

Certified California Naturalist Training Program Syllabus, 10-Week Course



Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Region

Instructor Team and Contact information:

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Websites and Links:

- Tuleyome Website: http://tuleyome.org/projects/calnat/
- Tuleyome's CalNat Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/TuleyomeNat/
- Tuleyome's iNaturalist Project: http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/tuleyome-s-species-identification-portal
- UC CalNat Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/CANaturalist/?fref=ts
- UC CalNat Website: http://calnat.ucanr.edu/
- UC CalNat Volunteer Portal: https://ucanr.edu/portal/login/universallogin.cfm?appname=vms

Textbooks:

- California Naturalist Handbook (Required), ISBN: 9780520274808, http://www.ucpress.edu/book.php?isbn=9780520274808
- A Species Guide for the Berryessa Snow Mountain Region (not required), 9781312746398, http://www.lulu.com/shop/compiled-by-mary-k-han-son-for-tuleyome/a-species-guide-for-the-berryessa-snow-mountain-region/paperback/product-22303444.html

Location:

Woodland Public Library, 250 First Street, Woodland, CA 95695
Parking is in the rear of the facility on the far RIGHT side (as you enter the parking lot). Do not park in the "2-hour" spaces.

Time of Classes:

Fridays, 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm (every Friday from February 2, 2018 through April 6, 2018). See pages 5 through 9 for more information.

Field Trips: Three different Saturdays, approximately 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. See pages 5 through 9 for details





Course Description:

This California Naturalist class will introduce you to the wonders of the bio diversity unique ecology of our region, and engage you in the stewardship of California natural communities. The course will utilize a combination of science curriculum, guest lecturers, species-identification modules, field trips and project-based learning to immerse you in the landscapes of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument region.

UC Naturalist Program Goals:

This course is provided in partnership with the University of California, and its goals are to:

- Foster a committed corps of volunteer naturalists and citizen scientists trained and ready to take an active role in natural resource conservation, education and restoration;
- Provide training, in collaboration with local partnering institutions, for adult environmental stewards through adaptable outdoor and in-class curriculum that can be easily applied in a variety of settings;
- Engage adults in interactive learning that provides them with scientific literacy and critical thinking skills including:
 - Science-based curriculum
 - Hands-on learning
 - Communication training
 - Community service

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, participants should be able to:

- Understand what it means to be a naturalist
- Integrate knowledge about the interconnectedness of the ecosystems, watersheds, geology, biology, natural and cultural history, and climate change on the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument region
- Demonstrate skills in making and recording observations in a naturalist's field notebook
- Correctly identify common plant and animal species in the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument region
- Maintain a working vocabulary of terms most often used by naturalists

Course Components:

Participants are expected to actively engage in every component of this course. Our coursework will include the following:

- Class and Readings: Our course will consist of 10 four-hour classes and three field trips. Some of the classes
 may be shortened at the teaching team's discretion, but all students should expect to be in the class for four
 hours. (See the Course Outline for more detailed information about dates and times.) All but the first and last
 class will consist of:
 - Teaching based on required reading, including a "vocabulary module" during which we will focus on the vocabulary used in the chapter reading for the week and test the students for proficiency





- A lecture by a guest speaker
- o A "species identification module" during which we will go over various common species found in the region and test the students for proficiency
- Field Trips: We will be offering a variety of field trips that will be held outside of the classroom and will usually take an entire day. Generally speaking, field trips will take place on a weekend. (See the Course Outline for more detailed information about dates and times.) Since the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument covers seven counties and over 100 miles of varying landscapes, the drives to/from locations for these field trips may be extensive.
 - We will be offering three (3) field trips during this course. Participants may miss one field trip, but if a
 field trip is missed arrangements must be made with the instructor / coordinator for an alternative
 exercise that will count toward the course study.
 - Meeting places will be arranged for each field trip.
 - Students are expected to arrange for their own meals, water and carpooling (if necessary) for these trips.
 - Tuleyome will supply things like digital cameras, binoculars, birding scopes, hand lenses, and other such equipment as needed.
- **Field Notebooks:** Participants are required to purchase, keep, and maintain a notebook in which they record their observations in the field. A field notebook is one of the best ways of fostering learning and getting to know an area intimately. We will be periodically sharing our notebooks throughout the course, so all students are expected to keep adding to and maintaining their notebooks throughout the length of the course.
 - Field notebooks can be as simple or as elaborate as the student wants to make them. They can be anything from a simple wire-bound notebook, to an artist's sketchbook or a hardbound journal.
 - Students may also take notes in the field and then translate the notes, drawings and photos they take into a digital field notebook (that would then be printed out and shared with the class.)
- **iNaturalist:** Participants will learn how to use the iNaturalist app (for cellphones and/or PCs), and will be expected to add **at least five (5) observations** into the Tuleyome project during the course of the class. Tuleyome's iNaturalist group page is located at:
 - o https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/tuleyome-species-identification.
- Nature Table: Tuleyome will be providing space for a "nature table" onto which, each week, the instructors, coordinators and students will share photos, field journals, or simple specimens of the flora and fauna in the region. The nature table's purpose is to help provide some indoor hands-on learning opportunities. More information about what will be accepted for the table will be discussed during the first class.
- Capstone Project: As a requirement of this course, students will complete a volunteer service project with some sort of "deliverable" that will act as a kind of bridge between what was learned in class and what can be implemented outside of class. Students can work by themselves or in teams (of no more than 3 people) for this project, and will present their deliverable to the class on the last day of the course. Tuleyome will provide students with a list of possible subjects for your capstone project or you can come up with one yourself. All capstones must fit under at least one of the following categories:
 - Stewardship
 - Education / Interpretation





- Citizen Science
- o Program Support
- Volunteering: Participants are encouraged to complete at least forty (40) hours of volunteer service each year in order to maintain their certification. Pins are awarded each year for participants who meet this goal, and the pins differ from year to year.
 - Volunteer activities need to relate to California's natural or environmental history, occur in California, be sponsored by an organization, and be UNPAID.
 - Your 8-hour capstone project will count toward your first year's volunteer hours.
 - You will log these hours into the UC Volunteer Portal at:
 - https://ucanr.edu/portal/login/universallogin.cfm?appname=vms.
 - Wait for the portal to be set up for you.
 - You will be provided with a user name and password after the start of the coursework.
 - o As with the capstone, all volunteer hours must fit under at least one of the following categories:
 - Stewardship
 - Education / Interpretation
 - Citizen Science
 - Program Support

Attendance:

Participants must complete a minimum of **forty (40) hours of instruction** during the course. Only **one (1) class session can be missed**, and make-up work assigned by the instructor / coordinator must be completed before the next class on the participant's own time. As mentioned previously, we will be offering **three (3) field trips** during this course. Participants **may miss one (1) field trip**, but if a field trip is missed arrangements must be made with the instructor / coordinator for an alternative exercise that will count toward the course study. Our instruction modules are set up so if the student completes all of the indoor classwork and all of the field trips, the student will accumulate 50+ hours of training; more than is mandated by the university's program.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned each week and will generally consist of reading the required chapters in the textbook, journal entries, and/or iNaturalist entries.

Tests:

To help the instructors gauge the learning retention of the students, a test may be given each week on the vocabulary / species identification discussed during the previous week. Tests may be written or verbal, or include a hands-on activity. Students who miss a class (and thereby misses the test given that day) are required to complete an alternative assignment provided by the instructors. **The final exam will be given on Week 9** (but it will be fun. We promise.)





COURSE OUTLINE

Location of Classes: Woodland Public Library, 250 First Street, Woodland, CA 95695

Time of Classes: 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Week #	Date	Course Topic / Speakers	Homework Assignments
1	Friday, February 2, 2018	 Introduction to California's Natural Resources and the California Naturalist Program Orientation, course overview, paperwork completion Explanation of the "nature table" Guest Speaker(s): Sara Husby (Tuleyome), Brooke Gamble (CalNat)? 	 Purchase a field journal and make at least 1 entry Read Chapter 8: "Interpretation, Collaboration and Citizen Science" in the text book
2	Friday, February 9, 2018	 Interpretation, Collaboration & Citizen Science Field Journaling Using iNaturalist Capstone Project Guest Speaker: Petrea Marchand, Yolo Habitat Conservancy Species Identification 	 Make at least 1 entry in your field journal Install iNaturalist on your phone and/or PC Make at least 1 entry into iNaturalist Read Chapter 2: "Geology, Climate and Soils" in the textbook
	Saturday, February 10, 2018	Field Trip #1 Location: Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Meeting Place: We will meet in the parking lot kitty-corner from the Tuleyome office and will caravan to the refuge from there. The Tuleyome office is located at 607 North Street, Woodland, CA 95695, on the corner of First and North Streets. We will be parking in the lot behind be the Woodland Library This field trip is going to take up the majority of the day, do not plan other appointments or outings for this date. This particular trip is meant to get you excited about the local animal species and teach you a little bit about wetlands management in the region. The	 Dress appropriately for the weather. Wear closed-toed shoes (as sandals and open-toed shoes are not allow on any of Tuleyome's outings). If you're driving, make sure you have a full tank of gas Bring snacks, a lunch, and water Bring a camera Bring binoculars if you have them





Week #	Date	Course Topic / Speakers	Homework Assignments
		Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge hugs the border between Glenn and Colusa Counties and is adjacent to the far north end of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. It is home to hundreds of species of birds, mammals, insects, and plants. There are restrooms at the nature center, and a composting toilet mid-way through the autotour route. We will be taking the auto-tour around the refuge which is slow-paced drive at around 2-to 4-miles per hour. If there is time afterwards, we will walk the Wetlands Trail (which is level and well-marked) or we can drive over to the Colusa National Wildlife Refuge and look at species there as well. ONLY SEVERE WEATHER / ROAD CLOSURES WILL CANCEL	 Your field notebook Your favorite birding field guide \$6 for the day-use fee (per vehicle)
3	Friday, February 16, 2018	 Geology, Climate and Soils Vocabulary Guest Speaker: TBA Species Identification 	 Select a capstone project and fill out capstone project form Make at least 1 entry in your field journal Make at least 1 entry into iNaturalist Read Chapter 3: "Water" in the textbook
4	Friday, February 23, 2018	 Water Vocabulary Guest Speaker: Putah Creek Council Species Identification 	 Make at least 1 entry in your field journal Make at least 1 entry into iNaturalist Read Chapter 4: "Plants"
5	Friday, March 2, 2018	 Plants Vocabulary Guest Speaker: Christina Lewis, SacValley CNPS Species Identification 	 Make at least 1 entry in your field journal Make at least 1 entry into iNaturalist Read Chapter 5: "Forest, Woodland and Range Resources and Management"
	Saturday, March 3, 2018	Field Trip #2 Location: Lake Solano Park Meeting Place: We will meet in the back parking lot of the Woodland Public Library.	





Week #	Date	Course Topic / Speakers	Homework Assignments
		This field trip is going to take up the majority of the day, do not plan other appointments or outings for this date. This trip will take to one of the gateway cities of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. Lake Solano was created by damming a portion of Putah Creek. Here we will see a mini-version of a riparian habitat, see how a park is situated and maintained inside a rural area, and get a look at some of the plant species in the region. There are restroom facilities in the park. If there is time, we will also head up to the Monticello Dam and Lake Berryessa. ONLY SEVERE WEATHER / ROAD CLOSURES WILL CANCEL	 Dress appropriately for the weather. Wear closed-toed shoes (as sandals and open-toed shoes are not allow on any of Tuleyome's outings). If you're driving, make sure you have a full tank of gas Bring snacks, a lunch, and water Bring a camera Bring binoculars if you have them Your field notebook Your favorite birding field guide \$6 for the day-use fee (per vehicle)
6	Friday, March 9, 2018	 Forest, Woodland and Range Resources and Management Vocabulary Guest Speaker: Sarah Matthews, Bureau of Land Management Species Identification 	 Make at least 1 entry in your field journal Make at least 1 entry into iNaturalist Read Chapter 6: "Animals"
7	Friday, March 16, 2018	 Animals (Part 1) Vocabulary Guest Speaker: TBA Species Identification 	 Make at least 1 entry in your field journal Make at least 1 entry into iNaturalist Read Chapter 7: "Energy and Global Environmental Issues"
8	Friday, March 23, 2018	 Animals (part 2) and Energy and Global Environmental Issues Vocabulary Guest Speaker: Stephen McCord, Mercury Mine Remediation Species Identification 	 Make at least 1 entry in your field journal Make at least 1 entry into iNaturalist





Week #	Date	Course Topic / Speakers	Homework Assignments
	Saturday, March 24, 2018	Field Trip #3 Location: Wildflower Tour (Highway 16 and 20, Bear Creek Road) Meeting Place: We will meet in the back parking lot of the Woodland Public Library. This field trip is going to take up the majority of the day, do not plan other appointments or outings for this date. This will be a driving tour along Highways 16 and 20 (and possibly Bear Creek Road). The trip will take you into parts of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. We will be driving to different locations and then getting out of the vehicles to get acquainted not only with the wildflowers in the region, but also with some of the trailheads that lead deep into the national monument. There are no restroom facilities along the route (unless we go over to Cowboy Camp) so plan accordingly. ONLY SEVERE WEATHER / ROAD CLOSURES WILL CANCEL	 Dress appropriately for the weather. Wear closed-toed shoes (as sandals and open-toed shoes are not allow on any of Tuleyome's outings). If you're driving, make sure you have a full tank of gas Bring snacks, a lunch, and water Bring a camera Your field notebook Your favorite wildflower guide
9	Friday, March 30, 2018	 Final Exam Field Journal grading Guest Speaker: Kelli Moulden of Hawks, Honkers and Hoots Species Identification 	 Finish up your capstone project and be ready to present it next week! Bring something for the potluck
10	Friday, April 6, 2018	 Graduation! Capstone Projects Potluck 	None, yay!