

The Dellecave Educational Institute for Professional Development
1650 Sycamore Ave, Suite 12, Bohemia, NY 11716

And
Endicott College
376 Hale Street, Beverly, Massachusetts 01915
School of Graduate and Professional Studies

COURSE #: EDPG 566

COURSE TITLE: ALASKA SECTION II:
AN EXPLORATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL
RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE OF ALASKA

COURSE CREDITS: 3 Credits (45 Hours)

INSTRUCTOR: Melinda Moran & Cynthia Nacional
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LOCATION: Dellecave Educational Institute for Professional Development
1650 Sycamore Avenue
Suite 12
Bohemia, NY 11716
Tel: 631) 589-4500 Email: deipd@dellecave.org

DATES: August 12 - August 15, 2007

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Learn about the interdependency of Alaska's environment and its' wildlife in their natural habitats. Experience breathtaking vistas of waterfalls, mountains and glaciers while cruising through the Prince William Sound, Lynn Canal, The Inside Passage and College Fjord. Observe animals indigenous to Alaska such as humpback whales, orcas, sea lions, bald eagles and bears (brown/grizzly, black & polar), puffins, wolves & moose. Explore America's last frontier.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will be able to:

- Identify different types of wildlife native to Alaska
- Describe the changes in environment as we travel through Alaska

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- Compare and contrast the many different natural environments of the state
- Discuss how the state is defined by it's environment and wildlife

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- "The Nature of Alaska, 2nd: An Introduction to Familiar Plants and Animals and Natural Attractions (Field Guides - Waterford Press)"
by: James Kavanagh, Waterford Press; ISBN: 1583552995
- "Alaska's Wildlife Treasures (Special Publications)"
by: Tom Melham, Natl Geographic Society, ISBN: 087044977X

ON-LINE RESOURCES:

The Prince William Sound Natural History

<http://www.alaska.net/~awss/pws.html#anchor245384>

Prince William Sound – Paradise Lost? The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

<http://library.thinkquest.org/10867/home.shtml>

Sound Eco Adventures

<http://www.alaska.net/~sea/index.html>

Alaska Department of Fish & Game – Wildlife Notebook

<http://www.adfg.state.ak.us/pubs/notebook/notehome.php>

Alaska Department of Fish & Game – All About Wildlife

<http://www.wildlife.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=aawildlife.main>

PBS Nature – A Mystery in Alaska

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/alaska/index.html>

Alaska

<http://www.alaska.com/>

Southeast Alaska Tourism Council

http://www.alaskainfo.org/CMS/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=15&Itemid=44

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ASSIGNMENTS BASED ON VISITS TO THE DESTINATIONS:

Alaska's Inside Passage - Carved by the staggering force of massive glaciers millions of years ago, Alaska's Inside Passage is a region of pristine water, snow capped mountains, deep fjords and forested islands. With its mild, maritime climate, this area is a prime habitat for bald eagles, sea lions, porpoise and whales. Whales, especially humpbacks, thrive in the lush, cold waters of the Southeast. Use your journal to take notes and observe, identify and describe the wildlife along the Inside Passage. Keep track of how many of each species, where you viewed them, what they were doing. Taking photographs would help add details to your observations.

College Fjord - Discovered in 1899, College Fjord's glaciers are named after elite colleges. College Fjord is a large concentration of glaciers reaching the sea, lined up one after the other, with Harvard Glacier forming the end. If we are lucky we may experience a calving firsthand. Define each type of glacier. Compare and contrast the similarities and differences between tidewater glaciers, valley glaciers and the smaller glaciers. If we see a calving, describe the experience – Which glacier did you observe the calving from? About how large was the part of the glacier that came off? What did it sound like to you? In 1964 the Good Friday earthquake occurred here. What effects did it leave on the fjord?

Prince William Sound - Surrounded by the Chugach Mountains on 3 sides, Prince William Sound offers 3,000 miles of shoreline. Research the unique geological history of the sound along with the plants and wildlife that make the sound their home. Reflect on the natural resources found in the sound and how they contributed towards many Alaskan booms.

Lynn Canal - At nearly 100 miles long and 2,000 feet deep, the Lynn Canal is one of the longest and deepest fjords in the world. Along the way experience glaciers, waterfalls and mountains, as well as the wildlife that makes Lynn Canal their home. This was the major waterway to connect many boom towns during Alaska's history. Research the history of this historic waterway. Which natural resources can be found along the way? What types of animals are found along the canal?

FINAL PAPER

Please choose one of the following as your final paper

1. Submit a unit plan, incorporating the materials collected from the trip. Three types of wildlife and/or natural habitats discovered during the journey must be discussed in depth. The incorporation of science, literature, art, music, etc. must be evident. Identify the New York State learning standards the unit will meet.
2. Explore how changes in the environment affect the wildlife of Alaska. This must be a five-page paper and must have specific references from the trip, including points of interest visited.

GRADING POLICIES

Section responses	30%
Timeliness of Responses	20%
Final Paper	50%

TEACHING STRATEGIES

This is a travel course consisting of guided response activities based on the destinations described in the itinerary of the trip. Each activity requires a written response that exemplifies a high understanding of the concept presented in that lesson. Students will email their responses to the instructor and the other participants in the class and the conclusion of the trip.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Completion of all the activities is essential to the successful completion of the class. In order to achieve a mastery level of the information, all assignments are due when indicated and are mandatory.