STEM SUMMER ADVENTURE 2015

FAQ SHEET

Idaho Step Web Page: http://stem.boisestate.edu/idaho-step/stem-summer-adventure/
Email: summerstem@boisestate.edu

What are the dates of the STEM Summer Adventure?
August 16-19, 2015

Registration
The trip is sold on a first-come/first-serve basis, and payment is due at the time of registration. You may register online at: Online Registration

I am interested but I am unsure of my plans?
Send your name and contact information to summerstem@boisestate.edu and we will put you on the waitlist. We will notify you July 11, 2015 if there are openings and you may register at that time.

I don’t know what math course I will be taking this fall – may I still register?
Yes, on the course list, select ‘Other’. In the space provided you may list your math ACT or SAT score, or enter ‘Unknown’.

Refund Policy
Refunds are not given, unless the trip is cancelled by Boise State University Outdoor Programs.

Where will we be going for this adventure?
The STEM Summer Adventure will happen on the Payette River north of Boise. Participants will start their rafting adventure on the Cabarton Section of the Payette River and ending on the Main Payette River.

What will each day be like?
We will be rafting a different section of the Payette River each day and returning to our campsite each evening. Each day we will spend about 4 hours on the river; afternoons and evenings will be filled with learning and social activities, great meals, and lots of informal time to hang out and get to know other students. Daily learning activities will focus on STEM topics and student success strategies.

Where will we stay on the program?
The STEM Summer Adventure is considered a field-based program. Participants will be living in the outdoor classroom for the duration of the program. Participants will be provided tents, sleeping bags, and pads to make sure they are warm and comfortable on the trip. We will be staying at an established campground with toilet facilities.
are no shower facilities, however, you will be in the river daily and the campground is across the road from the river. The group will be at the same campground location for the entire program.

What will we eat on the program?
All food will be provided and prepared in the field. Meals are designed to be both healthy and tasty. Think home-style food while on the road.

What would I need to bring for the trip?
Since August is often hot with afternoon rains, participants will be asked to bring clothing for both the heat and cool temperatures. In general, you probably have all of the equipment in your closet at home or they are items that you can borrow from a friend. Once registered, you will be provided with a comprehensive list to guide your packing for the trip. In the event that you do not have the important personal equipment needed for a trip, the Outdoor Program provides affordable rental equipment or may be able to suggest items that may be substituted. For more information, contact Outdoor Programs (208) 426-1946.

When do we leave?
Participants will meet at the Outdoor Program office in the Student Recreation Center August 16, 2015. Specific information will be sent regarding which time you will leave. Transportation will be provided by Boise State University to and from the activity site.

I will be living on campus and want to move in to my residence hall room before the trip; is this possible?
Yes, Housing and Residence Life will accommodate early arrivals beginning on August 15, 2015. We will include details on what you need to do to register for early arrival housing later this spring.

Campus Food Service
The Boise River Cafe is open on a very limited basis from August 16 - August 21, any meal periods in which they are open during this time will be on a cash (or credit card) basis only. Dates and open hours will be posted in the residence halls. Academic year meal plans become active at lunch on Friday, August 21, 2015.

Can I arrive before August 15, 2015?
Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate arrivals before August 15th as your fall housing assignment will not be ready for your occupancy.

I need a place to stay before the trip starts. Which Boise accommodations are near campus?
We will supply you a list of local accommodations near campus upon request.

Where should I park my car while I’m on the trip?

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You can park for free on Belmont Street or Vermont Street. Just be sure to not block someone’s driveway or park in a 2-hour zone. If you are not comfortable parking on the street the best option is to have someone drop you off or park in the Lincoln Parking Garage for $10 a day.

**Who are the instructors for this program?**

The leadership team for this program will include Boise State University Faculty, local STEM professionals, and Student Affairs professionals. Individuals on the leadership team will provide instructional content and activities in their area of specialization. The Faculty/Instructional Team will include:

- Dr. Gary Hunt, Physics Department
- TBD, Fish Biology consultant
- TBD, Astronomy, Physics Department.
- Rodo Leone, Associate Director for University Health and Recreation Services
- Student Leader for University Health and Recreation Services

**What activities will we participate in?**

Students will participate in a variety of outdoor travel and living activities such as camping, rafting, cooking, hiking, and map and compass. Participants do not need experience in any of these activities because the program is designed to meet the needs of people who are either a first-time or experienced outdoor traveler.

**What STEM related content will we learn while on the trip?**
• Astronomy – naked eye observations
• Biology - Fish
• Biology/invasive species – why are invasive species damaging to a healthy environment?
• Geology – formation of Payette River Canyon
• Human History – impact of people of the Payette River.
• Hydrology – aquifers and society - western water policy

What if I am not a STEM major?
This trip was created with STEM majors as the target audience. As such the activities will focus on math and science elements. If you are undecided about your major this may be a method to explore those areas. If you are not a math, science, or engineering major and would like to have the outdoor experience with other incoming students, Boise State New Student and Family Programs is offering a rafting trip for new students this summer. For additional information, visit this site: http://nsfp.boisestate.edu/extended-orientation-whitewater-experience/

What will I learn in the GENSCI 197 STEM Freshman Seminar Course?
The fall academic portion of the course will focus on giving students skills and tools to help improve their success as a STEM student. Course content will cover:
• Overview of STEM careers and opportunities
• Research opportunities for undergraduates
• Goal setting and time management
• Setting appropriate academic and professional expectations
• Study skills

Fall 2015 seminar schedule

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<tr>
<th>Course and section</th>
<th>GENSCI 197 STEM Seminar - section 00X tbd</th>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting day and times</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructor</td>
<td>G. Hunt</td>
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DESCRIPTION: This seminar focuses on the development of academic skills, life skills, attitudes and behaviors necessary for success in college. The course is designed to reinforce the continued development of a community of learners initiated during the STEM summer river trip. Students will become familiar with campus, resources, services, and experiences resulting in an enhanced first semester experience.

A specific emphasis will be placed on:
• Academic advising
• Academic goal setting
• Research opportunities specific to STEM students
This course is open only to students who participated in the STEM Summer Adventure. Directions informing registrants how to enroll in the course will be sent in **late July 2015**.