Environmental Education is a central course in an integrated set of courses designed to prepare students for leading outdoor pursuits activities. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the natural history of the region and to develop teaching and environmental interpretation skills.

The course involves a lecture/discussion/lab series and two one-day outings. Students should be prepared for substantive readings, assignments, and peer group teaching. Classroom sessions, labs and the field outings provide opportunities to learn about the environment and to develop and practice outdoor teaching techniques.

The focus of the course is on the natural history of Oregon (with an emphasis on oak/savanna, coastal old growth and western Cascades old growth ecosystems), and on developing outdoor teaching skills. Course topics include: semantics and definitions, ecological concepts, teaching strategies for outdoor settings, natural history, and environmental interpretation.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites**
Instructor’s consent is required to participate in this course.

**Learning Outcomes**
The Outdoor Pursuits Program emphasizes safe and responsible participation in outdoor activities. Upon completion of the course the student should be able to:
1. Demonstrate a general understanding of the major geologic, hydrologic and climatologic processes leading to the formation of the Oregon landscape.
2. Use a taxonomic key to identify plants and trees.
3. Demonstrate a general understanding of the ecological make-up of oak/savanna, coastal old growth and western Cascades old growth ecosystems.
4. Identify the most common trees, shrubs, ferns and flowers of the ecosystems that we explore.
5. Identify common flower families of the ecosystems that we explore.
6. Develop a detailed lesson plan outlining behavioral objectives, subject content, and instructional strategy for teaching an environmental education lesson to a peer group.
7. Write your own field guide that will be an easy to use resource when you are out in the field.

**Course Resources**
1. Canvas has all course readings and links to all videos for this course. Be sure to monitor the canvas site to get the most up to date readings and videos.
2. Manual of Oregon Trees and Shrubs by Edward C. Jensen is a required text for this course.

The field guide Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast by Pojar and McKinnon is highly recommended. The Field Guide to the Pacific Northwest by the National Audubon Society is a compact, comprehensive field guide that is also recommended.
Full and active in-class participation (3% will be subtracted per class if attendance or participation requirements are not met.) Missing any one full day of the outing will result in a no pass in the course. Missing any portion of the outing will result in a loss of 3% of final grade per hour missed (maximum of 3 hours may be missed and still count as participation).

Notes:
All material missed due to an absence is still required for final field guide and exam. Assignments turned in late will be subject to the following point reduction schedule regardless of absences:

- a) Submitted late, but on the same day 25%
- b) Submitted one day late 50%
- c) Submitted two days late 100%. Turn assignments in on time!

All submissions except field guide must be turned in electronically. You are responsible for double-checking that your document uploaded correctly.

Grading Scale
A+= 100-98, A=97-93, A- = 92-90; B+= 89-88, B=87-83, B- = 82-80; C+= 79-78, C=77-73, C- = 72-70; D=69-65; F=<65

If your final score is between grading categories (e.g. 90 – 89, 80 – 79, etc.), the letter grade will be rounded up if the score is .5 and greater, and rounded down if it is less than .5.
Notes:
1. Students are required to submit entries for the plants keyed out or taught in class in addition to questions from weekly reading assignments. See Canvas for a complete list of assignments.
2. Students are required to complete a Health Information form and read and sign a Statement and Assumption of Risk/Release document prior to participation in the field outings.