

A SEMESTER AT THE OREGON EXTENSION

(Specific textbooks identified here are illustrative. Actual required texts are decided closer to the semester.)

Summer reading: David Duncan, *The River Why*

SEGMENT ONE: WHAT IS NATURE?

4 CREDITS

Themes:

- natural history of the Klamath-Siskiyou region
- developments & shifts in American resource extraction, environmental & preservation history
- local debates between preservationists and conservationists
- ethical and philosophical questions driving “green” cultural attitudes

Books:

David R. Wallace, *The Klamath Knot*
Barbara Kingsolver, *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*
William Cronon, *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*
Wendell Berry, *The Unsettling of America: Culture and Agriculture*
Julie Guthman, *Weighing In: Obesity, Food Justice, and the Limits of Capitalism*

Sustainability Chore Tracks (daily):

gardening and food preservation
animal husbandry

Assignments:

small group discussion
book notes

Practices:

peak climb (Mt. McLoughlin)
overnight tour of regional green farming
recycling
apple picking and cider pressing
fly fishing workshop
map & compass orienteering and knots instruction
Friday chores

BACKPACKING TRIP

6 days in the backcountry

SEGMENT TWO: WHAT IS COMMUNITY?

3 CREDITS

Themes:

- Rene Girard's theory of mimetic desire and scapegoating
- case study of current social flashpoint: e.g., immigration, US incarceration, Arab uprisings

Books:

René Girard, *I See Satan Fall Like Lightning*
additional texts covering selected flashpoint

Sustainability Chore Tracks (daily)

gardening & food/animal husbandry

Assignments:

book notes on all readings
two one-page papers
independent research & 15pp paper

Practices:

Shakespeare play
canning workshop
cheese making workshop
Friday chores

OREGON COAST TRIP

Redwoods, camping in yurts, tidepooling

SEGMENT THREE: WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE WORLD?

3 CREDITS

Themes:

- what is tacit knowledge?
- the sustainability spectrum: from institutional policies and macro-economics to personal lifestyle choices

Books:

Matthew Crawford, *Shop Class as Soul Craft*
Elizabeth Royte, *Garbage Land: On the Secret Trail of Trash*

Skill Tracks (each student chooses one):

- sustainable business (Business)
- nature writing (Lit)
- toolcraft (ENVS)
- forest management (Science Lab)
- independent research & 15pp paper

Sustainability Chore Tracks (daily)

gardening & food/animal husbandry

Practices:

track specific practices
Saturday cooking class
bread baking workshop
Friday chores

Assignments:

book notes
track specific assignments

SAN FRANCISCO TRIP

4 days in the city

SEGMENT FOUR: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN?

3 CREDITS

Themes:

- fictional characters and the authorship of a life
- the place of suffering in human life
- the material world understood as symbol and sacrament

Books:

Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*

Assignments:

daily small group discussion
two one-page papers
independent research culminating in teaching
a one hour class on the research topic

Practices:

cross-country skiing
Thanksgiving dinner
Turkey harvest
Friday chores

RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION

3 CREDITS

Semester-long course concurrent with all four segments aimed at improving students' skills in reasoning, argument, and clear communication, both in writing and oral presentation. Writing workshops. One-on-one interaction and feedback are provided to students on both the process and final product of their assignments.

WILDERNESS RECREATION

1 CREDIT

Practices:

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|--------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| • peak climb | • backpacking | • mountain biking | • hiking |
| • camping | • tidepooling | • cross-country skiing | • river rafting |

Books:

Rick Curtis, *The Backpacker's Field Manual*