

The Vibrancy of Autumn

Denali National Park and Preserve
August 15 - 17, 2018

Course Description

The tundra is on a tight energy budget and the decreasing sunlight of autumn produces many changes. Not only have tundra animals and plants adapted to cold conditions and short growing seasons, they have adapted to one another and are linked by a flow of energy. Join the Murie Science and Learning Center education staff as we explore the closely woven tundra communities and their relationship to the physical environments. While looking at the patterns of life that revolve around the changing seasons, we'll keep an eye out for migrating birds and sample a tundra specialty – blueberries!

Hiking Distances and Physical Fitness

Field courses are active learning experiences and take place off trail in Denali's wilderness. Hiking will be moderately strenuous over uneven tundra, forest, and river bar terrain, covering distances of approximately 5 miles round trip with as much as 1,500 feet of elevation gain. We will likely encounter wet tundra / forest conditions and stream crossings with water levels that are above hiking boots. **Participants must be in good physical condition.** If you are uncertain about your physical ability for this course, please contact us for more information.

Times and Location

Participants meet at the Murie Science and Learning Center, located at mile 1 of the Park Road. This course begins at 6:30 pm on the first day and ends at 4:00 pm on the last day.

Lodging and Meals

This course is based out of the Murie Science and Learning Center Field Camp, located 29 miles inside Denali National Park along the Teklanika River. The Field Camp includes rustic tent cabins and a common dining tent. Family-style meals are simple and healthy.

Accreditation

The University of Alaska Anchorage offers one professional development credit (level 500) for an additional \$69 fee. The 10% membership discount does not apply to the credit fee.

Questions?

More detailed information about this course can be found by opening the other documents in the "course details" tab on the website.

If you have other questions, please contact the Murie Science and Learning Center by email courses@alaskageographic.org or by calling (907) 683-6432.