The following itinerary may be changed and other activities and site visitation substituted depending on local environmental conditions.

Day 1,
Wednesday
January 4, 2017
Arrive Philip Goldson International Airport; transfer to Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary for settling in, orientation and night tour Belize Zoo.
- Arrival into Belize and pickup at airport 2:30pm
- Staff introductions, campus walking tour, walk or drive to Sibun River for swim if time allows
- Dinner 6pm and begin orientation presentations on safety and security, cultural awareness and sensitivity
- Night Tour, Belize Zoo (7-9:30 PM) with Conservation lecture
- Return to Monkey Bay for overnight rest in student dorms, private rooms for leaders
- Journal entry of day’s activities
Accommodations: Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

Day 2,
Thursday
January 5, 2017
All day field and lab hosted by Father Mitten.
- Breakfast at Monkey Bay 7:30 am
- Depart Mbay after breakfast. 8:30am
- Mangroves of St John’s College, Belize City (Fr. Mitten) specimen collection
- Visitation of Belize National Museum, Belize City
- Pack lunch
- Visitation of Altun Ha, and guided tour of ancient Mayan Ruin with onsite lecture
- Return to Monkey Bay for dinner and overnight
- A lecture from Dr. Colin Young on Protected Areas and Community Conservation. Dr. Colin Young, Faculty Associate with the Institute for Sustainable International Studies, ISIS Belize, is the CEO of the Government of Belize Ministry of Energy, Science and Technology, and Public Utilities. Dr. Young is an ethnobotanist and environmental scientist whose father was one of the founders of the CBS.
- Journal entry of day’s activities—Overnight
Accommodations: Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

Day 3, Friday
Community Baboon Sanctuary, Traditional Creole Lunch
January 6, 2017
- Early morning bird savanna hike 6:15am
- Breakfast at Monkey Bay 8:00 am
- Transfer to Community Baboon Sanctuary (CBS) Bermudian Landing Village for day tour. Suggested reading material in preparation for CBS entitled, “A Belizean Rainforest” by Dr. Rob Horwich and Jon Lyon (Gays Mill, WI.).
- CBS Natural History museum tour.
• Guided tour of sanctuary forest edges (Gallery Forest) to view Black howler monkeys in the wild with onsite lectures and guided hike through sanctuary for medicinal plants ID (Creole ethnobotany) and wildlife viewing.

• Mid-day meal with Ms. Edna Baptist, Creole style prepared over the fire hearth and served at her backyard café.

• Return to Monkey Bay with stops along the way.

• Dinner 6:00pm

• Evening Lecture Pine savannahs and discussion of days activities

• Journal entry of day’s activities—Overnight

Accommodations: Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

Day 4, Saturday January 7, 2017

Monkey Bay – Full day on Sibun River/Tiger Sandy Bay with Fr. Mitten

• Breakfast at MBWS 7:30am

• Lecture by Fr. Mitten on watersheds and river continuum theory. 8:15 am-9:30am

• Pack picnic lunch to carry and serve on river canoe paddle

• Transfer to launch point for Sibun River trip

• 10am Begin Sibun River Trip; accompanying streamside lecturer, Fr. Mitten

• Water testing and macro invertebrates sampling incorporated into the river trip

• Return to Mbay for dinner 6:00 PM

• Evening Lecture Karst formations

• Journal entry of day’s activities—Overnight

Accommodations: Monkey Bay

Day 5, Sunday January 8, 2017

St. Herman’s Cave/Blue Hole National Park, Maya Center

• Breakfast at MBWS 7:30

• Depart 9am for mid-morning arrival to BHNP

• Welcome by Park Director and overview of the protected area by park manager on duty. 10am

• Guided forest tour and cave tour (standard visit- will need headlights for all participants)

• Pack Lunch at Blue Hole NP

• Depart St. Herman’s Blue Hole National Park for transfer to Maya Center (Entrance into) Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary (CBWS)

• Later afternoon arrival to Maya Centre Village, a buffer community to Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary (CBWS). Time for visiting women’s co-op and/or Mayan Museum and tour of “Mayan Garden” with focus on eco-forestry and ethnobotany (medicinal plants).

• Dinner

• Discussion, Journal entry of day’s activities and overnight

Accommodations: Maya Center Guest House

Day 6, Monday January 9, 2017

Maya Center & Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary (Jaguar Preserve)

• 6:00am Optional birding to see Toucans

• Breakfast 8:00am

• Tour of Chocolate plantation and factory

• Continue on to the CBWS station and settled into bunk accommodations. Suggest reading material for CBWS discussions entitled “Jaguar” by Alan Rabinowitz
Will ask guide to cover park history and overview or wildlife research conducted in the park.
Lunch: visitors center at noon
Tiger Fern Trail hike to waterfall and swim, with trail side lectures.
Dinner
Lecture on Tropical Rainforest Ecosystem with discussion.
Night walk, journal entry of day’s activities—Overnight

Accommodations: Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary

Day 7,
Tuesday
January 10, 2017

Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary

• Early Morning Bird excursion 6:00 am
• Late Breakfast 8:30am
• Field Trail Hike to Plane wreck and on-site lecture
• Lunch at noon
• Field Hike to Ben’s Bluff
• Possible River Tubing upon return.
• Late afternoon free to catch up on work.
• Dinner
• Evening lectures; coral reefs, seagrass and littoral forests
• Journal entry of day’s activities —Overnight

Accommodations: Cockscomb Basin Wildlife Sanctuary

Day 8,
Wednesday
January 11, 2017

South Water Caye Marine Reserve guided excursion

• Early Morning Birding 6:00 am
• Breakfast at CBWS 8:00am
• Depart host location 9:00am; transfer 1 hour to Dangriga Town for ½ hour water taxi (10:30am) ride to Tobacco Caye.
• Arrival orientation and settling in accommodation.
• Lunch at noon
• Afternoon snorkeling workshop to become comfortable with snorkeling gear and familiar with reef etiquette
• Explore reef ecosystems with guide
• Dinner at Hotel, Tobacco Caye
• 7:00 Night snorkel to explore marine organism weather permitting/ Night Lecture
• Journal entry of day’s activities —Overnight.

Accommodations: Hotel, Tobacco Caye

Tobacco Caye, South Water Caye Marine Reserve

Day 9,
Thursday
January 12, 2017

• Breakfast 7:00 am
• Depart 8:00am for exploring reef ecosystems, sea grass beds, mangrove lagoons; guided multiple snorkeling drops at select sites
• Man-O-War Caye protected nesting site for Magnificent frigate and Brown-footed booby birds
• Lunch 12:15
• 1:00pm water taxi back to Dangriga Town
• Monkey Bay bus to meet group at 2pm and transfer back to MBay for last
overnight. Group should get back to MB by 4:30pm.

- 6 pm Dinner at Monkey Bay
- Final program wrap up classroom lecture, reflections, program evaluation, travel organization for departure flight...Journal entry of day's activities

Accommodations: Monkey Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

Day 10, Friday January 13, 2017
Depart to Philip Goldson International Airport from Monkey Bay
- Breakfast at Monkey Bay 7:30
- Morning time to pack, Journal entry of entire course, group photo
- 9:00 am Transfer to Belize Intl Airport for departure to home destination.
  - Program Concludes –

Field Course Guidelines:
Bring appropriate clothing and equipment as advised. A more detailed list will be given upon enrollment. The following will give you a good idea to as what to bring. A day pack is a must as is a pair of binoculars. Bring necessary items to avoid discomfort such as insect repellent (lots of it), sun block, special medication (if necessary) and anti-bite medication for insect bites. Place note book and journals in Ziploc bags for protection. Bring limited pocket money. Do not bring much jewelry. Cellular phones and music are only allowed in the bus or in camp, not in the field. For camping and hiking, bring Qt size water bottle that can be hooked onto pack, flashlight and spare batteries, Halogen head lamps are ideal and leave hands free. Bring a small mosquito netting to drape over bed in case it is needed. Lightweight long-sleeved shirts and long trousers — the zip off short types are ideal. Comfortable hiking shoes and strap on sandals for the river and beach. Bring at least 7 pairs of socks; light rain jacket, hat, bandana, sunglasses, bath and swim towel, swimsuits, shorts, t-shirts for swimming. Personal toiletry items; motion sickness tablets. Camera if you have one. Bring an abundance of positive attitudes. Please do not litter. Safeguard the lives of your peers.

Course Bibliography:


Byington, Scott. "Ethnobotany in Belize; A WebQuest." *Tropical Ecology Institute*. 