Over interim I traveled to the Galápagos Islands. In class, we learned about the evolving marine ecosystems. Most class time included snorkeling trips, which allowed us to have a first-hand experience of marine animals and their environment. Our teacher, Judith, has studied in the islands for years and is very educated in marine life. Our course focused on the necessity to save the ocean from further pollutants, like sunscreen, trash, and chemicals. The Galápagos is known to be very strict on what can and cannot be brought into the islands. Waste management, especially plastics, are carefully disposed and recycled. When we weren’t in class, we walked right across the street to the beach to hang out with our best friends, the sea lions.

During one of our free days, I was able to scuba dive with my friends. We dove at Kicker Rock, which is made up of volcanic ash. Overtime, the rock has eroded and given it its shoe-like shape. During our dives, we were able to see hundreds of fish, including hammerhead sharks, black tip sharks, sea turtles, rays, barracuda, and so much more! It was so amazing and eye opening! One of my favorite parts of the trip was being able to see the different types of animals. From seeing Darwin’s finches to marine iguanas, it was a once in a lifetime experience. My favorite animals were of course the blue footed booby and penguins!

Overall, I strongly recommend this interim trip for its educational content and some of the world’s best wildlife viewing! The Galápagos Islands are a great example of how to create a sustainable community and their practices should be adapted by other communities, particularly coastal areas.
Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**February 15th**
6:00-7:00pm
Zoom

**Morgan Thomas in Conversation with Taylor Brorby**: Hub City Writers Project is hosting a virtual conversation between the two authors. [More information and registration](#).

**February 16th**
Application Deadline

**HCFM Urban Farmer Needed**: The Wofford Sustainability Committee seeks to hire a student farmer to grow food at the Hub City Farmers' Market Urban Farm. Primary responsibilities will be to help grow food and maintain the farm but will also help plan for the upcoming growing season and develop educational programs for the community. They will be under the direct supervision of farm manager Ben Lea and will also work under Dr. Amy Telligman. See ENVS Moodle page or email telligmanal@wofford.edu for info on how to apply.

**February 26th**
9:00am-5:00pm
Glendale Outdoor Leadership School, 270 Wheeling Cir, Glendale, 29346

**First Aid/CPR Training**: GOLS & Boy Scouts of America Palmetto Council are offering an 8-hour course, covering basics of first aid, CPR, and AED use. Cost is $30. [More information and registration](#).

**Ongoing**

**Job Opportunities at Teton Science School**

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**PROFILE OF THE WEEK:**

**University of Montana – Environmental Studies Program**

The University of Montana offers a MS degree in Environmental Studies (EVST) and a joint MS/JD degree in EVST and their Law Program. The Master's degree in EVST is flexible. Students can design their own study programs with focus areas in Environmental Education, Environmental Justice, Environmental Policy and Law, Indigenous Knowledge, Land and Water, Environmental Writing, Sustainable Food and Farming, and other courses of interest throughout the University.

Along with their study interests there are opportunities for students to get involved with groups outside the classroom. **Camas** is an environmental journal that is edited and published by EVST graduate students each semester. There are many on-going internship opportunities and projects UM graduate students are involved in from working with Montana Public Interest Research Groups to native plant stewardship to ecological agriculture.

[University of Montana – College of Humanities and Sciences – Environmental Studies](#)