

# University of Notre Dame Environmental Research Center

## Summer 2019 Field Biology Program



**Your own field research ...Classes in the field ... 3 credits/summer  
Travel, tuition and housing provided and a summer stipend (\$5000 East, \$5500 West)!!**



**UNDERC-East:** Spend the summer studying northwoods ecology and conducting your own research in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

**UNDERC-West:** Spend the summer studying the ecology of an intermountain valley in Montana, learn about environmental history and Native American environmental ethics, and conduct your own advanced research (Pre-requisite - UNDERC-East).



**Apply now for UNDERC-East and -West for summer of 2019!** These programs promote understanding of field biology and how field research is conducted through 10 weeks in the wilds. It begins with a summer at UNDERC-East in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and then the opportunity for a second summer at -West in Montana. UNDERC-East is open to 28 sophomores/juniors from any college/university. From the UNDERC-East class, 8 students (juniors or seniors) are selected for UNDERC-West. Each summer, you receive three-credits along with tuition, housing, travel between the Notre Dame campus and the site, and a stipend (\$5000 at East, \$5500 at West).

**UNDERC-East (May 20– July 26):** 8000 acres of lakes, streams, wetlands, and forests owned by Notre Dame and a core site in the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) that are home to abundant wildlife (including beaver, porcupine, black bear, deer, loon). Course modules include vertebrate ecology, invertebrate ecology, aquatic ecology and forest ecology with each providing background information, field research exercises, and group research projects designed by the class. Five or more weeks are spent by each student designing and conducting their own field research project under direction of faculty or graduate students. Projects have ranged from fish, insect and mammal behavior and ecology to forest, lake and stream ecosystem ecology to local Native American ecosystem use.



**UNDERC-West (June 8 – August 14):** More than a million acres on the National Bison Range and Flathead Reservation that includes grasslands, montane forests, streams and lakes that are home to abundant wildlife (including bison, elk, bighorn, and pronghorn). The course includes modules like those at UNDERC-East in wildlife and grassland ecology, montane ecology, and environmental history/Native American ecology (in part during the cross-country drive to and from -West). Each student conducts an independent research project in collaboration with a faculty or graduate student advisor that is more advanced given the skills learned at UNDERC-East. Recent projects have included invasive plant ecology, animal behavior and habitat relationships, grassland, forest, wetland and stream dynamics, and Native American plant and wildlife use.

**Applications** are available on the UNDERC website (<http://underc.nd.edu>). Further information can be obtained from the website, or from Dr. Michael Cramer, UNDERC East Assistant Director ([mrcramer@nd.edu](mailto:mrcramer@nd.edu)), or Dr. David Flagel, UNDERC West Assistant Director ([dflagel@nd.edu](mailto:dflagel@nd.edu)).

**Application deadline is Friday, November 9, 2018.** Notification of acceptance will be provided by **Monday, December 10, 2018.** Acceptance is based on past academic performance and a statement of purpose. Preference is given to students pursuing a career in environmental sciences. Applicants are required to be present for the duration of course.