

INTEGRATED NATURAL HISTORY: UTAH

FIELD SCHOOL SPRING 2019



The study of plants and animals has been artificially separated from the study of humans for more than a hundred years. This Utah based program, coordinated through the Kennedy Center, will study biology, outdoor leadership skills, Utah history, and writing as one subject—Integrated Natural History. We will follow five water systems from their origins in the mountains to their use in a human community, and we'll study the relationships between human recreational and economic practice and the plant and animal systems. We will spend most of a week backpacking in each of four areas: Vernon Creek in western Utah, the Bear River in northern Utah, the Provo River in central Utah, the Green River in eastern Utah, and the Escalante River in southern Utah. We will explore the Pony Express Trail, the Uinta Mountains, the site of the Battle of Bear River, the Bear River Bird Refuge, Upper Calf Creek Falls, Coyote Gulch, Capitol Reef National Park, a corner of the Mojave Desert, and dozens of other areas. In addition to these field experiences, we will spend time at BYU where we will study the principles of inquiry for biology, history, recreation, and creative writing, specifically the personal essay; we will also learn how each discipline uses the library. We will learn specific skills associated with each discipline, for example, canyoneering, kayaking, snowshoeing, recording oral history, making photographic and biological collections, close observation of humans and animals, and classification of species.

DATES

30 April–20 June 2019

HOUSING

Housing will be provided by the program. We will camp and stay in cabins.

COURSES

Students must take 9 credit hours from the following courses:

WRTG 150H Writing and Rhetoric (3 credit hours)

HIST 364 Utah History (3 credit hours)

BIO 100 Principles of Biology (3 credit hours)

Participants may not take any other courses on this program, including BYU Online courses, without approval by the program director and ISP.

COST

\$2,000–2,200, which includes lodging, transportation, tuition and meals, but does not cover personal expenses and medical insurance costs.

PREPARATION

Accepted students are required to participate in 2 preparation courses during winter semester 2019: EXDM 223R (2 credit hours), and IAS 201R (3 credit hours), or independent readings course in Biology, English, History, or Recreation Management. Through these classes students will gain the skills needed for outdoor experience and will read interdisciplinary texts, such as *Refuge* by Terry Tempest Williams, *A River Runs Through It* by Norman Maclean, and *On Zion's Mount* by Jared Farmer. The field study will be project driven. In other words, students will design a set of research questions, which they will use to guide their inquiry from the perspectives of the four disciplines. For example someone might study the relationships between irrigation and the spread of non-native species of plants from the perspective of ecology, history, recreation, and personal reflection. Each of us will keep a field journal and will write several kinds of articles: fact-based and analytic reports of findings, personal essays, opinion papers, collaborative reports, and other short pieces.

FUNDING SOURCES

Regular BYU tuition scholarships, Pell Grants, and Federal Insured Student Loans may be applied to study abroad programs.

Students who submit the financial aid section of the ISP application and who have a current FAFSA form on file at the Financial Aid Office (A-41 ASB) will be considered for a study abroad scholarship and may be considered for other scholarships. They *must indicate on their original online application* that they want to be considered for financial aid.

Academic departments and colleges may assist with scholarships and grants.

Private grants and scholarships outside of BYU may also assist (see kennedy.byu.edu/scholarships).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete the online application at kennedy.byu.edu/apply. The application requires a \$35 fee.

Contact the director (Bennion) for an initial interview once your application is complete.

Applicants will be interviewed once the application is complete.

Students will be notified via e-mail of their acceptance into the program.

Deadline: 15 November 2018

FACULTY

John Bennion, associate professor of english, teaches English literature and creative writing. He has published fiction and essays about Western Utah. His specialty is outdoor education, including Wilderness Writing, an honors class (taught with Stacy Taniguchi) in which writing students go backpacking, and England and Literature, a study abroad program in which students hike through the landscapes where writers lived.

Brian Cannon, associate professor of history, has taught at BYU since 1992 and directs the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies. He teaches and writes about Utah history, western American history since 1900, western water policy and rural/agricultural history.

Brian Hill, professor in the Experience Design & Management Department, has led groups on adventures through southern Utah, New Zealand, Australia, and Fiji and along the Mormon Trail from Winter Quarters to the Salt Lake Valley. From these expeditions he has become particularly skilled at treating cracked and bleeding lips. His scholarly interests center on family and marital recreation.

Riley Nelson, professor of biology, is a lifelong student of natural history. His earliest memories consist of trips to the wild looking for lizards, insects, and fish. His teaching and research takes him to unusually lovely places around the world. He has projects in Tahiti, the Amazon, Costa Rica, French Guiana, Mongolia, Mount Timpanogos, and the red rock of southern Utah. He loves to help people revalue nature and to become better stewards of the natural world.

SCHEDULE AND TIME COMMITMENT

Evening class winter semester; 24 hours a day during spring term.

INTERESTED STUDENTS SHOULD CONTACT

For more information, contact: John Bennion, john_bennion@byu.edu, (801) 422-3419; or International Study Programs, 101 HRCB, isp@byu.edu, (801) 422-3686

PROGRAM ADJUSTMENTS

ISP reserves the right to cancel this program, revise its offerings, or make any adjustments to the preliminary cost estimates due to conditions beyond its control.