

THE 2009 GREATER YELLOWSTONE ECOSYSTEM

EARN COLLEGE CREDITS IN A MAJESTIC "CLASSROOM"
(AND LOSE 10 POUNDS IN THE PROCESS!)

"The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem" is a field course conducted in Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Your instructors, Dan Sourbeer and Carey Carpenter, have been visiting the ecosystem annually for 30 years. Days are spent hiking, canoeing, and rafting to observe as much wildlife and learn as much about the ecosystem as possible.

TENTATIVE 2009 AGENDA

June 16	Meet In Colter Bay; Get Oriented and Discuss Plans For Next Day.
June 17	Granite Canyon Hike.
June 18	Dawn Snake River Float; String Lake Canoeing, U Wyoming Research Station.
June 19	Canoe Ox Bow Bend or Leigh Lake.
June 20	Cascade Canyon Hike.
June 21	Move To Canyon Cabins In Yellowstone; Wildlife Spotting In PM.
June 22	Lamar Valley AM; Slough Creek Hike; Barronette Peak Wildlife Spotting.
June 23	Hike Pelican Valley; Hayden Valley.
June 24	Mt. Washburn Hike; Wildlife Spotting.
June 25	Canyon Hikes; Trout Lake.

COST Participants have two options—tent camping or staying in cabins. The course fee for tent camping is \$160.00 per person (two persons per campsite). The cabins have two beds a private bath; and linens and towels are provided. The course fee based on two students per cabin is \$640.00 per person. If more than two students wish to share a cabin, the per-student cost decreases, but someone may be sleeping on the floor. The course fee based on three students per cabin is \$490.00 per person, and for four students per cabin the fee is \$380.00 per person. The fees cover accommodations, and some costs related to rafting, canoeing, and instructor expenses. The course fee does not cover transportation costs or meals. Students must also pay the per unit registration fee.

TRANSPORTATION, MEALS, AND LAUNDRY Participants typically form carpools for the journey to Wyoming, and gather at a campsite or picnic area to cook their meals on camp stoves to reduce costs. The two on-campus meetings are excellent opportunities to meet other students and make travel/cooking arrangements. There are grocery stores, and restaurants at convenient locations within both parks, as are laundry and shower facilities (for the campers).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities vary with the course taken, but all students are asked to research a topic of interest to them related to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and do a short paper on the subject. During the course, each student will give a brief “campfire chat” (5-10 minutes) on their topic to the rest of the class. Students are also asked to keep a “Naturalist’s Journal” of their observations, activities, campfire chats, and wildlife observed.

ON-CAMPUS MEETINGS

We will have two pre-class meetings: April 18 at 9:30AM, and May 16 at 9:30AM in room NS-137 at the main campus in San Marcos. Attendance is extremely important.

PHYSICAL CONDITIONING

Hikes are typically between six and 12 miles (round trip) at altitudes above 7,000 feet. We stop frequently, however, to observe, record, and discuss a variety of phenomena. We typically start early in the morning and finish in the mid to late afternoon. We will also be canoeing two days, and rafting one day. If you are uncomfortable with any activity you may choose to do something else.

REGISTRATION

All participants must register in one of the courses listed below, and registration must be approved by the instructor. A deposit on the course fee holds a place in the class for you. Everyone will be doing the same activities, but each student may emphasize specific interests or meet different requirements based on the course in which they enroll (and the quantity and quality of work that they do). Participants may enroll in any one of the following courses.

Biology 195 or Zoology 195 (3 units) – These courses are transferable elective credit courses, but they will not satisfy the Natural Science laboratory requirement for UC/CSU. Academic rigor: low.

Biology 45 (3 units) – This course is designed for children under 15 years of age. A parent or legal guardian who is also enrolled in Biology 195, Zoology 195, Biology 114L, or Biology 295 must accompany the child. Academic rigor: low.

Biology 114L (2 units) – This class will satisfy the Natural Science laboratory requirement for UC/CSU. To take this course you must have completed Biology 114, Biology 101, or some other approved Biology, Zoology, or Botany course. Academic rigor: high.

Biology 295 (2 units) – This class will satisfy the Natural Science laboratory requirement for UC/CSU. To enroll in Biology 295 you must have completed a course in the Life Sciences Department and will need the permission of one of the instructors. Academic rigor: high.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER FOR THE CLASS

Contact Dan Sourbeer at (760) 744 -1150, extension 2775, or email dsourbeer@palomar.edu. **SPACE IS LIMITED!**