Learn in a spectacular and historic setting: The UC Field Station at Miami Whitewater Forest!

UC Center for Field Studies
Summer Courses

McMicken
College of Arts & Sciences

The University of Cincinnati has created a curriculum for outdoor learning this summer at the Center for Field Studies. Experience hands-on learning through courses that focus on geological processes, human prehistory and modern ecological methods centered at the UC Center for Field Studies in Miami Whitewater Forest.

Field Geology of Cincinnati (Geol 1018C)
Credits: 3.00
Undergraduate credit
May 12 to May 30, T, TH 6:30-8:30 PM, SAT 8 AM - 4 PM
Students will explore and discover first-hand through field trips and field-based exercises our landscape and geologic history, as well as our local geologic hazards of landslides, hillside mass movement, and flooding. The region’s limestone and shale bedrock and its world-renowned fossils will be examined, collected, and described; evidence of the tri-state region’s glacial history will be explored; and modern stream processes will be surveyed and sediments analyzed. The goal of this field-based course is to understand how our landscape formed/ its inherent hazards, and the geologic foundation upon which it is built. Dr. Craig Dietsch is the instructor.

Wildflowers of Ohio (Biol 1009C)
Credits: 3.00
Undergraduate credit
May 12 to 30, T, TH 10 AM to 1:30 PM, SAT 9 AM to 4 PM
For the non-biology major, this course provides an introduction to the diversity of the families of flowering plants, with an emphasis on plants growing wild in the Ohio/Indiana area. Students will learn the plant anatomy and terminology involved in the acquisition of plant identification skills and will learn about the ecology of plants encountered on field trips. The course will be based at the UC Center for Field Studies at Miami Whitewater Forest during May (a great time for spring wildflowers!). Other locations such as Shawnee Lookout, Fernald Preserve, and the Oxbow Area will also be visited. Dr. Denis Conover is the instructor.

Environmental Field Techniques (Biol 3011C)
Credits: 4.00
Undergraduate or Graduate credit
June 2 to July 3, T, TH 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
This course integrates concepts of biology, conservation, sustainability, and human ecology. Students will work with scientists and their research projects to execute the projects at field sites using a variety of scientific techniques. Several ecosystems will serve as areas of focus for the class. During the term, groups will present their project results at various stages in their development for peer evaluation and feedback. Articles from the primary literature will be read and discussed in class sessions with students as discussion leaders. Dr. Kim Thompson is the instructor.

Surviving Climate Change (Anth 4039)
Credits: 6.00
Undergraduate or Graduate credit, there are no prerequisites
June 2 to July 3, M, W, F 8 AM - 2 PM
The course will be conducted at Big Bone Lick State Park and the University Cincinnati Center for Field Studies. The purpose of the course is to provide a hands-on, learn-by-doing, instruction of archaeological field methods including site survey (transit and GPS), drill core analysis, geophysics, and excavation. Scientifically, the objective of this study is to collect data that can be used to answer questions about past human adaptation to climate change. Dr. Kenneth Tankersley is the instructor.

Experience Learning in Biological Research (1 SCI 6008) Education
Credits: 4.00
Undergraduate or Graduate credits
June 2 to July 3, T, TH 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
This course is designed for science teachers who seek to bridge the gap between the classroom and the world of environmental research. Students will work directly with practicing scientists in several environmental and biological disciplines. Students will learn how scientists formulate working hypotheses; design experiments; observe changes; and record, analyze, and report data. In turn, students will use inquiry-based learning and project-oriented methods to design their own curriculum to be used in conjunction with field station equipment as well as supplied school based environmental monitoring stations that. Dr. Plevyak and Ms. Grasso are the instructors.

Interdisciplinary Field Experiences (Biol 3090/7090)
Credits: 3.00
Undergraduate or Graduate credits
June 2 to July 3, 2014. M, W, F 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
This course integrates concepts of biology, conservation, sustainability, and human ecology. Students will work with scientists and their research projects to execute the projects at field sites using a variety of scientific techniques. Several ecosystems will serve as areas of focus for the class. During the term, groups will present their project results at various stages in their development for peer evaluation and feedback. Articles from the primary literature will be read and discussed in class sessions with students as discussion leaders. Dr. Kim Thompson is the instructor.

Ornithology (Biol 3012C)
Credits: 4.00
Undergraduate credit
May 12 to May 30, M, W, F 8:00 AM - 1:30 PM
Students will learn the systematics, anatomy, physiology, behavior, and evolution and ecology of birds, including many field-based techniques. Standardized avian field methods will be used to study local bird populations at the UC Center for Field Studies and Miami Whitewater Forest. During the course, students will experience lectures focused on the unique features of birds, avian systems, and ecology and evolution. Students will learn to identify bird skin specimens to order level, and how to identify local birds by sight and sound. Dr. Ron Canterbury and Mr. Jack Stenger are the instructors.

Register here artsci.uc.edu/summer