

Northern Sierra Nevada Field Botany San Francisco State – Field Campus

THEME

This course is intended for both beginner and advanced. Focus on major sierra plant families. There will be exposure to numerous representations. The more practice will find that you pick up on patterns. If you review the terms beforehand, one will appreciate the depth of exposure.

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

Mornings start at 8am/8:30am. We review major plant families for the first half of the day and utilize the surrounding botanical hotspots for afternoons and either 1 or 2 full day hikes to the region. Anticipate hikes for half days with a couple of long day hike to the sierra buttes. Hikes of 1500ft elevation max. An university van will be provided for transport along with carpooling.

Evenings will be set aside for open keying sessions. Please consider reviewing sections of the Jepson Manuel 2 plant terminology prior to the course (illustrations pg 22-31). Due to snow melt bloom destinations of field trips are subject to change. Course ends Friday after lunch.

Pre- 1st Day – Arrival

Sunday Evening Arrival to the SFSU field campus. Students are welcome to gather at the dinner hall to meet the instructor and Campus Director J.R. Blair.

Day -1

7am	Breakfast- (make your lunch mornings)
8a-9am	Introductions- SFSU Sierra Campus Logistics – Welcome
9:30am	Basic Plant Morphology – basic structures Plant terminology – using the Jepson Manual vocabulary pgs 26-31.
10am-12:30pm	Part 1 -Sierra Plant Families
12:30	Lunch
1:30pm	Field Campus meadow exploration-
4:30pm	Break for afternoon recess –
6pm	Dinner
Evening	Keying in the Dining Hall – all welcome

Day -2

8am- 10am	Part 2 Sierra Plant families -plus ferns
-----------	--

10am- 4pm Field Trip- All Day Fraiser Falls –
5pm Sierra Ecology – Forest Service Guest Lecturer
6pm Dinner
Evening Optional keying with guest botanist

Day - 3

8am Poeaceae –optional OR practice Review of plant families
9am Butterfly Valley– driving field trip
12noon Lunch – en route
1pm Sierra Valley – vernal pools
2:30pm- 5pm Lake Basin Trail
6pm Dinner
Evening Optional Keying Session

Day 4

8am All Day Field Trip Sierra Buttes - Tamarack Lakes – Packard Saddle area
 Rough road- carpool Optional swim on return
4pm/5pm Return to Field Campus
6pm Dinner
Evening Keying

Day 5th

8am-8:30am Course Quiz
8:30-noon Field Trip - Yuba Pass and/or Wild Plum Campground
Noon Last lunch – head home!

READING MATERIAL

The Jepson Manual, Vascular Plants of California 2nd Edition, Baldwin, B. et. al.

Important for any budding plant taxonomist. We will use this to key plants. The glossary of terms are universal for learning plants. **Required prep: Review of the illustrations pg 22- 31.**

References: Plant List of the Sierra Nevada Field Campus found on the course website. Here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BwrOdo0v4ciFVIBvV3B2OXJkT1FRRFNaVGIBOGVScnI4RFRn/view>

Additional material will be provided once on campus. There will be limited wifi at the campus.

MATERIAL & SUPPLIES

1. Curiosity and willingness to participate

2. 10x hand lens – many to choose from. Best to place on a loop to not loose it.

https://www.forestry-suppliers.com/product_pages/products.php?mi=31940&itemnum=61130&redir=Y

3. 10 cm metric ruler

4. tweezers

5. any unlined notebook.

Field version that is handy for any budding plant person <http://www.riteintherain.com/>

Highly encouraged, but not required

6. Jepson Manual 2 - highly encouraged for anyone interested in learning botany

<https://www.ucpress.edu/book/9780520253124/the-jepson-manual>

7. binoculars

8. blank flashcards

9. trekking poles