

Geog 199: Special Problems (2 Units)

Syllabus

Faculty: Jillian Buckholz

Office: 512 Butte Hall

Conference Background:

Since 1990, the Bioneers Conference has gathered scientists and social innovators who have demonstrated visionary and practical models for restoring the Earth and communities. The Bioneers Conference spans all fields, cultures, ages and walks of life. The topics of discussion range from science to spirit, local to global, academia to the grass roots, farm to city, business to public service and art to engineering. Bioneers celebrate the gift of life in all its diversity and mystery, conjuring a change of heart to renew society's empathic connection with the web of life and the Earth, our home.

Course Description:

In this course students will participate, with other students, in the 2006 Bioneers Conference to be held at the Marin Center in San Rafael, CA October 20-22. This conference will expose students to various speakers and panel discussions which address topics that promote practical environmental solutions and innovative social strategies for restoring the Earth and communities. Student will be expected to participate in class meetings and assignments, take an active role in the conference and make a presentation on the Bioneers Conference when they return.

GEOG 199 Learning Objectives:

- ⊗ Integrate knowledge by examining issues BEFORE attending the conference.
- ⊗ Engage in experimental learning through discussion and debate with others.
- ⊗ Practice analytical thinking with an educational presentation to the public.

Course Requirements

- ⊗ **Attend:** Introductory course session on Wednesday September, 6th from 4-5 in Butte 518.
- ⊗ **Research:** An issue that has been discussed or will be discussed at one of the panels at the conference.
- ⊗ **Write and Attend:** A 2-page summary of an issue that was presented at the Bioneers Conference last year or will be covered this year is due on Wednesday September 20th. Meet in Butte 518 at 4pm to turn in the paper and have an hour long group discussion.
- ⊗ **Attend:** Meet in Butte 518 Wednesday October 4th from 4-5 pm to discuss presentations.
- ⊗ **Attend:** Bioneers Conference October 20-22, 2006. Plenary Sessions are MANDATORY. One panel session per day is also REQUIRED.
- ⊗ **Write:** A 2-page summary of one of the plenary speakers' presentations and a 2-page summary on one panel session. Submit via email to instructor by December 1, 2006.
- ⊗ **Present:** Students will be required to discover a way, individually or in groups, to bring Bioneers back to Chico. This will be discussed and finalized at the October 4th meeting. The presentation will take place no later than December 1, 2006.

Grading will be Credit/No Credit and students will be able to apply the units towards graduation.

Stipend:

The Bidwell Environmental Institute will sponsor 10 students who complete the first four assignments by the dates required by providing lodging and registration fees.

More Information:

www.bioneers.org