

Mushrooms in Denali

Denali National Park and Preserve

August 22 - 24, 2025

Course Description

Late summer showcases a wealth of mushrooms throughout interior Alaska. Join local naturalist Eric Groth in Denali National Park to learn various techniques for identifying native wild mushrooms. Taking clues from the landscape, we'll hone our observation skills and gain experience using field guides. We'll learn about the many roles mushrooms play in Denali's vastly different environments as we gain an appreciation for wild mushrooms and how they influence our lives.

Hiking Distances and Physical Fitness

Field courses are active learning experiences and take place off trail in Denali's wilderness. Hiking will be moderate, covering distances of approximately 1 mile round trip, and including as much as 500 feet of elevation gain. We will be hiking off trail on uneven tundra and forest terrains and will likely encounter wet tundra / forest conditions and small stream crossings.

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 Denali Park Road. Check-in starts at 6:00pm on Friday. The course begins at 6:30pm and will return to the park entrance area around 4pm on Sunday.

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 outhouses. Meals are simple and healthy.

Accreditation

The University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) offers one professional development credit (level 500) for an additional \$79 fee. You must register for the credit directly with UAA. Please see our website for registration directions.

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@akgeo.org or by calling (907) 683-9632.