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The Fierce Green Fire

A Newsletter of the Wofford College Environmental Studies Program

Three of our ENVS majors headed west for Interim to learn about the NatureBridge outdoor education program in Yosemite National Park.



Volume 10, Issue 14

Wofford Students Pick COLD Location for Interim, Why?

by Eliza Coxe '21

Edward Brantley '21, Reeves Goettee '20, and I embarked on an adventure to Yosemite National Park for Interim of 2020 to intern with an outdoor education program, NatureBridge. A professor from Wofford helped us set this up (try to guess who it was... he worked with NatureBridge when he was younger. Thanks, Dr. Brewitt!!!).

Schools in California and beyond send their precious young students to live among the ravens and coyotes in Yosemite Valley for a week and learn about nature in the park. The ages of children visiting the park vary. Some bring 4th graders while others bring their high school seniors. Either way, the students are led by an educator all week participating in various activities: hiking, learning about the Native

Americans, scrambling through complete darkness in caves, and more! The educators were all very welcoming and excited to talk us into taking federal jobs in the park's service when we graduated college. Did it work? I guess we will find out in a year or two.

Edward, Reeves, and I were lucky to co-teach with three separate groups for 2½ days. How did we initially feel about this? Pretty anxious, but we were really able to grow and take bites out of our growth avocados throughout this process.

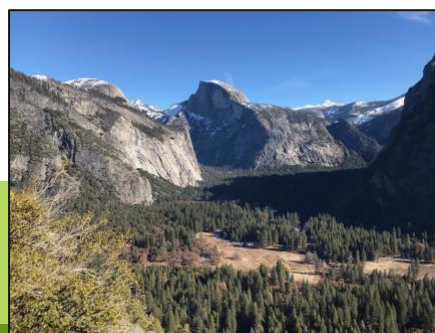
Are YOU looking for a fun, outdoor interim to test your ability to be flexible and brace the Yosemite temperatures? If so, contact any of the people mentioned above and let us nerd out with you about outdoor education!



(Above LtoR) Brantley, Coxe, and Goettee interned with NatureBridge in Yosemite National Park to teach park visitors about nature.



Scenes from Yosemite during January 2020 Interim.



Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**These count toward your two required extracurricular events for the semester.*

February 24th
4:00pm
Olin 101

Craftivism: Merging Science, Art and Policy for Global Change*: Dr. Katharine Owens will give an interactive talk about how change-makers can merge science, art, and policy to effect change on environmental issues of global. She has carried out numerous projects to collect and communicate data related to environmental issues to shape public policy. Her talk at Wofford is informed by her experiences in collaborative and participatory environmental advocacy with students and communities in the US and in India.

February 27th
11:00am
Leonard Auditorium, Main Building

Coffee, Frogs & Workers: Conservation in the Anthropocene*: Dr. Paul Robbins, Director of the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is the guest lecturer for the Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar Program.

February 27th
6:00pm
Hub City Bookshop

Book Reading and Reception with Dr. Paul Robbins*: Hub City Bookshop will host a book reading and discussion of Dr. Robbins books and writings.

March 6th – 8th

C2C Fellows Workshop at Bard Center for Environmental Policy: Undergraduates and recent graduates aspiring to leadership positions in sustainable policy, politics and business can [apply](#) for this upcoming workshop. A \$30 registration fee is due upon acceptance to the workshop – meals and housing included.

March 12th
3:00-4:30pm
Room TBD

Date Changed: ENVS Senior Seminar Capstone Presentations*: Join us as our seniors display and discuss their capstone projects. Drop in or out as you are able during the presentations.

Ongoing

Job Opportunities in Conservation and Restoration: [The Great Basin Institute](#) is a nonprofit organization that specializes in conservation and restoration all throughout the West. They are currently hiring for over 60 paid positions ranging from ecological monitoring, wildlife monitoring, trail maintenance, range land management, and fuels reduction.

PROFILE OF THE WEEK:

Colorado State University – Master of Conservation Leadership

The Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University offers a Conservation Leadership program that prepares students to address complex conservation issues and make a difference in the ecosystems of our planet.

This is an 18-month graduate program that incorporates two semesters of coursework and a capstone project. The coursework gives students an opportunity to learn about the conservation field and the capstone project gives them the opportunity to apply those skills to real conservation issues.

The program includes opportunities for experiential learning with field trips, workshops, and case studies; inter-disciplinary perspectives with coursework rooted in the social sciences; cohort-based learning where students take all their courses together; immersion weeks when regular classes are canceled, and students are immersed into a conservation topic; connections with real world conservation practitioners; and cross-cultural experiences as most capstone projects are completed abroad.

[Colorado State – Conservation Leadership](#)