

Denali's Small Mammals

Denali National Park and Preserve

June 21 - 23, 2019

Course Description

What takes up more space in Denali than grizzly bears, yet is less likely to be seen? What forms a foundation of the food chain and plays a vital role in Denali's ecosystem? Denali's resident small mammals! Join National Park Service wildlife biologist Melanie Flamme for an in-depth look into Denali's 26 year study of voles, mice, shrews and other small mammals. We'll look for signs of these elusive mammals and learn to identify the ones we are lucky enough to see. As citizen scientists, we'll get hands-on experience with field research tools and collect data to add to the study. We'll learn why these critters are so significant in Denali, including cutting-edge research on how small mammals influence their predators and what lessons we might learn about the effects of weather and climate in Denali.

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 up to 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 \$74 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.

