

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST: PEOPLE ON THE LAND

Coordinated Study, 1974-75

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General Description. The Pacific Northwest exemplifies how the social, cultural, political, and economic attributes of people are shaped by and in turn affect the landscape, natural resources, and other environmental features of a region. The people, the natural environment, and their interaction in a regional setting comprise the theme of this coordinated study program.

### FIRST QUARTER - FALL 1974

General Schedule. A substantial part of the quarter was devoted to field trips to view representative subregions of the Pacific Northwest. On campus, the typical week included three lecture sessions and two seminar sessions. The remainder of the time was open for individual study, writing journals, and for researching and preparing project proposals.

Lectures. Lectures by program faculty members included topics in history of settlement, physical geography, urban and regional development, and environmental and social systems. Invited speakers gave presentations on early exploration, weather, urban and regional history, and prehistoric and contemporary Native American cultures. Several films were shown, on the geology of beaches, Indian fishing rights problems, and problems of contemporary Native Americans.

Seminars. Seminars were held to discuss the following books: (1) B. DeVoto (Ed.) 1953. The Journals of Lewis and Clark. Houghton Mifflin, (2) J.G. Swan 1857. The Northwest Coast. 1969 edition - University of Washington Press, (3) American Friends Service Committee 1970. Uncommon Controversy. University of Washington Press, (4) K. Kesey 1964. Sometimes A Great Notion. Viking, (5) N.H. Clark 1970. Mill Town. University of Washington Press, (6) M. Morgan 1960. Skid Road. Viking.

Texts. Readings were assigned in the following books: (1) D.O. Johansen 1967. The Empire of the Columbia. 2nd Ed., Harper and Row, (2) B. McKee 1972. Cascadia. The Geologic Evolution of the Pacific Northwest. McGraw-Hill, (3) R.M. Highsmith Jr. and R. Bard 1973. Atlas of the Pacific Northwest. 5th Ed. Oregon State Univ. Press, (4) A.N. Strahler and A.H. Strahler 1973. Environmental Geoscience. Hamilton.

#### Field Trips.

- (1) One half day, October 2, Tumwater Falls Park and Olympia. A historical tour conducted by a State Capitol Museum representative.
- (2) Three days, October 7-9, southwestern Washington including Willapa Bay, Long Beach Peninsula, Columbia River entrance and the Chehalis River valley. Sessions with the Director, Willapa National Wildlife Refuge and the Director, Willapa Shellfish Laboratory.
- (3) Five days, October 14-18, eastern Washington along the Columbia River from Grand Coulee to Portland. Visits including Rocky Reach, Grand Coulee and Bonneville Dams, Columbia National Wildlife Refuge, Columbia Irrigation Project

headquarters, a salmon hatchery, visitors centers at Dry Falls and Vantage and a presentation by a geologist in Richland.

- (4) Three days, November 6-8, northwestern Washington, primarily the Makah Tribal Reservations. Sessions with a curator, Ozette Archeological Site Processing Center, Neah Bay, and a former tribal council member, Makah Nation, Neah Bay. Visited the Ozette Archeological Site, Cape Alava.
- (5) Four days, November 14-17, northcentral Oregon in the vicinity of Clarno, conducted by geologist-naturalist Dr. Mike Uhthoff. Viewed geology and biology of an arid region.
- (6) One half day, November 21, Weyerhaeuser Company Corporate Headquarters, Federal Way. Presentation on forest management.

Projects. Each participant was expected to submit a written proposal for a research project relating to the program theme to be carried out in the next quarter. Seminar sessions were conducted to coordinate the preparation of the proposals.

Journals. Each participant was urged to write a journal recording progress and reflective analysis on all aspects of this coordinated study.

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## SECOND QUARTER - WINTER 1975

During the winter quarter the Pacific Northwest program was oriented towards the development of individual project proposals and the conceptual and technical skills necessary to carry them out. This end was accomplished in three ways:  
**Lectures, modules, and project groups.**

Lectures. Lectures were initiated and organized in large part by student interest and activity. They were held weekly and were the main opportunity for large group meetings. Lecture topics and speakers included:

Comparative Politics of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia - Matt Smith

Film: The Salt Marsh

Land Use Legislation in Washington State - Panel discussion

State Sen. Alan Bluchel, John Black, Lobbyist WEC; Don Moos, Special Assistant to the Governor

Writing Longer Papers: A workshop with Peter Elbow

Film, Restless Earth: Plate Tectonics & Evidence from Fossils, Geology of the PNW, Dee Molenaar, U.S. Geological Survey

Politics and Land Use in British Columbia - Robert Skelly, Member of the B.C. Legislative Assembly.

Everett Massacre - Jack L. Miller, Everett Massacre participant and Labor Organizer

Film: Sometimes a Great Notion

Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail - Ben Schiffrin, PNW student

Project Groups. Met weekly for three hours. During these meetings students discussed and presented problems they had encountered in doing their research. In addition there were presentations concerning methodology and techniques of research. Several field trips were arranged in conjunction with projects.

Modules. Five modules were presented in order to provide conceptual background for many of the projects. Students were expected to participate in two modules during the quarter. Descriptions for each follow.

#### Pacific Northwest History

This module concentrated on History and Politics of the Pacific Northwest from 1870 to the present. During the module we read Johansen's Empire of the Columbia and a wide variety of books about British Columbia. Student reports on facets of two important time periods in the NW, 1893-98, 1945-48, formed the base of two seminars.

In addition, the group made a trip to Victoria, B.C., to visit the Legislature, Provincial Archives, and Museum.

#### Land and American Thought

This module introduced students from a variety of different backgrounds to the historical and intellectual dimensions of American interaction with its natural environment. Students read a book or major article for each of nine weekly seminars. They were expected to write a short weekly paper and to complete a brief mid-term paper and a final term paper in the module. Reading list: Lynn White, "Historical Roots of Our Environmental Crises"; Rodrick Nash, Wilderness and the American Mind; Charles Anderson, Thoreau's World Miniatures from his Journal; Locke, Second Treatise of Government; Henry N. Smith, Virgin Land; W.C. Williams, In the American Grain; Gary Snyder, Earth Household; George Grant, "In Defense of North America."

#### Ecology Module

Eight weekly seminars to discuss nineteen published research articles on topics in ecology: forest plant communities, succession, effects of fire, wildlife-vegetation relationships, salt marsh plant communities, animal communities, succession, zonation, productivity, and energetics; and salmon migration. Participants shared in presenting and leading discussion on the articles.

#### Environmental Geoscience Module

Eight weekly seminars to discuss readings in the earth science text - Strahler, A.N. and A.H. Strahler, 1973. Environmental Geoscience. Hamilton Publishing Co., Santa Barbara, California - embracing introductions to atmospheric science, oceanography, and geological science. Some participants reported on supplemental reading. A written essay was assigned to compare with the Pacific Northwest another region of the world most closely resembling it environmentally.

#### Cities and People

Cities and People was conceived and conducted as an introduction to the idea and history of urban life. The origins of settled life in Mesopotamia and Meso-America, the urban explosion of the 19th and 20th centuries, and the experiments into planned cities were three of our major areas of consideration. There were films on the problems of cities, and two field trips. Lewis Mumford, Jane Jacobs, Murray Bookchin, Kevin Lynch, and Constatine Doxiadas were a few of the major thinkers and planners in urban problems whose writings were studied.

### THIRD QUARTER - SPRING 1975

During the spring quarter students in the Pacific Northwest program worked primarily on their individual research projects. Students met on a weekly basis with their project group and in individual conferences with their project sponsor. During the last three weeks of the quarter students presented the results of their research to the program in a series of talks. In addition, four workshops were offered. These included a writing workshop, a weekly bird watching expedition, a weather and climate workshop and a plant identification workshop.

Weather and Climate Workshop - 6 weeks, 3 hr. per week

An introduction to meteorology principals and the Koeppen System of world climates classification. Basic terminology. Particular reference to PNW, weather systems and microclimates.

Plant Identification Workshop - 6 weeks, 3 hr. per week

Seven laboratory sessions were held to develop skills in identifying vascular plants of the Pacific Northwest. Standard references and manuals of Northwest flora were used. Lectures by Al Wiedemann on systematic botany were also attended.