

In keeping with the philosophies of CSUMB, this is a performance-based course. Your grade in the course will depend on your ability to demonstrate each of the course learning outcomes listed below:

1. Identify and describe the basic geologic and hydrologic features defining the Great Basin, Sierra Nevada, Central Valley, and Coastal ecosystems.
2. Identify and describe the common plant and animal species in the Great Basin, Sierra Nevada, Central Valley, and Coastal ecosystems.
3. Explain how the physical environment is linked to the general structure, function, and productivity of ecological systems.
4. Describe how watershed systems respond to natural forces.
5. Describe how human activities have impacted and degraded the watersheds of the Great Basin, Sierra Nevada, Central Valley, and Coastal ecosystems.
6. Define and assess current or proposed policies regulating water use in California.
7. Identify the implications of current policies and human activities impacting the watersheds of the Great Basin, Sierra Nevada, Central Valley, and Coastal ecosystems.

GRADING:

Your grade in the 1 credit orientation course will be based upon your performance on the following assessments:

Exams	50%
Final paper	30%
Participation	20%

Your grade in the 4 credit field course will be based upon your performance on the following assessments:

Course journal/species list	20%
Discussion participation	20%
Exams	30%
Presentations	15%
Final paper	15%

FEES: In addition to tuition fees, students will required to pay a fee to cover the following items:

Food/Meals (\$10/day)	\$140
Campground/Park Entrance Fees (\$10/day)	\$140
Gas (\$5/day)	\$70
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Total fee	\$350

Any money not used for expenses will be returned. We do not want this fee to be a financial obstacle to anyone, so please talk to us if you have concerns.

Field Portion

Date	Activity	Evening Campsite
8-Jun	travel day to Bridgeport; Snelling Soil; saprolite; Table Mtn.; Long Valley pyroclastics	Bob's meadow
9-Jun	hike in Swager Creek; overview of parts of a watershed; Great Basin ecosystems	Bob's meadow
10-Jun	Mono Lake; Geologic history of Mono Lake; Tufa Deposits; Lake level changes; ecosystem changes	Bob's meadow
11-Jun	Mono Lake; Rush River restoration project; construction of LA Aquaduct; regional volcanism	June Lake or Deadman Creek Rd. Campground
12-Jun	travel to Mammoth; following the California aquaduct; forest killed by volcanic CO ₂ , Devil's Postpile	June Lake or Deadman Creek Rd. Campground
13-Jun	free day in Mammoth	Creek Rd. Campground
14-Jun	Yosemite; elevational zonation of vegetation; Sierra Nevada batholith	Yosemite
15-Jun	Yosemite Valley; glacial history; impacts of tourism; water use	Yosemite
16-Jun	Hetch Hetchy; Giant Sequoia trees	Yosemite
17-Jun	free day in Yosemite	Yosemite
18-Jun	Kesterson; Selenium in soils; San Luis Reservoir	Pinnacles
19-Jun	San Antonio Reservoir/San Simeon	San Simeon
20-Jun	San Simeon/Cambria/Herst Castle	Big Sur coast
21-Jun	Coastal Processes/Landslides/Debris Flows/Sur-Nacimiento Fault	CSUMB

COURSE MATERIALS:

Texts are yet to be determined. Below is a list of books we are considering as texts and reference material that we will bring along.

- a. Sierra Nevada Natural History
- b. An Island Called California
- c. Simon and Schulsters Guide to Rocks and Minerals
- d. Pacific Coast Guide
- e. Cadillac Desert
- f. map of California

Other materials you will be required to bring:

- a. hammer (rock hammer if you can)
- b. field notebook/journal