

**Whitman College Semester in the West
Final Itinerary and Schedule
Fall 2004**

Sunday, November 21

Pack Trailer, except for personal items, pacos, and sleeping gear.
Drive to Sierra Madre Occidental, hike on Los Ojos Ranch
Evening Hot Springs Visit in Cajon Bonita, Los Ojos Ranch. Dinner and Slumber Party at the hot springs. Showers available.

Monday, November 22

Return, Depart San Bernardino Camp
Explore Agua Prieta
Drive to High Lonesome Road Camp (near Bisbee, AZ...we will be here until we head north for home)
Time for Readings, Visit Bisbee, laundry, etc.

Tuesday, November 23

8:30 Discussion about Collaborative Conservation and Ranching in the West
Readings: Page, "Ranchers form a 'Radical Center' to Protect Wide Open Spaces," from **Smithsonian**, 1997. Tom Wolf Case Study on Malpai Borderlands, available on CD (Kalin put it in trailer), or on web at www.redlodgeclearinghouse.org
Knight, "The Ecology of Ranching," from **Ranching West of the 100th Meridian**, chapter nine, and also chapter 8 by Bob Budd, "Shades of Gray."
Kahn, "Fresh Tracks: The Trail Forks in American Conservation," from **Northern Lights**.

11:30 Depart to Meet Ranchers Wendy and Warner Glenn, Malpai Ranch (east of Douglas, AZ)

Wednesday, November 24

8:30 Leave camp to meet conservation biologist Trevor Hare, Sky Islands Alliance, in Sycamore Canyon, proposed Tumacacori Wilderness Area.
Readings: Chapters 2-4 of Chip Ward, **Hope's Horizon**: "It's a Trickster World—Just Ask Coyote," "Putting the Wolf at the Door," and "How to Fill the Sky Islands with Parrots and Jaguars."

Late Afternoon or Evening Discussion: Wilderness Politics in the West

Readings: Cronon, "The Trouble with Wilderness" (from earlier)
Waller, "Wilderness Redux," from **Wild Earth** 1996/1997
Keiter, "Keeping Faith with Nature," which is chapter nine in **Keeping Faith with Nature**. Those especially interested in wilderness politics will also find chapter six useful.

Thursday, November 25: THANKSGIVING DAY IN CAMP

Thanksgiving Discussion: How do we give back?: Environmental Activism and Ethics
Readings: Maniates and Luke essays on Individuation and Ruse of Recycling (from earlier: aka the “self flagellation chronicles”).

Chaloupka, “The Tragedy of the Ethical Commons: Demoralizing Environmentalism,” in Bennett and Shapiro, **The Politics of Moralizing.**

Patricia Limerick, “Mission to Environmentalists,” from **Something in the Soil**

Evening: Readings and Remembrances of Ellen Meloy

Friday, November 26

Scheduled Meeting with Border Patrol (not yet confirmed)

Readings: “Deadly Journey of Hope” **Los Angeles Times** October 2004.

Patricia Limerick, “The Adventures of the Frontier in the Twentieth Century,” from **Something in the Soil.**

Time to Work on Final Epiphanies

Saturday, November 27

Work on Final Epiphanies

All Epiphanies Due by 10pm

Sunday, November 28

Flex Day....We may leave early if weather suggests we should. If we leave early, we will read epiphanies at JWC.

Read Epiphanies in Four Segments

Monday November 29

Depart Camp, Drive to Lake Mead

Drive to Boulder Dam. Evening visit with US Park Ranger Lena Boesser-Koschman in camp.

Tuesday, November 30

Drive to Jackpot, NV Area. Camp.

Wednesday, December 1

Drive to Johnston Wilderness Campus

Thursday, December 2 to Sunday, December 5: Work on Capstone Essay

Note: You must provide Kalin with a printed copy of your public epiphany (a revised, if necessary, version of one epiphany you presented earlier in the Semester) by dinner on Friday, December 3 This will give Kalin time to add slides that will appear behind you at your public reading.

Monday, December 6

Morning: Time to Work on Capstone Essay

3pm: Leave for Public Epiphany Readings, Olin 157

Tuesday, December 7:

Morning: Time to Work on Capstone Essay

3pm: Leave for Public Epiphany Readings, Olin 157

Wednesday, December 8: Capstone Essays Due at NOON, no exceptions. Do NOT expect to be able to print out your essay at the last minute. Work with others to coordinate, or print on campus.

Afternoon: Clean-up Tasks, Gear Storage.

Evening: Final Dinner and Slide Show, Party

Thursday, December 9: Final Breakfast and Clean-up. We will provide transportation to Reid Center for you and your gear. Please make sure you have made the proper arrangements in town.

*******Program Ends*******

Final Epiphanies

By final, I mean your last epiphany of the program. Like most epiphanies this semester, we have tried to leave these as open-ended as possible. You might choose a topic covered in our final week (wilderness politics, collaborative conservation, ranching, borderlands issues), or you might take this opportunity to write about the West from the broader experience of your past three months traveling throughout the region. My only request is that these epiphanies be primarily about the West, and not about you or about our group. It is certainly OK, in this context, to make connections to personal thoughts and experiences, as Ellen showed us how to do. But as both Paul and Ellen emphasized, our writing should address the West and audiences beyond our group. As always, your epiphany might take a variety of forms. It might be a poem. It might be a rant. It might be.... Here's a short list of possible titles, so you might get the idea: "A Letter to Environmentalists" "I Want to Tell You Something About the American West" "Nevada: An Appreciative Essay" (for Savanna), etc. etc. For some more ideas, you might have a look at Patricia Limerick, "The Shadows of Heaven Itself: The Demanding Dreams of the American West, from **Something in the Soil**, in each cook group reading box.

As always, epiphanies are short essays that we will read aloud to each other.

Capstone Essay

We will spend the final week of the program (early December) up at the Johnston Wilderness Campus. During this time, each student will write a capstone essay that

addresses a significant aspect of the American West, as experienced during the Semester. The goal is to use this final week to produce a highly polished essay, and it will likely draw on material from your journal, class notes, readings, and new research.

Because Semester in the West is an interdisciplinary program, capstone essays may take a variety of forms. It may be a traditional policy essay, such as might appear in a feature article in *High Country News*. Or, it might be a more academic essay addressing a thorny theoretical question that you might illuminate with some aspect of your field experience. Or, it might be a series of poems that share a common theme. In all cases, your capstone essay should illuminate a problem or question we touched on while on Semester in the West. **The instructor must approve topics before we arrive at JWC.**

Students will NOT be expected to work on their capstone essay during the semester, though certainly, you must be thinking about what topic your essay will address, and what form it will take.

Although this may vary by topic and form, I expect that capstone essays will require between ten and fifteen pages to do justice to whatever theme you select. You will have approximately six days to complete this assignment.

The capstone essay is worth **20%** of your combined grade for politics and environmental studies.