



NORTHWEST NAZARENE
UNIVERSITY

Professional Development Course Syllabus

Sponsor/Instructor is required to submit all class registrations within one week of the start date.

Course Number: EDSC5891 (Sec.05)

Sponsor ID: 214284

Course Title: **Wildfires and Weeds**

(Office Use Only) Section Title: **Twin Falls, Idaho**

Professional Development Credit(s): 1 Total Cost for Credit: **\$60.00**

Course Dates: **August 2 - 3, 2011** Location: **Twin Falls, Idaho**

Instructor: **Michelle Youngquist** Contact: **plt@idahoforests.org**

Course Prerequisites: Bachelor's Degree & PLT Registration Evaluation Procedure: **Pass/Fail**

NOTE: Professional Development courses do not normally count toward an academic degree.

1. Course Description:

This course focuses on two of the West's most critical environmental issues: wildfires and invasive species. Participants will learn about the role of fire in Idaho's ecosystems; the current state of our ecosystems; the role fire will likely play in the future; and the advantage and disadvantages of various management options. At the same time, invasive species will be examined—how these species came here; their current range; their effects on native plants and animals; and their influence (and are influenced by) the occurrence, intensity and spread of fires.

2. Educational Goals:

(Broad statements of what participants will achieve as a result of taking this class. Goals will be achieved by completing the learning objectives indicated below.)

- Educators will learn the role of fire in Idaho's forest and range ecosystems--past, present and future. Teachers will leave the course ready to use materials that spark student interest in science, mathematics, social studies, geography, language arts and other subject areas.

3. Learning Objectives:

(Specifically, what will participants be able to do as a result of this class? Measurable results for instructor to determine participants' grade.)

- Examine fire issues in Idaho's ecosystems, past and present.
- Discuss the current fire regimes for ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, and spruce/fir forests in Idaho.
- Identify at least three invasive species.
- Describe where the invasive species came from; how these species came to Idaho; and their effects on native organisms.
- Give an example of fire affecting invasive species; and an example of invasive species affecting fire.
- Teach students about invasive species and wildfires in the West using information and activities from the course.

4. Course Requirements:

(A minimum of 15 student learning hours, to include at least one measurable learning product, required per credit earned.)

- Attend all class sessions
- Participate in class activities.
- Conduct two PLT activities with students or other youth.
- Complete a written report and self-critique about this experience.
- Submit to: Michelle Youngquist at plt@idahoforests.org

5. Course Meeting Dates, Times and Location:

Tuesday & Wednesday, August 2 - 3, 2011; Twin Falls, Idaho, plus additional hours to meet the necessary requirements for a one credit course.

Due Date for Completion of Course Requirements: August 30, 2011

6. Learning Resources or Text:

Project Learning Tree Secondary Module: Forest Ecology (American Forest Foundation); Burning Issues CD-ROM (Florida State University and the Bureau of Land Management)