

Introduction to The Mojave Desert Tortoise
Online – Friday and Saturday, Oct. 28 & 29, 2022
***Draft Syllabus**

Friday October 28, Day one, 12:00 to 17:00 Pacific Standard Time

Times (minutes)	Topic
12:00 (10)	Instruction on using ZOOM (David Hedrick)
12:10 (15)	Welcome and introduction, course logistics and overview (Dr. Maggie Fusari)
12:25 (10)	Course introductions (Ed LaRue)
12:35 (65)	The Mojave Desert Tortoise: taxonomy, anatomy and physiology, ecological characteristics, habitats and distribution, seasonality, nutrition and feeding, reproduction, behaviors. (Dr. Kristin Berry)
13:40 (10)	Q&A
13:50 (20)	Break
14:10 (35)	Threats to Tortoises (Dr. Michael Tuma)
14:45 (10)	Q&A
14:55 (35)	Field Evaluations of Desert Tortoises for Health and Disease; Effects of Diseases on Populations (Dr. Kristin Berry)
15:30 (10)	Q&A
15:40 (20)	Break
16:00 (40)	Translocations: Issues and Options (Dr. Kristina Drake)
16:40 (30)	Question and Answer panel (Q&A for Kristina Drake and then add Ed LaRue, Dr. Kristin Berry, Dr. Michael Tuma, Dr. Maggie Fusari)
17:00	End of day one

Saturday October 29, Day two, 09:00 – 14:00 Pacific Standard Time

09:00 (15)	Welcome to day two, assure all is working. (Ed LaRue, Dave Hedrick, Maggie Fusari)
09:15 (20)	How to handle the data you take (Dr. Maggie Fusari)
09:35 (45)	Tortoise Field Surveys, Data Collection, and Interpretation (Dr. Alice Karl)
10:20 (10)	Q&A
10:20 (50)	Finding Tortoises and Distinguishing One Type of Sign from Another (Peter Woodman)
11:10(30)	Video on proper tortoise handling (Rachel Woodard)
12:00 (10)	Q&A
12:10 (20)	Break
12:30 (30)	Overview of Regulations & Permitting (Peter Sanzenbacher)
13:00 (10)	Q&A
13:10 (30)	Resource Monitoring on Construction Projects (Ed LaRue)
s	Q&A (Ed LaRue, Dr. Karl, Peter Woodman, Peter Sanzenbacher, Dr. Fusari)
≅14:00	End of class. Reminder of what's next (quiz and field day) (Maggie Fusari)

Sunday – Wednesday (October 30 – November 2): Complete the online quiz to be eligible to attend the field portion of the course.

EITHER Friday November 4 **OR** Saturday November 5: Attend the field workshop in Ridgecrest CA.

Complete an online evaluation of the course. Participants will receive certification of attendance by snail mail by mid-December after everything has been completed and **if we have correct addresses**.

***Schedule is subject to change as needed by circumstances.**

See our website for details about our symposium, memberships, etc.: <https://deserttortoise.org/>

Email intro-course@deserttortoise.org with issues or questions.

Participants have received a list of speakers with contact information, suggested references, and a handout listing the agencies that oversee aspects of desert tortoise work in the field.