



# SBBG

CALIFORNIA NATURALIST  
DISCOVERY • ACTION • STEWARDSHIP

Wednesdays 4 – 7pm  
September 4 – November 6  
Plus 5 Saturday field trips  
Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

## Syllabus Fall 2019

The mission of the UC Certified California Naturalist Program is to foster a diverse community of naturalists and promote stewardship of California's natural resources through education and service. The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's program offers training on California natural history, environmental science, and natural resource, with an emphasis on the wider Santa Barbara region.

### The following requirements must be met to receive UC certification as a California Naturalist:

- Complete the assigned weekly reading and homework
- Course attendance (absence from 1 class and 1 field trip maximum is allowed)
- Three observations entered into iNaturalist (<http://www.inaturalist.org/>)
- Participation in class citizen science project (to be announced in class)
- Weekly nature journal must be maintained for the duration of the course.
- Capstone project (Individual culminating project proposed by participant. Project should take about 8 hours, and may be part of a larger project)
- *Optional:* Participants may opt in to become a certified CA Project Learning Tree Educator by attending an additional 3-hour PLT mini-workshop and completing a related project for their capstone.
- *Note:* For an additional fee, participants may receive 4 academic credits through UC Davis Extension; to qualify, written answers to discussion questions are required for each week's assigned reading. More information will be available in class or click [here](#).

**Required text:** The California Naturalist Handbook (de Nevers, Edelman, Merenlender; University of California Press: 2013).

**Recommended text:** A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region (Joan Easton Lentz; Heyday Press: 2013). Optional supplemental readings will be assigned.

**Please obtain books and complete first reading assignment prior to first class meeting and be prepared to discuss.** Both books are available to registered participants as a package in the Garden Shop for a 15% discount; copies are also available at the public library, or can be checked out from the SBBG Education Office.

**Scholarships:** Limited scholarships available and cover 50% of all program fees. A partial refund of fees of all but the \$110 UC fee (\$55 if on scholarship) is available once requirements are met for participants who volunteer 40 hours to the Garden. Restrictions apply. Please send inquiries and scholarship applications to Michelle Cyr, Education Programs Coordinator, [mcyr@sbbg.org](mailto:mcyr@sbbg.org), (805) 682-4726 ext. 161.

**Cancellation Policy:** If you must cancel enrollment, refunds are granted upon request up to five days before the class begins, less a \$5.00 handling charge. If the Garden cancels a class for any reason, a full refund will be given to all enrollees. Refunds may require four weeks for processing.

## California Naturalist Schedule Fall 2019

We have so much to share; class begins promptly at 4 pm each Wednesday

### Week 1: Wednesday, September 4

#### California Naturalist Program - Introductions

Speakers: *The California Naturalist Program*: Scot Pipkin, Garden Director of Education & Engagement, and Michelle Cyr, Garden Education Programs Coordinator  
*The Ethics of Ecological Restoration*: Dr. Steve Windhager, Garden Executive Director

Activity: PLT Birds & Worms: Michelle Cyr

Readings: Required: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 1  
Recommended: A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, Chapter 1 (pages 7-31)

### Field Trip #1: Saturday, September 7, 9am to 1pm

#### Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Field trip leaders: Scot Pipkin & Michelle Cyr

### Week 2: Wednesday, September 11

#### Fire in California

Speakers: *Chaparral Ecology & Sharing Nature with Others*: Rick Halsey, California Chaparral Institute Director  
*Fire in California & Live Fuel Moisture*: Max Moritz, UC Cooperative Extension Specialist

Activity: *Fire in the Garden Tour*: TBA

Reading: Required: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 7  
Recommended: A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, pg. 173-191

### Week 3: Wednesday, September 18

#### Geology, Climate, and Soils

Speaker: *How California was Formed*: Dr. Tanya Atwater, Professor Emeritus UCSB Department of Earth Science

Activity: *Rockin' in the Santa Barbara Region Tour*: Susie Bartz, Geology Instructor

Reading: Required: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 2  
Recommended: A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, pg. 42-45, 51-70

Due: Decide on PLT Certification

### Field Trip #2: Saturday, September 21, 9am to 1pm

#### San Marcos Foothills Preserve

Field trip leader: Susie Bartz

### Week 4: Wednesday, September 25

#### Exploration of Plants

Speakers: *Botany Basics*: Natalie Love, Botany Instructor & PhD Student at UCSB

Activity: *Garden Plant ID Tour*: Natalie Love

Reading: Required: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 4  
Recommended: A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, pg. 215-230, 273-276

Due: Capstone Selection/Proposal

### **Week 5: Wednesday, October 2**

#### **Water in California**

Speaker: *Fresh Water Ecology*: Dr. Thomas Even, UCSB Department of Ecology,  
Evolution, and Marine Biology Professor & Vice Chair  
*Aquatic Invertebrates of Mission Creek*: Dr. Thomas Even

Reading: Required: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 3  
Recommended: A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, pg. 303-326

Due: Journal Progress Check

### **Field Trip #3: Saturday, October 5- 10:00am to 2:00pm**

#### **Arroyo Hondo Preserve: Plants & Plant Communities**

Field trip leaders - Botanist Sally Isaacson, Volunteer Manager, Arroyo Hondo Preserve

### **Week 6: Wednesday, October 9**

#### **Forest, Woodland, and Range Resources and Management**

Speakers: *Tejon Ranch: The Largest Conservation and Land-Use Pact in CA*: Scot Pipkin  
*Rare Plants and Land Management*: Heather Wehnau, Rare Plant Biologist, Santa  
Barbara Botanic Garden

Activity: *PLT 1000 Acre Wood*: Michelle Cyr

Reading: Required: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 5

Due: Capstone Project Progress Check

### **Field Trip #4: Saturday, October 12 - 9:30am to 1:30pm**

#### **Sedgwick Reserve: Oak Woodland Communities, Ecology and Food Webs**

Field Trip Leader: Matthew Shapero, UC Cooperative Extension Livestock & Range Advisor

### **Week 7: Wednesday, October 16**

#### **Interpretation, Climate, and Citizen Science**

Speakers: *Introduction to Interpretation*: Scot Pipkin  
*The California Phenology Project*, Michelle Cyr

Activity: *Mediterranean Climate & California Native Plants Tour*: Scot Pipkin  
*Phenology data collection*: Michelle Cyr

Reading: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 8  
A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, pg. 40-41

Due: Journal Progress Check

**Field Trip #5: Saturday, October 19 - 9:00am to 1:00pm**

Location: TBA

**Week 8: Wednesday, October 23**

**Exploration of Animals**

Speakers: *Mammals, Reptiles & Amphibians of Santa Barbara County*, Kate McCurdy, Wildlife Biologist & Resident Director, Sedgwick Reserve

Activity: *Garden Bird Walk*: Rebecca Coulter, Birding Instructor

Reading: The California Naturalist Handbook, Chapter 6  
A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, Chapter 11

Due: Capstone Project Progress Check

**Week 9: Wednesday, October 30**

**The Channel Islands**

Speakers: *California's Galapagos*: Dr. Denise Knapp, Director of Conservation & Research, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Activities: *Channel Island Plants and Conservation Center Tour*: Denise Knapp & Matt Guilliams, Plant Systematist, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Reading: *A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region*, Chapter 10

Due: Capstone Project Final Review/Revisions Check-in, iNaturalist Observations

**Week 10: Wednesday, November 6**

**Capstone Presentations and Graduation**