

Science Café

at Thomas University



COVID-19 and other Infectious Diseases: Where do we stand?

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2020

6:30 p.m.

**This Science Café
will be held live via Zoom.**

**Please email
apenton@thomasu.edu
to receive the event link.**

Dr. Thomas Manning is a Professor of Chemistry at Valdosta State University. He and his group of undergraduate researchers are working on a COVID-19 treatment. The



group has already developed new cancer drugs and an antibiotic that have entered pre-clinical trials. The researchers also developed a synthesis of an Alzheimer's drug. Because VSU is primarily an undergraduate institution, the group developed novel methods that emphasize the economics of production.

In this presentation, Dr. Manning will talk about infectious diseases in general and more specifically about COVID-19. For example, did you know that right now there are approximately 2.3 billion people on the planet who have tuberculosis? Approximately 2 million people will die this year from the bacterial infection? That one sneeze from a TB patient can infect up to 40 people? Did you know that many of the antibiotics that have been used for decades are losing their strength due to antibiotic resistance? New forms of TB that are drug resistant, multidrug resistant, extensively drug resistant and totally drug resistant are becoming bigger problems globally? Did you know that coinfections with HIV, malaria and cervical cancer caused by HPV are also becoming more prominent?

Dr. Manning holds a bachelor's degree from the College of Charleston along with a master's degree and doctorate from the University of Florida.

Contact: April D. Penton, apenton@thomasu.edu

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Fall 2020

Tuesday, Oct. 27

“Ancient Climate Change:
The Connection Between
Marine Deoxygenation
and Extinction Events”

Dr. Jeremy Owens,
Department of Earth,
Ocean and Atmospheric
Science at Florida State
University



Tuesday, Nov. 17

“Climate Change and
Hurricanes”

Dr. Allison Wing,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Earth,
Ocean and Atmospheric
Science at Florida State
University



Spring 2021

Tuesday, Jan. 26

“Life Abounds On
The Seafloor, From
Beaches to the
Deepest Ocean:
What Are They, What
Do They Do, and
Why Are They The
Most Diverse and Abundant Group of Organisms
on Planet Earth?”

Dr. Jeroen Ingles, Marine Ecologist, Florida
State University



Tuesday, Feb. 23

“The Mars Rover Has
Landed!”

Susan Borland,
Education Manager,
Challenger Learning Center,
Tallahassee



Tuesday, March 30

“Blue Carbon: Exploring
the Importance of
Wetlands in the Coastal
Carbon Cycle”

Dr. Josh Breithaupt,
Assistant Research
Faculty Member, Coastal and Marine Laboratory at
Florida State University

