



# UNDERGRADUATE FIELD STUDIES: MARINE INTERTIDAL COMMUNITY ECOLOGY

May 21 – 27, 2017

**W**hy are most barnacles seen high up on the shore? Seems like nothing eats all that seaweed--if it was in my garden it would be covered in bugs! Perhaps these are thoughts had while driving along a shore road and looking at a low tide on a summer day. Or maybe you are a serious student of marine ecology. This seminar gives reason to wonder about how organisms living between the tides on rocky shores, tidal marshes, and mud flats interact. Hands-on experience at spotting species interactions is learned through daytime field trips by boat or boots. Simple laboratory exercises which can be replicated in a classroom explore species interactions. Field and lab experiences are complimented with interactive lectures and discussions on subjects ranging from predation to symbiosis among intertidal species by using examples from field observations whenever possible. While a basic knowledge of ecological principles is helpful, content and concepts are taught at an introductory level so this seminar is perfect for college students, teachers, and novices with some knowledge of marine ecology.



## about the instructor

**Tom Trott** (ttrott@suffolk.edu) is Associate Professor of Biology at Suffolk University where he teaches ecology, biodiversity and conservation biology, and animal behavior. He researches marine community ecology focusing on near shore habitats and linking changes with altered environmental conditions. His protocols have been used to teach citizen scientists how to monitor rocky shores and salt marshes.