

NEWS

The Evergreen State College
Olympia, Washington 98505

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 1972

Two study programs dealing with environmental concerns and emphasizing community participation with regularly-enrolled students will be offered during a special summer academic session at The Evergreen State College, it was announced today by Vice President and Provost David G. Barry. The programs begin June 19 and end September 1.

Both programs--"Supervised Insect Control" and "Natural History of Western Washington"--involve group contracts. Each program is open to Evergreen students who are registered during Spring Quarter and each will include ten Olympia-area residents who are not now registered and who do not plan to register for Fall Quarter, 1972. Tuition and fees will be based on the 1972-73 quarter fee schedule--\$165 for residents; \$453 for non-residents; \$120 for Vietnam veterans.

"Supervised Insect Control", taught by faculty biologists Steven Herman and Robert Sluss, is offered for one, two, or three Evergreen units of credit, with each unit roughly equating to a month's work or the amount of academic activity associated with a five-hour course in other institutions.

"Natural History of Western Washington" is offered for three units of credit and will be taught by faculty members Al Wiedemann, a biologist, and Peter Taylor, an oceanographer.

Study contracts must be arranged before May 12. Persons wishing to enroll are advised to contact faculty as soon as possible. For "Supervised Insect Control", contact either Robert Sluss (Room 3406 Library Building, phone 753-3940) or Steven Herman (Room 2416 Library Building, phone 753-3985). For "Natural History of Western Washington", contact either Al Wiedemann (Room 3517 Library Building, phone 753-3985) or Peter Taylor (Room 3514 Library Building, phone 753-3985).

"These two group contracts reflect the interests of Evergreen faculty and students
Dick Nichols, Director
Information Services

to provide academic programs that allow interested community residents and people from the college to work on mutual problems, in this case environmental questions," Barry explained. "Most of our first summer academic program--an entirely self-supporting enterprise--is restricted to students now enrolled at Evergreen, but we've expanded the planning in the case of these two programs because of their strong ties to the surrounding community served by Evergreen. As the college grows and funds become available, we'll make these kinds of programs part of our regular curriculum."

The Contracted Study format for the summer programs is one of two ways academic credit may be earned at Evergreen. Through Contracted Studies, students, either as individuals or in groups, sign up with faculty sponsors to earn credit by doing a specific project, carrying out a specific investigation, mastering a skill, or dealing with a specific body of subject matter. The other credit-generating activity, Coordinated Studies, involves teams of students and faculty from different fields devoting full time to the study of general problem-centered topics from a variety of academic perspectives.

The Group Contract in Supervised Insect Control is designed to provide students with instruction and practical experience in identifying pests and their natural enemies, assessing population trends in each, and suggesting control measures when they are called for. Special emphasis will be given to natural and biological control measures. Students also will be shown ways of analyzing and studying the population dynamics of two local insect pests--the tent caterpillar and codling moth--in the absence of any concern with control.

"Community involvement will be an essential part of the instruction," according to instructors Herman and Sluss. "A major portion of the program will include a diagnostic and advisory service, with students and faculty responding to calls from Olympia-area gardeners by visiting their gardens to provide practical information about specific problems."

Plans call for a weekly schedule involving research and study meetings and population counts of insects on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, plus Tuesday and

Thursday on-site visits to problem areas in response to calls from gardeners in the Olympia area. A special phone number will be listed later so that calls may be received and catalogued during the life of the study program.

Facilities to be used for the program include laboratory, seminar and lecture space in the Geoduck House marine laboratory as well as waterfront property on the Evergreen campus. Field and laboratory equipment will be supplied largely by the college.

Instructors Herman and Sluss both have extensive experience in supervising insect control programs for commercial crops such as cotton, alfalfa, sugar beets and walnuts. Both worked for many years for the University of California's Department of Biological Control at Berkeley. Herman holds a bachelor's degree and has a doctorate pending, both in zoology. Sluss has a bachelor's degree in zoology, plus a master's degree and doctorate in entomology.

The Group Contract entitled "Natural History of Western Washington" will include lecture-discussions on basic principles and techniques of field ecology, terrestrial habitats of Western Washington, marine intertidal biology, the Puget Sound Estuary, and the biological productivity of Puget Sound. The program also involves student readings pertinent to the natural history of Western Washington and to general ecology; field exercises for ecological analysis and observation of plants and animals in representative habitats; compiling of daily journals of field and laboratory observations by all participants; and special projects done in pairs or individually by all participants. The special projects involve studies of a particular plant or animal species or of some "reasonably limited" biological system.

Field trip locations will include the Evergreen campus, Nisqually Delta, Western Cascades, various locations in the Puget Sound Basin, the Long Beach Peninsula and the Olympic Peninsula. Transportation costs for the field trips will run approximately \$35; food and camp costs will be additional. Participants should have a basic set of personal camping gear.

According to Wiedemann and Taylor, objectives expected to be reached during the

program include "knowledge of characteristic plants, animals, setting and physiography of representative Western Washington terrestrial and marine habitats; knowledge of basic concepts of descriptive ecology applied to terrestrial, shoreline and nearshore marine habitats; knowledge of taxonomic keys, field guides, and microscopes for the identification of land plants, marine animals and birds; knowledge of typical distribution patterns of plants and animals in selected habitats; and knowledge of methods for collecting and preserving biological specimens."

Wiedemann has a bachelor's degree in crop science, a master's in agronomy, and a doctorate in botany. Taylor holds a bachelor's degree in biochemistry, a master's degree and a doctorate, both in marine biology.