



Catalina California Naturalist

Instructor

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Course Start & End

02/3/2020

04/4/2020

CalNat Website

<http://calnat.ucanr.edu/>

Application and Registration

<https://catalinaconservancy.org>

Course Fee

\$715.00

Course Location

Conservancy Nature Center

Course Schedule

02/03-03/28 Online

Coursework

04/29-04/03 On Island

Field School

Course Overview

General. The UC California Naturalist Program (CalNat) seeks to foster a committed corps of naturalists and citizen scientists trained and ready to take an active role in natural resource conservation, education, and restoration. The UC California Naturalist course will introduce you to the wonders of our local ecology and engage you in the stewardship of California's natural communities. The course will combine a science curriculum with guest lecturers, field trips and project-based learning to immerse you in the natural world.

Catalina Island Conservancy This UC California Naturalist Course looks to create highly trained guides, volunteers, docents and most importantly, stewards, to spread the word of not only how special Catalina is but how important all Islands are.

Learning Outcomes

- Understand what it means to be a naturalist.
- Integrate knowledge about the interconnectedness of abiotic, biotic and cultural factors and their influence on the natural history of Catalina Island.
- Demonstrate skills in making and recording natural history observations in a field notebook and nature journal.
- Become proficient using iNaturalist to record nature observations
- Apply knowledge of Catalina and Southern California to local and global environmental issues.
- Meet all of the course requirements.

Course Requirements

- **Contact Time:** Each UC California Naturalist course consists of a minimum of 40 educational hours (classroom hours and field time), which includes a minimum of 8 hours in the field.
- **Required Reading:** Read the entire book "[The California Naturalist Handbook](#)," and assigned readings and activities that you will access through the class Web Board. There will be weekly online quizzes and assignments to assess your completion of these readings and activities.
- **Class Attendance and Field Trips:** Students will need to complete all of the online quizzes and assignments by their due dates. All of the course material will be available from the first day of the course. You will be able to work ahead of schedule if you know there will be weeks that you have prior obligations. Assignments will come due the week that corresponds with that unit on the course calendar. Attendance and participation in the Field School is mandatory for graduation.

- **Capstone Project:** Participants are required to complete a Capstone Project in one of four areas: Stewardship, Education/Interpretation, Citizen Science or Program Support. The Capstone Project provides an opportunity for participants to integrate their own personal interests with the in-class material toward the development of an applied work project that is done in conjunction with the Catalina Island Conservancy. **Participants must get pre-approval for Capstone Projects in the first two weeks of the course.** Participants are encouraged to work in teams when appropriate. Participants will deliver an individual or group capstone presentation (5-10 minutes long per person) on graduation day. Participants are expected to spend a minimum of 8 hours on the capstone project and will add hours spent on the Capstone Project into the volunteer portal.
- **Using a Field Notebook and Journal:** All participants are required to keep a nature journal during the course. A field notebook is encouraged to assist with your nature journaling. Prompts and activities will be given throughout the course. At least one entry will need to be made every week. Photos of field notebook entries will be uploaded onto the course website. Students will have the opportunity to receive and provide feedback for their classmates.
- **iNaturalist Observation and Partner iNaturalist Project:** Over the course of the UC California Naturalist class, each participant will be responsible for registering for an iNaturalist account (<http://www.inaturalist.org/>) and adding at least three observation(s) to the course iNaturalist Project.
- **Class Citizen Science Project:** Each participant must contribute to the citizen science project adopted by the class. Our class citizen science project is Project Budburst.
- **Evaluation:** Completion of the online post-course evaluation survey is highly encouraged. You will be provided with a link to the evaluation survey toward the end of the course.
- **Volunteering and Volunteer Portal (VMS):** Participants will be provided with an online account to track their volunteer hours, including hours spent on their Capstone Project. Tracking volunteer hours is an essential way to prove need and impact of a program like the UC California Naturalist Program. Participants are strongly encouraged and hopefully committed to volunteering at least 40 hours a year in environmental stewardship, education, program support, or citizen science and recorded all hours of service in the Volunteer Portal. Pins are awarded each year for participants who meet this goal, and the pins differ from year to year. The portal website is <https://vms4.ucanr.edu/>. For guidance on using the portal, visit http://calnat.ucanr.edu/Resources/VP_Help/.

Required Text

- [The California Naturalist Handbook](#), Greg de Nevers, Deborah Stranger Edelman, Adina Merenlender. (Must be purchased by the participants.)

Recommended Resources

- **CalNat YouTube Channel:** View videos from UC California Naturalist conferences, meetings, and more. The “Ecosystems of California” video series with Erika Zaveleta, is also available on the channel.
Url: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGBYG5ShV4VDiUiRbEmmObg>

- **CalNat Volunteer Portal Help:** There are resources available to help you familiarize with the UC California Naturalist volunteer portal and commonly used features. Check out our help guides and videos geared toward users and program administrators. *Url:* http://calnat.ucanr.edu/Resources/VP_Help/
- **Introduction to Nature Journaling:** An introductory workshop with John Muir Laws. What is nature journaling? How do you motivate yourself to get started and keep at it? What is a growth mindset and how does it change the way I approach nature journaling? How to set up your own nature journaling kit. *Url:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4nndw2HQ7uA>

Course Materials

The first three course materials are required. Please notify the instructor immediately if you do not have an e-mail account. The last two would be helpful but are not required.

- **Required:** Access to internet connected computer or phone and an email account for communication, Volunteer Portal access, and iNaturalist.
- **Required:** Nature Journal
- **Required:** Pencil(s)
- **Recommended:** Hand lens (10x)
- **Recommended:** Binoculars
- **Provided:** Small field notebook

Cancellation Policy

If unable to complete the current course registered for, then you will be eligible to enroll in the next scheduled course without additional fees. If the Conservancy cancels a class for any reason, a full refund will be given to all enrollees. Refunds may require four weeks for processing.

Registrants that can successfully refer another student to replace their spot in the course prior to the first day of class will receive a full refund. Registrants that experience a verifiable medical emergency personally, or in their family, between the two weeks of class before and after instruction has begun may re-enroll in the following year's course at a 50% discounted rate, with priority for early registration. No other cancellations, for any other reason, will result in a refund.

Volunteering and the Volunteer Portal

Volunteering: Participants are encouraged to complete at least forty (40) hours of volunteer service each year in order to maintain their certification. Pins are awarded each year for participants who meet this goal, and the pins differ from year to year.

- Volunteer activities need to relate to California's natural or environmental history, occur in California, be sponsored by an organization, and be UNPAID.
- All volunteering with the Conservancy goes toward your California Naturalist volunteer hours.
- Your 8-hour capstone project will count toward your first year's volunteer hours. You will log these hours into the [UC Volunteer Portal](#). A welcome e-mail will be sent to you after instructors add your information to the system. Notify your instructor if you do not receive that e-mail. You will be provided with a user name and password in the introductory e-mail after the start of the class.

Class Schedule

Online Classes begin February 3rd

Week #	Week of	Where	Course Topic	Field School Guest Speaker	Reading/ Quiz*
1	2/3/2020	Nature Center	Introduction and overview/Introduction and overview	Cal Nat Staff	Ch. 1 Introduction & Ch. 8 Interpretation, Collaboration, and Citizen Science
2	2/10/2020	Nature Center	Catalina Cultural History	Chia Café Collective and PCIAP	Assigned readings
3	2/17/2020	Nature Center	Geology	John Turbeville	*Ch. 2 Geology
4	2/24/2020	Nature Center	Water	Steve Dickey	*Ch. 3 Water
5	3/2/2020	Nature Center	Endemic Plants of Catalina/Plant Adaptations/Fire Ecology	Peter Dixon	*Ch. 4 Plants
6	3/9/2020	Nature Center	Plants Forest Resources/Oak woodlands/Non-Native Herbivores/Invasive plants	Julia Parish Ryan Murdoch	*Ch. 5 Forest, Woodland, and Range Resources and Management
7	3/16/2020	Nature Center	Wildlife/ Evolution/Population Dynamics/Island Biogeography	Dr. Peter Sharpe	*Ch. 6 Wildlife
8	3/23/2020	Field Trip SCE/CRR	Energy and Global Environmental Issues	Dr. Victoria Petryshyn-USC	*Ch.7 Energy and Global and Environmental Issues
9	3/29- 4/3/2020	Field School			

Guest Speakers:

Tongva Representatives

Craig Torres-Chia Café Collective

Wendy Teeter-UCLA and PCIAP

Karimah Kennedy-Richardson-Autry Museum, PCIAP

Hugh Radde-PCIAP

Steve Dickey-Hydrogeologist, Dudek Consulting

John Turbeville-Professor of Geology and Oceanography, Mira Costa College

Peter Dixon-Editor, Catalina Flora Project Catalina Island Conservancy

Julia Parish- Regional Director, Southern California American Conservation Experience

Ryan Murdoch- Invasive Plant Manager, Catalina Island Conservancy

Peter Sharpe Ph.D.- Wildlife Biologist, Institute for Wildlife Studies

Emily Hamblen- Wildlife Biologist, Catalina Island Conservancy

Lara Brenner-Wildlife Biologist, Catalina Island Conservancy

Victoria Petryshyn Ph.D.- Lecturer, USC Environmental Studies

Linda Chilton-Education Program Coordinator, USC Sea Grant Program

Field School:

Day 1 Monday 3/30/2020	Day 2 Tuesday 3/31/2020	Day 3 Wednesday 4/1/2020	Day 4 Thursday 4/2/2020	Day 5 Friday 4/3/2020	Day 6 Saturday 4/4/2020
<i>Rocks and Water</i>	<i>Tongva Cultural History</i>	<i>Plants: Restoration and Invasive Species</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Energy and Marine Biology</i>	<i>Final Presentations</i>
John Turbeville Steve Dickey	Hugh Radde Craig Torres Wendy Teeter Karimah Kennedy-Richardson	Peter Dixon Ryan Murdoff Julia Parish	Peter Sharpe Emily Hamblen Lara Brenner	Victoria Petryshyn Linda Chilton Lauren Oudin	Depart

Logistics-Subject to change**Day 1- Rocks and Water-Chapters 2 and 3**

8am-Meet at Trailhead for Breakfast
 -Drop bags to be transported to Laura Stein Volunteer Camp (LSVC)
 9:00-10:00am- Introduction to the course with Hillary Holt
 10:00-10:15am-Break
 10:15-11:15am Catalina Geology talk with John Turbeville, in Trailhead Conference Room
 11:15-12:15 Lunch
 12:15 Depart for the hills for Geology field day
 Route: Along Airport Road to Airport
 6:00pm Return to camp and prepare dinner

Day 2- Tongva Cultural History- Assigned Readings

7:00am-Prepare Breakfast at LSVC
 9:00am-Introductions with Pimu Catalina Island Archeology Project (PCIAP) and Tongva Representatives
 10:00am- Soapstone Quarry Hike
 11:00am-Pick-up box lunches and head down to Little Harbor
 11:30am-Little Harbor Overlook
 12:00-1:00 Lunch
 1:00-4:00pm Little Harbor Beach
 - Learn to make traditional implements
 -Practice Nature Journaling
 5:00pm Return to camp and prepare dinner
 7:00pm Fireside with the Tongva representatives

Day 3- Plants: Restoration and Invasive Species- Chapters 4 and 5

7:00am Prepare breakfast, pack lunch
8:00 am Depart camp
8:30am Arrive at Middle Ranch
9:00-10am Botany talk and activities by Peter Dixon
10:00-10:15am Break
10:15-11:15am Invasive Species talk by Julia Parish
11:15-12:15pm Lunch
12:15-1:15pm Tour of Middle Ranch and current invasive species management with Ryan Murdoff
1:15 Depart Middle Ranch for botanical field day with Pete, Julia, and Ryan
Route: TBD
6:00pm Dinner in camp
7:00pm Astronomy Program with Kathleen Hill-Carlisle

Day 4- Wildlife- Chapter 6

7:00am Prepare breakfast, pack lunch
8:00 am Depart camp
8:30am Arrive Middle Ranch
Bird Walk along Middle Ranch Reservoir with opportunity for journaling
10:00am Meet Peter Sharpe to view active Eagle Nest
11:00-12:00am Biology talk and activities with Dr. Peter Sharpe
12:00-1:00pm Lunch
1:00-2:00pm Talk from Conservancy Biologists Emily Hamblen and Lara Brenner
2:00pm Field outing with Conservancy Wildlife Biologists
Route: TBD
4:00pm Arrive at USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies
5:00pm-Dinner at USC Cafeteria
6:00pm-Optional night dive

Day 5- Energy and Marine Biology- Chapter 7 and Assigned Readings

8:00 Breakfast at USC Cafeteria
9:00-10:00am Energy and Environmental Studies with Dr. Victoria Petryshyn
10:00-10:30 Tour of Sustainability courtyard with Dr. Lauren Oudin-Czarnecki
11:00-12:00 Marine Biology and Marine Protected Areas with Linda Chilton
12:00-1:00pm Lunch at USC Wrigley Cafeteria
1:00-2:00pm MPA watch
2:30-Depart USC
4:00 Arrive at Hermit Gulch Campground
5:00 Dinner in Avalon

Day 6- Capstone Presentations and Graduation!

8:00am Arrive at Trailhead for breakfast
9:00-12:00 Final presentations
12:00 Graduation Celebration!!

Homework Policy

Course attendees are responsible for completing all assigned reading and quizzes each week regardless of class attendance. Quizzes will be completed on-line outside of class-time using the Canvas web board. You will receive this link and a tutorial on the first day of class. Supplemental material will also be posted here. Extensions will be granted for circumstances outside of the student's control at the Instructors discretion.

Student's Nature Journals will be checked as complete or incomplete each week.

Course Credit

Upon completing certification requirements, participants are eligible for four academic credits through [UC Davis Extension](#) for an additional nominal fee. Graduates who expressed interest in this opportunity with their instructor will receive a communication from the UC California Naturalist program post-course with information on how to obtain the optional credits.

Statement on Inclusion and Accommodations

If you have a learning or physical need that will require special accommodations in this class, you will need to notify Hillary Holt in writing of your accommodation needs. Please notify at least 30 days prior to the first class if you require any special accommodations. This will allow us ample opportunity to provide suitable accommodations. We make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Materials will be available in alternate formats (Braille, audio, electronic format, or large print) upon request.

Statement on Financial Accessibility Cost

Students are responsible for course fees, purchasing books, and transportation for the field trips Students are also responsible for costs associated with any travel or meals.

If you are a Conservancy Staff member or Volunteer, please contact your department to find out about funding opportunities.