

North Hennepin Community College

BIOL 1040: Rocky Mountain Field Biology

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4

Lecture Hours/Week: *.*

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

This course considers field characteristics and ecological relationships of Rocky Mountain flora and fauna. It includes principles of plant and animal anatomy, identification, practical (edible, poisonous wild plants and animals) and economic considerations. Students participate in a nine-day field trip in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. This course is open to all students.

This course will likely and be part of a two or three course package/program and have co-requisite courses.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/25/1997 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. During the classroom portion of this course in the weeks prior to the field component, students will learn basic concepts in biology and ecology. In addition to learning aspects of community and ecosystem biology, students will survey the major phyla and divisions of plants, animals, and fungi, and study identification techniques. Knowledge of these principles will be applied to the unique conditions found at various elevations in the Rocky Mountains.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of major ecosystems of the Rocky Mountain region.(MnTC G3, Comp. a; ELO 1)
2. Learn and use remote sensing techniques as a means of studying wilderness ecosystems. (MnTC core ability Critical Thinking, comps. a, b, c ; MnTC G3 comp. a; ELO 1, 2)
3. Make observations, develop, and test hypothesis regarding alpine and sub-alpine plant and animal communities. (NHCC core ability Critical Thinking, comps. a, b, c; MnTC G3, comps. a, b; ELO 1, 2)
4. Identify and recognize various plant, fungi, and animal species native to the region.(NHCC core ability Critical Thinking, comp. a; ELO 1, 2)
5. Gain an understanding of the natural history, conservation and environmental laws, policies, and philosophies of the study region. (NHCC core ability Critical Thinking, comp. d; NHCC core ability Ethical and Civic Responsibility, comps. a, c; MnTC G3, comp. d; ELO 1, 2, 3)

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

1. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World - Through study in the sciences, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, the arts, technology and professions.
2. Intellectual and Practical Skills - Including: Inquiry and analysis; Critical and creative thinking; Written and oral communication; Quantitative literacy; Information literacy; Teamwork and problem solving.
3. Personal and Social Responsibility and Engagement - Including: Civic knowledge and involvement - campus, local and global; Intercultural knowledge and competence; Ethical reasoning and action; Foundations and skills for lifelong learning.