

**GEOLOGY / SOIL SCIENCE 496
COLUMBIA PLATEAU FIELD COURSE
SPRING SEMESTER, 2005**

ANNOUNCEMENT AND REGISTRATION FORM

In Spring, 2005, the NDSU Departments of Geosciences and of Soil Sciences will co-sponsor a 2-credit, field experience course. This 8-day, "spring break" course will center on the geology and soils of the Columbia Plateau and Channeled Scablands of eastern and central Washington State. Travel dates: March 12-20.

Travel to/from Spokane, Washington, will be on Amtrak from Fargo (22 hours, each way). Field travel will be in rental vans. Accommodations include 1 night of hotel, 5 nights of camping (tents, student-provided) at public and private campgrounds, and 2 nights in coach seats on Amtrak. In March, snow and cold can be expected, even though the winter so far has been amiable. In cases of weather-related emergencies, alternative accommodations in motels may be sought at extra cost (below). Provisions for meals will be the obligation for each participant. Expect most of the meals to be "cold" and "uninteresting," as access to groceries will be limited.

Students will participate in a required weekly class (classtime, to be announced) and through contributions of a guidebook chapter and presentation of a field talk during the field trip.

Projected expenses per participant (excluding tuition):

\$350 (\$380 for non-NDSU participants; Soil Science students please contact Dr. Hopkins for your fee). Non-refundable course fee, required in advance. Course fee covers your train transportation, van transportation, and hotel/camping costs, text materials, and the cost of admissions to all parks and fee areas.

\$75+ Food and beverage.

\$25-35 Emergency money (weather-related room expenses, etc.)

Enrollment is on a "first-pay, first-served" basis. Amtrak reservations have already been made for 20 people, but the passenger list must be finalized in late January for ticketing.

Payments of course fees will be accepted at FLC Rooms 314A and 314E beginning immediately.

For further information, please contact Dr. D.P. Schwert, NDSU Geosciences (701-231-7496; donald.schwert@ndsu.edu) or Dr. D. Hopkins, NDSU Soils Sciences (701-231-8948; david.hopkins@ndsu.edu).

To enroll:

1. If taking the course for credit, enroll in Geology or Soil Science 496.
2. Pay a non-refundable deposit of \$200 by Wednesday, January 19. This ensures your place on the trip and may not be transferred to anyone else without prior approval of

instructor. All deposits will be collected by NDSU Geosciences at FLC 314.

3. Pay a second fee of \$150 (\$180 for non-NDSU participants; Soil Science students contact Dr. Hopkins for the amount of this second fee) by Thursday, February 24.

IMPORTANT NOTES - PLEASE READ!

1. The Departments make no guarantee regarding the quality of campgrounds, the availability of showers, toilets, or water, the regularity of meals (or other forms of “regularity”!), weather-related conditions, etc. Come prepared for the worst of conditions.
2. Enrollees are reminded that they MUST have a good medical/disability policy of their own.

At all times, students should use all precautions possible to assure a safe trip. As faculty, we cannot supervise the activities of each of you at all times, and we trust that you have the maturity and judgment to conduct yourselves wisely, courteously, and safely.

Only a partial refund can be provided to enrollees who must leave the trip for medical or other reasons. As this course is tightly-budgeted on a “break-even” basis, anyone leaving the trip for any reason will be responsible for paying their own transportation back to Fargo.

3. Participants who do not wish to share a hotel room *en masse* (4 to 5 per room) at Spokane will need to provide lodging at their own cost: \$38/room per night for one bed/one person, or \$42 for one bed/two persons. You must contact DPS as soon as possible to include this arrangement in the group reservations.
4. The course grade will be evaluated on the quality of each student's classroom and field participation, the quality of each student's field presentation, and the quality of a notebook of field observations.
5. Students are responsible for their own transportation to destination points. No refunds can be made due to one's failure to arrive at the respective airports on time.
6. *The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is strictly prohibited for the duration of the academic portion of the field course.*
7. Non-NDSU participants need not enroll for credit. You must understand that this is not a formal “tour,” and you must expect to go with the flow under what might be grungy, cold, circumstances over long days. But you will get to observe some great geology and soils! As with all of the others, you will be expected to contribute academically and positively to the trip/course, and you will be given a pre-assignment to work on to present in conjunction with the trip.

**GEOLOGY 496 REGISTRATION
SPRING FIELD COURSE --- 2005**

(PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM WITH YOUR FIRST PAYMENT*)

(Please note that for Security Clearance purposes for our visit to the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, we are asking for certain additional information to allow your badging).

NAME IN FULL, AS ON DRIVER'S LICENSE OR PASSPORT: _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: _____

ADDRESS ON DRIVER'S LICENSE: _____

LOCAL ADDRESS: _____

LOCAL TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

PAYMENTS:

- \$200 trip deposit in either cash (a receipt will be provided) or in the form of a check payable to "NDSU GEOSCIENCES DEPARTMENT." (This applies to all participants).

- The balance is due as scheduled on the announcement. **Please submit all payments to Dr. Schwert or to Ms. McQuay, Family Life Center Room 314.**

In registering for this course, I agree to the following:

1. I will make the remaining fee payments, as scheduled on the announcement.
2. I understand that these fees are NON-REFUNDABLE except in the event of the development of a course waiting list.
3. My registration for this trip may not be transferred to another individual except by permission of the instructor. Beyond certain dates, this will be impossible to do.
4. I carry my own medical insurance coverage.
5. I have read and agree to comply with the alcoholic beverage policy.
6. I agree to represent North Dakota State University in a responsible manner.

(Signature:)

(Date:)