

Natural History of Place: Salish Sea
Course Syllabus: BIOL 104 FYE
 Fall 2007

Instructor: Emma S. Norman

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Office Hours: Mon., 9:00-12:00, Wed. 9:00 –12:00, Thursday 12-1, and by appointment

Meeting Time:

Tuesday, Thursday (9:30 – 11:50)* , Cultural Arts Center (CAC)

*To be taken simultaneously with NASD 110 (Monday, Wednesday 9:30 – 11:50)

Course Description:

An exploration of local ecosystems viewed from the perspective of a natural resource with cultural significance. Themes may include: salmon, water, or cedar. Students will view the complex nature of environmental problems from disciplines such as: marine and terrestrial biology, forest ecology, water, geology, economics and policy.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will be able to identify major ecological and biological concepts through place-based learning.
2. Students will understand the complexities of natural and cultural resources.
3. Students will link major biological themes with essential questions – such as importance of salmon, cedar, or water.

Required Text:

Kruckeberg, A.R. *The Natural History of Puget Sound Country*, University of Washington Press. 1991.

Evaluation:

Summary Papers	30%
Midterm	25%
Final Project	20%
Final Exam	25%

A = 93-100	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66
A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	D - = 60-62
B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69	F = below 60

Lab Requirement / Field Excursions: There are six scheduled field excursions to supplement the course material. The field requirement is mandatory – attendance will be considered as part of your final grade. Please plan accordingly.

Summary Papers: A typed one-page (single spaced) or two-page (double spaced) is due every week. The paper should reflect the topics that you were exposed to throughout the week, through your readings, classroom or field experience. The paper is a way to reinforce the new educational materials as well as continue to develop your writing skills. All papers should include complete sentences and follow standard rules of grammar. Your paper will be graded both on content for a total of 10 points per paper.

Midterm / Final: The midterm and final exam will be comprehensive. The exams will be short answer, multiple choice and essay. The exams are closed – book. Students are encouraged to meet as study groups to prepare for the exam.

Service Learning / Research Component

Each student will participate in a service-learning project. This year, we will coordinate a science fair for the Lummi Head Start class. We will apply the material learned in this course to a science project. Working alone or in small groups (up to three), you have the opportunity to apply the material learned in this course to design a science educational display. We will work with community members in the natural resource field and childhood educators to find out how to present the material that we learn to age-appropriate manner. Your plan will need to be approved by the instructor three weeks before the event.

What is Service-Learning?

Service learning is curriculum-based volunteer work that serves the greater community as well as reinforces the course material.

The combination of volunteer work with your community service and classroom instruction, with a focus on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility.

Participation and Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory and will be calculated in the final grade.

Fall 2007 FYE Weekly Schedule

Schedule subject to change

Date	What	Assignments
Week 1	Introduction to Land	
T Sept 18	Intro to course, Place Based Learning	
Th Sept 20	Topic - Landforms of PSB	
Week 2	Landforms of Puget Sound Basin	Read: Chapter 1
T Sept 25	Topic - Landforms of PSB	
Th Sept 27	<i>Field Trip 1: Larrabee Park & Chuckanut Stream</i>	Journal 1 Due
Week 3	<i>Climate and Weather</i>	Read Chapter 2, 3
T Oct 2	Topic - Climate & Weather and Service Learning Introduction	
Th Oct 4	Topic – Inland Sea	Journal 2 Due
Fr Oct 5	<i>Field Trip 2: Fish Hatchery</i>	
Week 4	Marine Life in Puget Sound	Read Chapter 4
T Oct 9	Topic – Inland Sea	
Th Oct 11	Topic – Marine Life	Journal 3 Due
Week 5	Life on Land: Lowland Forests	Read Chapter 5
T Oct 16	Presentation: Riparian Habitat (NSEA) Topic - Lowland Forests	
Th Oct 18	<i>FT 3 Schell Creek Water Quality</i>	Journal 4 Due
F Oct 19	<i>FT 4 Restoration Project Schell Creek</i>	
Week 6	Lowland Forests	Read Chapter 6
T Oct 23	Lowland Forests, Midterm Review	
Th Oct 25	MIDTERM	Journal 5 Due
Week 7	Upland Ecology, Lakes, Prairies	Read Chapter 7
T Oct 30	Topic – Upland Ecology	
Th Nov 1	Topic – Upland Ecology	Journal 6 Due
Fr Nov 2	<i>FT 5 Marietta and Kwina Slough</i>	
Week 8	Lakes, Prairies, and Other Nonforested Lowland Habitats	Read Chapter 8
T Nov 6	Topic – Lakes, Prairies	
Th Nov 8	Topic – Lakes, Prairies	Journal 7 Due
Week 9	Montane Nature History of PSB	Read Chapter 9
T Nov 13	Topic – Montane Natural History	
Th Nov 15	Topic – Montane Natural History	Journal 8 Due
Week 10	<i>Water and Quality of Life</i>	
T Nov 20	Topic – Water Quality	Journal 9 Due
Th Nov 22	<i>Holiday Break</i>	
Week 11	Water Quality, cont. Service Project	Read Chapter, 10 11
T Nov 27	Topic – Water Quality	
Th Nov 29	Science Fair – Lummi Head Start	Journal 10 Due
Week 12	COURSE WRAP UP	
T Dec 5	FINAL EXAM	

FIELD WORK / EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION

FT	Location	Theme	Date / Time
1	Larrabee Park & Chuckanut Stream	Natural Landforms and Healthy Ecosystems	Th. Sept 27 9:30 – 12:30
2	Sandy Point Fish Hatchery	Marine Habitat	Fr. Oct 5 11:00 – 1:00
3	Schell Creek, Imhof Road	Healthy Riparian Habitat & Water Quality Testing (with NSEA)	Th. Oct 18 9:30 – 12:30
4	Schell Creek, Imhof Road	Habitat Restoration Project (with NSEA)	Fr. Oct 19 9:30 – 12:00
5	Marietta and Kwina Slough	Lowland Habitats, Restoration Projects	Fr Nov 2 10:00 – 12:00
6	Science Fair with Lummi Head Start	Capstone Project	Th. Nov 29 9:30 – 11:50

Grading Checklist

Journals

30% (10 pts each journal)

- 1. Sept 27 _____
- 2. Oct 4 _____
- 4. Oct 11 _____
- 3. Oct 18 _____
- 5. Oct 25 _____
- 6. Nov 1 _____
- 7. Nov 8 _____
- 8. Nov 15 _____
- 9. Nov 20 _____
- 10. Nov 29 _____

Total _____

Exams

25% each

- Oct 23: Midterm _____
- Dec 5: Final _____

Final Project

25% total

- Oct. 16: Topic Proposal Due
- Nov. 15: 2nd Draft Proposal Due
- Nov 29: Science Fair _____