

An Introduction to the Natural World Course

Naturalist Study Group Membership

Our Mission is to create for our members and the general public opportunities to enhance awareness of the natural world – to learn how to open our eyes to better appreciate and cherish the incredible variety, and beauty of our Pacific Northwest.

The Study Group started out as a way for Introduction to the Natural World Course graduates to continue their adventures in learning about the natural world. The course is also a great opportunity for those interested in nature to connect with other aspiring naturalists and share their knowledge and experiences at a more detailed level.

Membership in the Naturalist Study Group requires completion of an application form. A one-time fee of \$60 for Mountaineer members or \$85 for non-members gives a lifetime membership

Information may be found online at:

www.mountaineers.org

Search Exploring Nature>An Introduction to the Natural World course

Photos By Study Group Members:

Cover: **Gary Brill** – Silvery Blue butterfly on Leafy-bract Aster

Inside: **Stewart Hougén** – Bitterroot

Lisa Ni – Scorpion Mountain fall color

Above: **Lisa Ni** – Western Larch

Your membership entitles you to attend all Study Group activities – the lecture series, potlucks and seminars, field trips, hikes, and more. Members are also entitled to audit the Introduction to the Natural World Course. As a member, you also have access to the Naturalist's website and newsletter for ongoing activities, workshops and trips.

To find out more go to mountaineers.org. LEARN>Find Courses>Search Exploring Nature>Naturalists Study Group-Seattle, or use the search function on the home page.

Or contact:

Bruce Barcklow at

bbarcklow@gmail.com to complete the

Study Group application.



The
Mountaineers
www.mountaineers.org



Have you wondered what flower
you saw on a hike or...

You want to know more about the
forests and mountains of the PNW...

*An Introduction to the
Natural World*

may be the course you have been looking for...

An Introduction to the Natural World course is designed for hikers, climbers, photographers, scramblers, and conservationists who want to learn more about the mountains they enjoy. Using the "Field Guide to the Cascades and Olympics" by Stephen Whitney and Rob Sandelin, together with lectures and field trips, you will learn the basics of how to identify flowers, shrubs, trees, birds, mammals, butterflies and other forms of life. Instructors are volunteers, eager to share their knowledge and enthusiasm of nature. Field trips will be organized with faster and slower paced groups to accommodate all fitness levels.



An Introduction to the Natural World course is designed for beginning naturalists. More experienced students are always welcome and invited to contribute as they learn even more. Successful completion of the course opens the door to membership in the Naturalist Study Group to continue the adventure through workshops, field trips and lectures.

The course includes four presentations at the Mountaineers Program Center at Magnuson Park, Seattle, and four field trips (both local and in the mountains). Participation in all activities is not required.

To graduate, submit a list of 100 identified species. We will celebrate your success and you will get to know other naturalists at a potluck on 9/20/2016. The goal is to have fun and to learn.

Lectures (subject to speaker availability) 7-9 pm, Mountaineers Program Center

April 13: Geology and ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest, conifers, introduction to birding

May 17: Introduction to flower identification, ferns, local birds

June 8: Insects and butterflies, eastside flowers and birds, using electronic apps and field guides

July 13: Mt. Rainier flowers. The little things (mosses, lichen and fungi), mammals and their signs, tide pools and beaches

Field Trips

April 16 or 17: Various half-day Sat. or Sun.; some weekday evenings. Local parks (coastal forest plants, trees, shrubs, birds and ecosystems).

May 20 or 21: Various half-day Sat. or Sun.; some weekday evenings. Local parks (birds).

June 18 or 19: Teanaway area* (Interior fir zone, wildflowers and birds).

August 6 or 7: Mt. Rainier National Park* (Silver fir subalpine zone and wildflowers).

Stewardship: Native Plant Garden – sessions on afternoon of May 7, or the morning or afternoon of May 15

**Dates may change depending on snow levels.*

Graduation Potluck **September 20** (Tuesday evening, 7-9 pm)



Register Online:

- ➔ Go to www.Mountaineers.org
- ➔ Click on Learn>Find Courses, Clinics & Seminars
- ➔ Search Exploring Nature>Introduction to the Natural World Course Seattle 2016

OR

- ➔ In the upper right hand corner of the Mountaineers' home page, click on the small magnifier icon and search for Introduction to the Natural World Course Seattle 2016

Register By Phone:

- ➔ Call The Mountaineers office at (206) 521-6001

Register In Person:

- ➔ Visit The Mountaineers Program Center in Magnuson Park; 7700 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA

Registration is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign-up will close on 4/8/2016 or whenever the course fills. This course is recommended for those 18 and older.

Course Fees for 2016:

\$105 – Mountaineers Members
\$160 – Non-Members