



Series: Discovering Your Educational Community Resources

In Our Own Backyard: Destinations That Enrich the Curriculum – Northern Nevada

EDUO 9804 1 Semester Credit/Unit

Instructor – April Benamati

abenamati@dominicancaonline.com

Syllabus

Course Description:

This class provides educators with the opportunity to visit and learn about or reacquaint themselves with four outstanding community destinations of interest to students of any grade level. Discover the unique educational programs available at each of these community destinations and share your experience with your school site and in your classroom. This is your advance planning opportunity for fieldtrips or Outreach programs, cultural activities, online web experiences, and creating engaging curriculum.

Course Objectives:

1. Teachers will learn what educational programs and other opportunities are available for their students at four outstanding educational destinations.
2. By participating in tours of four educational destinations that enrich the curriculum, teachers will further their knowledge of the subject matter that can be taken back to the classroom and incorporated into the curriculum.
3. Teachers will gain new knowledge to plan and teach meaningful educational lessons and supplemental activities for their grade level.
4. Teachers will be able to provide educational field trip information for parents and staff and plan meaningful fieldtrips that enrich the curriculum of the grade level taught.

Course Requirements:

1. Participants will tour four educational destinations of interest at their convenience. A list of recommended choices is included in the syllabus. Instructor approval is not necessary. Appropriate websites for each site should also be perused.
2. Participants will call at least two days prior to their visit to schedule their visit/tour to each of the destinations they have chosen as well as inquiring whether a docent guide is available. Explain that you are previewing the location as an educator interested in discovering resources for your class, grade level, and/or campus. Remember, hours and rates can vary by season and without notice.
3. Participants will be required to document each visit through pictures or videos of the sites, admission tickets or dated receipt (where required for admission), and resource materials to use in creating lesson plan materials.
4. Completed assignments including pictures, documents, or Powerpoints saved as a PDF may be scanned and submitted by email along with your Word or PDF file of written assignments. Label everything carefully with the assignment number and make sure that your name and email address is easy to locate.

Grading Policy:

Coursework not received by the due date may be subject to a lower grade. Also, please note that the work for a one-unit university graduate class is a required 12-15 hours.

Grading Rubric: Written Response Rubric

Exemplary: Met or Exceeded Expectations A+ to A-	Acceptable: Meets Expectations B+ to B-	Unacceptable: Needs Improvement Must resubmit
Reflective, thoughtful ideas relevant to the assignment are clearly stated.	Presents relevant ideas and connections to the assignment.	Few relevant ideas connected to the assignment; some ideas that are unclear
Very well organized	Organized	Little to no organization
Reflective, covers numerous facts and specific details of the learning experience.	Gives some facts and specific details of the experience.	Few/no facts with no specific details of the learning experience.

Coursework is free of spelling and grammatical errors.	Few spelling/grammatical errors are present and do not detract from the work overall.	Spelling/grammatical errors are numerous making the assignment difficult to read.
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Instructions for coursework submission:

Written Assignments

Your coursework should be created in a document that can be emailed directly to the instructor.

Coursework should be typed, double-spaced with size 12 font. Reflection write-ups should be one or more pages in length and address every question in the coursework. Pictures and documents may be scanned and posted along with your Word or PDF file of written assignments. Label everything carefully with the assignment number and make sure that your name and email address are easy to locate.

Visit four sites and submit responses for EACH location.

IMPORTANT - Camera images can be very large files. Save the images in lower definition resolution in order to keep document file sizes down for emailing.

For assistance email jherz@dominicancaonline.com

EMAIL your completed documents to the instructor's email listed on the syllabus you are working from.

Coursework Written Reflection:

Please label each of your pages/assignments in the following manner:

Your name, and grade(s) you teach

Name of your school, and the district where you teach

Course call number and name

The location you are discussing

The following Reflection, Summary, and Evaluation page must be completed separately for each destination you visited along with a lesson plan for the location. Typed reflections must be one page or longer for each educational destination and should include responses to these questions:



Reflection, Summary, and Evaluation

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1. At this location, what did you find that was appropriate and engaging for use with the standards and subjects you teach at your grade level (please include the standards and subjects in the response)? *If the site could not be paired with your grade level and standards, explain why and create a flyer to advertise the site to other educators noting the distinguishing features, draw backs, and recommended age appropriateness.*
2. Were there resources readily available to you on the tour or on-line? What materials/resources were you able to collect from this location or on-line that helped you to plan your lesson and /or future visits to/from this destination?
3. After your visit, what further questions did you have? Was a knowledgeable tour guide available to help you gather materials or provide additional information? On a scale of 0 to 4 (0=not an option for my class; 1=a bit of a stretch to fit it into my classroom needs; 2=a possibility for future visits but need more resources; 3=perfect place to take/have visit the class, though I had to gather most of the materials which were easy to find; 4=perfect place and many resources were provided to me) how would you rate your experience and explain why in detail?
4. Though you may wish to incorporate your plans into a longer lesson, please create a short (a part of a day to a full day) lesson plan and materials you could use in connection with this location.
5. Summarize your experience in this course and please make suggestions that you believe would improve this self-paced class? List the name(s) of any location you believe should be added as destinations for this course.
6. Was this an effective learning experience for you?

Not Required

Would you recommend this class to other teachers? Why or why not?

Recommended Educational Destinations:

Please call the sites before you visit to confirm hours and admission fees.

1. Stewart Indian School Carson City - walking tours

5500 Snyder Avenue
Carson City 89701 (775)
687-8333

<http://stewartindianschool.com/>

2. W.M. Keck Earth Science and Mineral Engineering Museum

Located in the Mackay School of Mines building on the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) campus.

1664 N. Virginia St.
Reno, NV 89557 (775)
784-4528

<http://www.unr.edu/keck/about>

Admission is free. Opened Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

3. Taylor Creek Visitors Center Lake Tahoe

(Kokanee Salmon Viewing Area)

The Taylor Creek Visitor Center is three miles north of the town of South Lake Tahoe on Hwy. 89 (*locally known as Emerald Bay Road*). It is a right turn (toward the lake), just past the Tallac Historic Site turnoff.

Open Memorial Day weekend through September.
(530) 541-5227

<http://renotahoe.about.com/od/publicparks/a/taylorcreek.htm>

4. Oxbow Nature Study 3100

Dickerson Rd Reno, NV 89503
(West 2nd Street turns into Dickerson Road)
(775) 334-3808

http://www.ndow.org/Education/Wildlife_Ed/Education_Sites/Oxbow_Nature_Study_Area/

5. Butterfly House and Science Center Reno, NV

Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays 10am-3pm, June 19-Sept 27
413 Matterhorn Blvd.

Lemmon Valley, Nevada (775) 276-1393 for outreach events
<http://nevadabugs.org/>

6. Fish Hatcheries (Choose one of the following)

a) Lahontan National Fish Hatchery

The hatchery is open to visitation every day from 8 AM to 3 PM. 710 Highway 395, Gardnerville, NV. If you want a full tour, schedule a couple of weeks in advance. (775) 265-2425.

b) Marble Bluff Fish Passage Facility

914 Marble Bluff Rd., Nixon, NV

The facility is open to the public during the spawning season (March through early June) Monday-Friday, 7:30am to 3:30pm.

There is no charge, but groups of five or more, or those seeking a tour, are requested to make an appointment by calling (775) 861-6300.

<http://www.fws.gov/lahontannfhc/mbff.html>

c) Mason Valley Fish Hatchery

Visitors can tour the hatchery between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. seven days a week.

50 Hatchery Way Yerington, Nevada 89447

(775) 463-4488

http://www.ndow.org/Bodies_of_Water/Mason_Valley_WMA/

d) Pyramid Lake Hatcheries: (775) 476-0500

603 Sutcliffe Dr., Sutcliffe, NV 89510

<http://www.pyramidlakefisheries.org/index.html> Hatcheries:

Dunn, Koch, Numana, Big Bend

7. EP Minerals Inc - Hazen Quarry

(Open Pit Diatomite Mine – Stickleback back fish fossils)

9785 Gateway Drive, Reno, NV 89521

(775) 824.7600

8. Grimes Point – Fallon, NV Petroglyph Trail

A guided educational program can be arranged.

Contact the BLM Carson City District Office at (775) 885-6000

9. Hidden Cave Tours Fallon, NV (free)

Held the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Meet at the Churchill County Museum located at 1050 S. Maine Street, Fallon, Nevada by 9:30 a.m. (775) 423-3677

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field/blm_programs/recreation/griemes_point.html

10. Sierra Safari Zoo

Open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, 7 days a week from April 1st to October 31st. 1/2 OFF Admission Day is the first Monday of each month, excluding holidays. Adults \$10, Children (3-12yrs) \$7, Children (0 - 2) FREE, Seniors (55yrs+) \$6, Military (valid ID) \$6

10200 North Virginia Street

Reno, NV 89506 (775)

677-1101

<http://sierrasafarizoo.org/>

11. Bodie State Historic Park, Bodie, California

Take U.S. Hwy. 395 to State Hwy. 270 and drive 10 miles east until the paved road ends, then continue for 3 miles on an unpaved dirt road.

The museum/bookstore is open from May to October. The park is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day from 8:00a to 6:00p. The remainder of the year the hours are 10:00a to 3:00p.

Ages 17+: \$7 per person, 16 to 6: \$5, 5 and under are free

P.O. Box 515

Bridgeport, CA 93517 (760)

647-6445

http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=509

<http://www.Bodie.com/History/Tour/>

12. Capital Building in Carson City

The Capitol is open to the public for self-guided tours; hours are 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday.

101 North Carson St., Carson City, NV

Call 1-800-NEVADA-1 or e-mail cccvb@visitcarsoncity.com

13. Animal Ark Wildlife Sanctuary Reno

Open April 1, 2014 through November 2, 2014. Open Tuesday through Sunday:

10:00am – 4:30pm. Animal Ark offers three different educational programs for field trips. Groups must have a minimum of 20 people for discounted group admission.

Regular admission: \$9.50 for adults, \$8.00 for seniors (62+), \$6.50 for children (312), free for children ages 2 and under. Special event pricing varies.

1265 Deerlodge Road Reno, NV 89508

(775) 970-3111

<http://www.animalark.org/tips-hours-and-directions/>

<http://www.animalark.org/education/for-teachers/lesson-plans-and-activities/>

14. Fleischmann Planetarium & Science Center, UNR

Sunday: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

The fee for each program is \$4 per person. The minimum charge for each group is \$75. All students, teachers and adult chaperones must pay the admission fee. **Note:** Free admission for two teachers per group.

University of Nevada, Reno 0272

1664 N. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89557

Showtime hotline: (775) 784-4811 Business

office: (775) 784-4812

<http://planetarium.unr.nevada.edu/Education.html>

15. The National Wild Horse and Burro Center at Palomino Valley

Public hours for visiting are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., except on Federal holidays. The facility is not generally open to the public on Saturday and Sunday.

17800 Pyramid Hwy. (State Rte. 445), Reno, NV 89432

(775) 475-2222

<http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram.html>

http://renotahoe.about.com/gi/o.htm?zi=1/XJ&zTi=1&sdn=renotahoe&cdn=travel&tm=20&f=11&su=p284.13.342.ip &tt=33&bt=4&bts=0&zu=http%3A//www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/wh_b.1.html

http://www.wildhorseeducation.com/blm_info/index.html

16. Terry Lee Wells Discovery Museum

Hours: Monday–Tuesday, 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Wednesday, 10:00 am–8:00 pm

Thursday–Saturday, 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Sunday, Noon–5:00 pm

\$8 adults and children; \$7 veterans and active duty military **Admission is just \$4 per person after 4:00 pm on Wednesdays!**

Under 1 year old: Free; Members: Always free!

Group rates available

490 S. Center Street, Reno

(775) 786-1000 http://www.nvdm.org/plan_a_visit/hours_admission.php

17. Wilbur D. May Center – *Museum, Arboretum and Botanical Gardens*

Hours for the museum are Wednesday - Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Admission Fees: \$5.00 Adults, \$3.50 Seniors 62+, \$3.50 Children 3-17, Children 2 and under are free.

1595 N. Sierra, Rancho San Rafael Regional Park
Reno, NV 89503 (775)
785-5961

http://www.washoecounty.us/parks/mc_home

18. Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge Complex Fallon, NV
1020 New River Parkway #305 Fallon,
NV.

(775) 423-5128 Mon. -
Fri., 8am - 5pm.

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Stillwater/visit/plan_your_visit.html

19. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts

100 S. Virginia St.

Reno, NV 89501

Phone: (775) 686-6142 Outreach
and Education

http://pioneercenter.com/5_Education_Outreach/Education_Outreach.htm

20. National Pony Express Association (*note this is not a destination, but a resource*)

Contact Ron Bell and see about attending a meeting or becoming involved in the re-enactment ride to bring the experience and history alive in your class. There are plenty of markers throughout Nevada to visit and use to literally map out the journey across Nevada as a class project.

NPEA - Nevada Division

Post Office Box 1643

Minden, Nevada 89423

Ron Bell, President NPEA-Nevada Division

(775) 577-9687

president@nevadaponyexpress.org