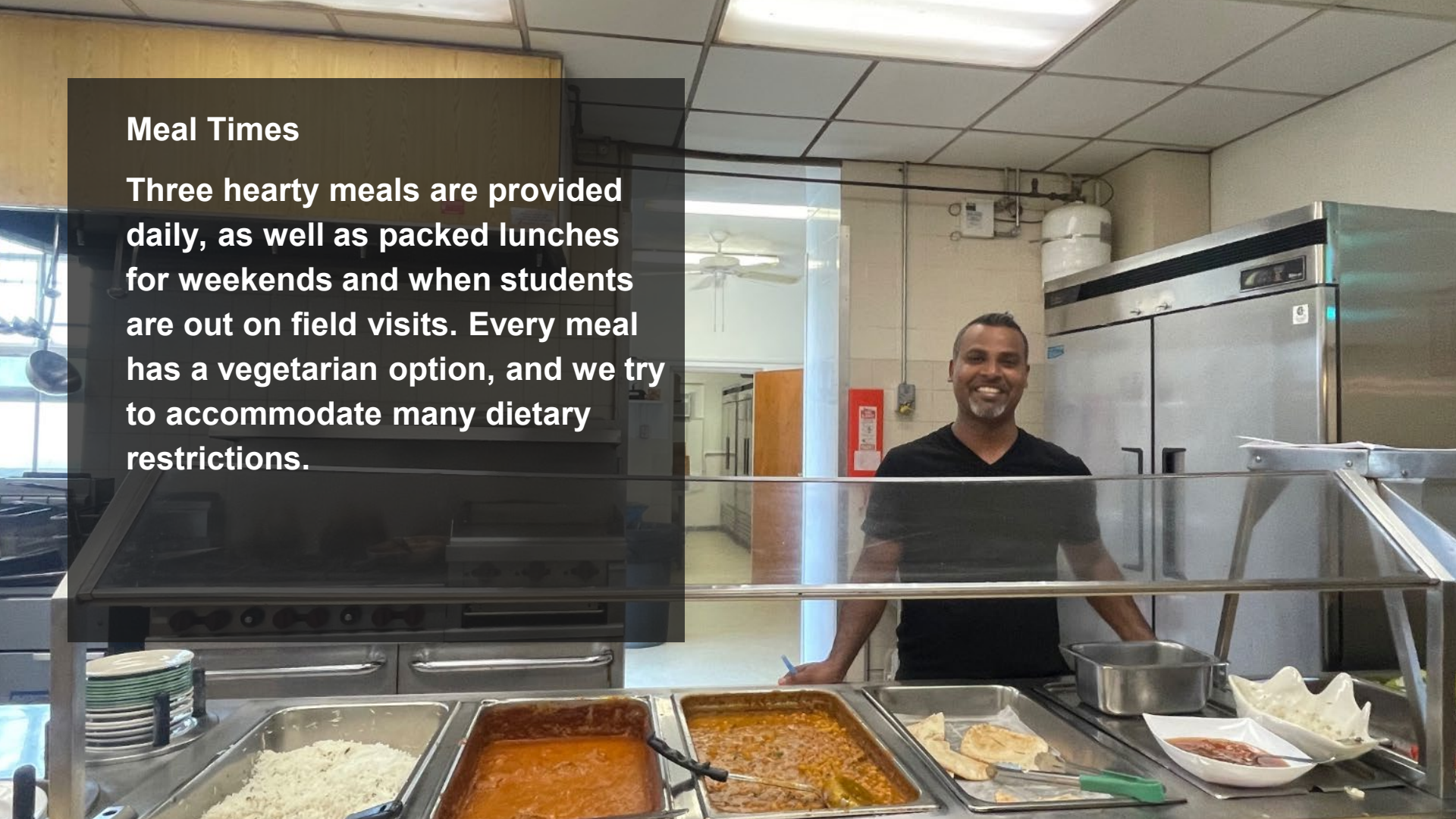
Learn from Experts

Students can tour ASU BIOS laboratories or have guest lectures from BIOS staff who work in the field. All BIOS guest lecturers have experience giving lectures to our high school and college groups—and making them as hands-on and accessible as possible.



Meal Times

Three hearty meals are provided daily, as well as packed lunches for weekends and when students are out on field visits. Every meal has a vegetarian option, and we try to accommodate many dietary restrictions.



Accommodations

Living arrangements at BIOS are comfortable and reasonably priced. We are not a fancy hotel, we are a research institution with easy access to laboratories, classrooms, and swim spots.

