A SEMESTER AT THE OREGON EXTENSION
(Specific textbooks identified here are illustrative. Actual required texts are decided closer to the semester.)

Summer reading: David Duncan, *The River Why*

**SEGMENT ONE: WHAT IS NATURE?  4 CREDITS**

**Themes:**
- social constructions of "nature"—frontier, Romantic, utilitarian, ecological, anthropocene
- history & shifts in American resource extraction, environmental & preservation history
- local debates between preservationists and conservationists
- scientific, ethical and philosophical questions driving “green” cultural attitudes

**Books:**
Jedediah Purdy, *After Nature: A Politics for the Anthropocene*
William Cronon, *Nature’s Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*
Julie Guthman, *Weighing In: Obesity, Food Justice, and the Limits of Capitalism*
Wendell Berry, *Home Economics*
Paul Robbins, *Lawn People: How Grasses, Weeds, & Chemicals Make Us Who We Are*
Robin Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, & the Teachings of Plants*

**Sustainability Chore Tracks (daily):**
- gardening and food preservation
- animal husbandry

**Assignments:**
- small group discussion
- book notes on all readings
- three short papers

**Practices:**
- peak climb (Mt. McLoughlin)
- overnight tour of regional green farming
- recycling
- apple picking and cider pressing
- fly fishing workshop
- map & compass orienteering and knots instruction
- Friday chores

**BACKPACKING TRIP**
6 days in the backcountry

**SEGMENT TWO: WHAT IS COMMUNITY?  3 CREDITS**

**Themes:**
- Rene Girard’s theory of mimetic desire and scapegoating
- case study of current social flashpoint: e.g., immigration, US incarceration, Arab uprisings

**Books:**
René Girard, *I See Satan Fall Like Lightning*
T.C. Boyle, *Tortilla Curtain*
Seth Holmes, *Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States*

**Sustainability Chore Tracks (daily):**
- gardening & food/animal husbandry

**Assignments:**
- book notes on all readings
- two short papers
- independent research & 15pp paper

**Practices:**
- Shakespeare play
- canning workshop
- cheese making workshop
- Friday chores

**OREGON COAST TRIP**
Redwoods, camping in yurts, tidepooling
SEGMENT THREE: WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE WORLD?  3 CREDITS

Themes:
• what is tacit knowledge?
• the sustainability spectrum: from institutional policies and macro-economics to personal lifestyle choices
• understanding sustainability as a craft

Books
Matthew Crawford, *Shop Class as Soul Craft*
Wangari Maathai, *Unbowed: A Memoir*
Additional texts in each skill track

Skill Tracks (each student chooses one):
• sustainable business (Business)
• nature writing (Lit)
• toolcraft (Environmental Studies)
• forest management (Science Lab)
• independent research & 15pp paper

Assignments:
book notes on readings
track specific assignments

SAN FRANCISCO TRIP
4 days in the city

SEGMENT FOUR: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN?  3 CREDITS

Themes:
• fictional characters and the authorship of a life
• the place of suffering in human life
• the material world understood as symbol and sacrament

Books:
Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*
Additional texts relevant to Research Project

Assignments:
daily small group discussion
two short papers
independent research, 15pp paper & teaching
a one hour class on the research topic

Practices:
Turkey harvest
Thanksgiving dinner
cross-country skiing
Friday chores

RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION  3 CREDITS

Semester-long course concurrent with all four segments aimed at improving students’ skills in reasoning, argument, and clear communication, both in writing and oral presentation. Writing workshops. One-on-one interaction and feedback are provided to students on both the process and final product of their assignments.

WILDERNESS RECREATION  1 CREDIT

Practices:
• peak climb
• camping
• backpacking
• tidepooling
• mountain biking
• cross-country skiing
• hiking

Books:
Rick Curtis, *The Backpacker’s Field Manual*