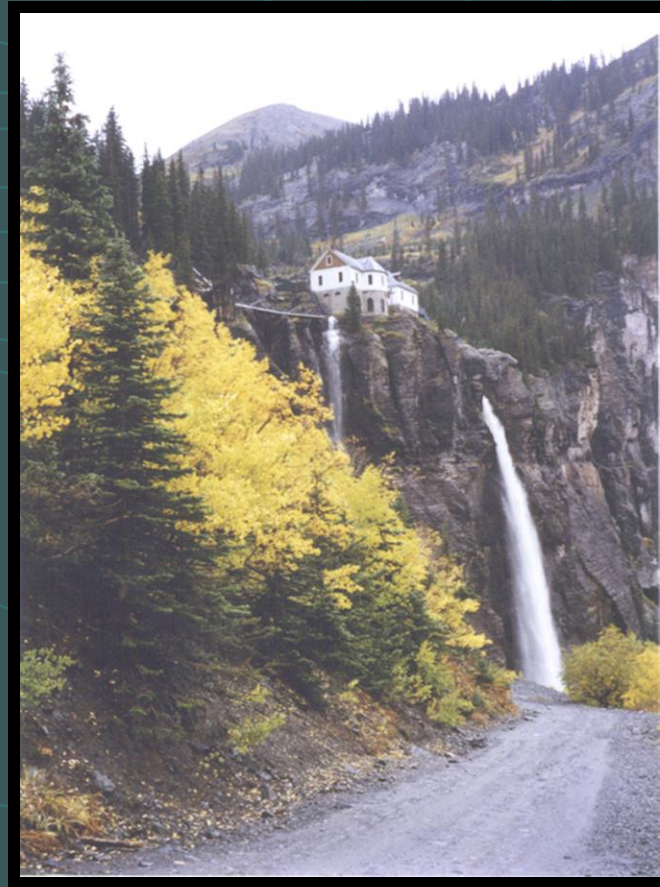


Bridal Veil Living Classroom

A Summer Science Program



Telluride Institute Watershed Education

Alessandra Jacobson and Darcy Craig

What is the Bridal Veil Living Classroom?

- Outdoor classroom.
- Highest elevation in a watershed-wide series.
- Field-based intensive natural science work.

The course:

1. 6 – 8 field work days total, in 2 intensive sessions to collect data.
2. Work with mentor to define your project in between field sessions.
3. Independent study through fall for completion of final paper and visual project
4. Elective science credit and/or college credit available

- Flexibility in research subjects
- Maximum 4 students



Site description of the study area



- ¼ mile behind Bridal Veil Power Station
- Hanging glacial valley
- Bridal Veil Creek
- Sub-alpine (10,500') riparian ecosystem
- Abundant wildflowers
- Several willow species
- Limited tree species
- Moist soils
- Late-lying snow pack
- Abundant bird life
- Short rapid growing season
- Gateway to several connecting alpine basins

Why bother to study these plots???

- To understand the natural world that surrounds us and the importance of biodiversity.
- To collect long-term data in an ever changing environment.
- Watershed-wide Biodiversity Monitoring Program is incomplete without this data (Pinhead Institute)
- Provide you with an intro to real field science, which may inspire your future decisions
- High school/College CREDIT!
- *Because we LOVE the ecosystem and sharing our appreciation of it.*



The Research and Data

- There are a variety of potential research topics ...



- Tree data: diameter, species, specimens, coordinates
- Plant/flower data
- Bird counts and identification
- Temperature: water, air, ground
- Stream flow
- Soil moisture content
- Rain gauge
- Insects/pollinators
- Comparative photographs
- Snow depth
- Stream insects

- Mentors will be there to help you decide on a research topic and to design your methods.

Requirements for participating students



- 6-8 field days (late June and early August)
- 90 hours course work for 1 semester (.5) credit
- Complete required material
 - Field journaling
 - Graphs, calculations, maps, etc.
 - Data analysis with Excel
- Write up of investigations
- Visual presentation early December
- Desire to learn, discipline to follow through

What sort of students should apply?

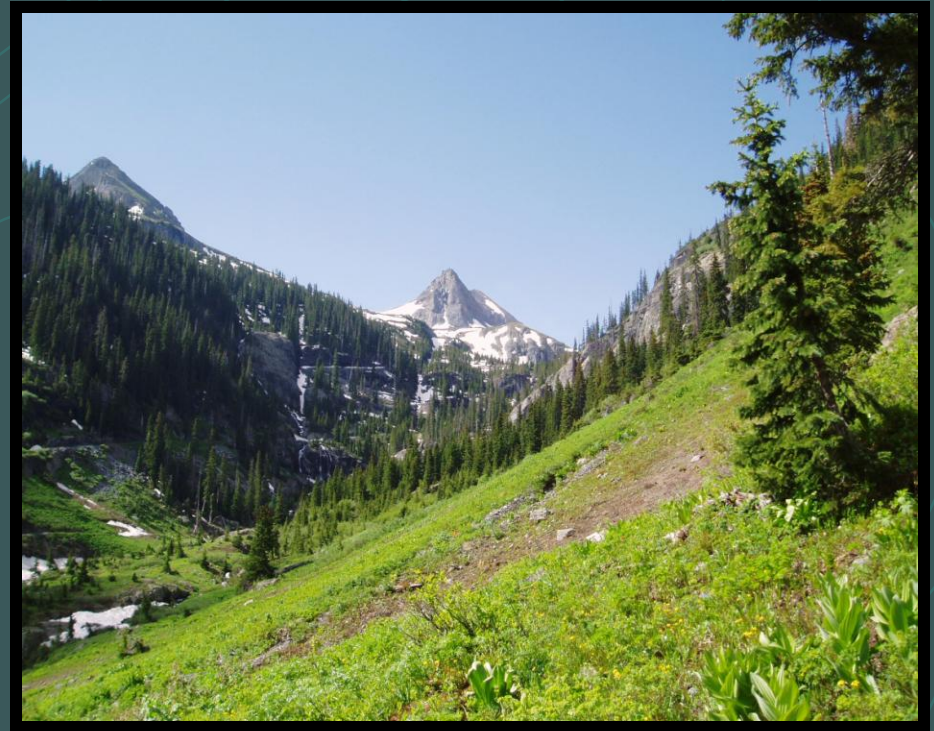


- Motivated, Independent, Curious, Flexible.
- Determination to complete course entirely.
- Ability to endure the outdoor elements
- **NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

What will you take away from this course?

- An appreciation for natural environment
- Wealth of knowledge
- Hands-on intensive field learning experience!

- Elective science credit and/or college credit
- Great addition to your college entrance applications and resume`
- Option for 10th graders to continue next year



How to Apply



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- Fill out and return application form by due date.
- Call, meet, or e-mail us with any questions
- Discuss dates with your family and contact Alessandra or Darcy with conflicts.
- Think about what you might want to research at Bridal Veil.