

Global Change in the Context of the Pacific Northwest

Summer 2013, A-Term

ENVIR 495 D

This course takes a philosophical and scientific look at the ways in which our local environment has changed in the distant and recent past, and what recent human-imposed changes to the landscape mean for our future. The course format is an 8-day wilderness backpacking trip in the Olympic National Park.

- Topics will range from historical accounts of early naturalists and explorers, to current climate change and land preservation ethics.
- All along our backpacking route in the eastern Olympic Mountains, students will observe the effects of global change on the wilderness.
- There will be ample time for reflection and contemplation on the ways in which humans and ecosystems are coping and will cope with impending global change.
- Academic activities will include observation of the signs of current and past climate change, repeat photography of glaciers, discussion of readings that approach the utility of wilderness from a variety of perspectives, and a final project that encapsulates your experience in the course.

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Pre-departure meetings on campus, dates to be determined

Instructor:
Timothy Billo
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5 Credits

Pre Requisites:
High level of physical fitness, or willingness to train prior to backpacking trip.

Course Fee:
None, but money for food and personal camping gear (backpack, sleeping bag, ground pad, clothes, etc.) will be required.

Field Trip:
July 10th - 17th
Olympic National Park:
Wilderness Backpacking



UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

PROGRAM ON THE ENVIRONMENT