

**BIO / EARTHSYS 105 A/B, Ecology and Natural History of Jasper Ridge,
Instructors: Rodolfo Dirzo and Jorge Ramos
2022 Winter and Spring quarters, Thursdays 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM**

Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve (JRBP) is a 481-hectare (1,189 acre) field station located just a few miles south from the main Stanford University campus. JRBP lands have been studied continuously since the university opened in 1891, and this extensive research history includes long-term studies that are landmarks in ecology and population biology. In 1975, Jasper Ridge began developing community education programs that would enhance educational opportunities for both the university and the community. The first docents were community members knowledgeable about the Preserve's natural history and willing to contribute their time and expertise to students and community education by teaching and leading tours. In 1977, Stanford University students were incorporated into the docent program and a formal, rigorous class was established.

The 2022 Biology/Earth Systems 105 is a 20-week 4-unit Stanford University class with in-person classroom and field sessions on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. There is a class fee of \$50.00 for Stanford University students (\$100 for community members) to cover the cost of class materials. BIO/EARTHSYS 105 covers a significant variety of disciplines related to ecology and natural history, including sessions in the fields of geology, soil science, ecology, global climate change, archaeology, botany, and zoology, among others. The different sessions are covered weekly with a lecture from Stanford faculty, all experts in the topic, followed by hands-on fieldwork. The lectures cannot be made up if missed and all students must be committed to be present every week. You will be expected to do an independent research project that will contribute to the mission of JRBP to be presented at the end of the spring quarter.

After completing the course work, successful students also become JRBP docents, and are expected to help and provide field education opportunities and increase community awareness of the work done at JRBP. All JR affiliates are welcome to attend JR continuing education activities throughout the year, such as evening lectures, field classes and lectures. All of these continuing events provide an overview of current research on JRBP, relevant work at other sites, and specialized fieldwork. JR docents/affiliates have opportunities to work with researchers and educators. Some projects at JRBP are managed entirely by docents. For example, for many years, members of the JRBP community have conducted regular bird surveys and produced invaluable bird lists and databases. JR affiliates efforts have also contributed to the outstanding teaching and outreach programs, natural history collection in the JRBP Herbarium, the geology display, and many other research and education projects. What do the JRBP docents get from their participation?

- Access to Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
- An opportunity to be an active member of the JRBP community.
- Continue to be a life-long learner in a research and educational preserve.
- The reward of working personally in environmental education, ecology, and other research areas.

The deadline to apply is Monday, November 1st for Stanford University students.

Please complete and email your application to Jorge Ramos (jorge.ramos@stanford.edu)
by 11:59 PM (PT) on Monday, November 1st, 2021.

STUDENT APPLICATION:

BIO/EARTHSYS 105 Ecology and Natural History of Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve

Deadline: **Monday, November 1st, 2021**

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Pronouns: _____ Date: _____
Undergraduate Year (F/ S/ J/ S/ other): _____
Major/ Minor: _____
Graduate field study/graduate degree and year: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

To complete your application please respond to/summarize the following points:

- 1) Why do you want to take BIO/EARTHSYS 105? Please explain what interests, skills, experiences, etc. you have that you will be able to contribute to the class.
- 2) A large component of BIO/EARTHSYS 105 is sharing your new knowledge and expertise with the class and larger community. What experiences do you have with community outreach or education programs?
- 3) BIO/EARTHSYS 105 covers a variety of topics in natural history and ecology. However, students with all levels of experience in the natural sciences are welcome in the course. We are curious about your background in natural sciences, such as biology, botany, zoology, geology, etc.
 - a. Have you taken any related coursework? If so, what?
 - b. Do you have any related experiences/interests (e.g., ecology projects, birding, archaeology, etc.)?
 - c. Do you have any special research interest relevant to JRBP? If so, please explain.
- 4) In selecting students for BIO/EARTHSYS 105 we're looking to create a classroom full of diverse interests and talents, including those seemingly unrelated to natural science. What passions do you bring to the classroom (ex: ceramics, environmental policy, singing, activism, etc.)?
- 5) Classes are on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 5:00 PM, and coursework includes both comprehensive assignments during winter quarter and developing and presenting and independent research project during the spring quarter.
 - a. What other academic, extracurricular, or social activities are you involved in?
 - b. After completing the course, can you commit time to be an active member of the JRBP community during the next few years?
- 6) For our data gathering purposes:
 - a. Do you know anyone who is a Jasper Ridge affiliate, researcher, class instructor, or ranger?
 - b. How did you hear about this course?

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