

Dear student,

This letter is to provide you with information about your class trip to Blakely Island Field Station. The facility where you will be housed is a residence hall with double-occupancy rooms furnished with twin beds and desks. Linens are not provided, so you should bring a sleeping bag or your own linens, as well as your own towels. A pillow is provided. Each room has a sink and shares a shower and toilet with an adjoining room. You should bring your own soap, etc. There is not reliable cell phone service at the field station, but there is (generally) good wifi. There is a campus phone on which outgoing calls can be made either collect or with a calling card. Anyone calling you may also use this number, which is (360) 375-6001. If you have a laptop you are encouraged to bring it if you wish to.

All meals are served family-style in our dining hall. Meals will be made with conservation efforts in mind – healthy, filling, and sustainable! If you have special dietary requirements or limitations, please note them on the information/waiver form enclosed. One of the caretakers may be in touch with you via email before your trip to ensure that you are accommodated appropriately. Please note that Seattle Pacific maintains smoke-, alcohol- and drug-free campuses.

Make sure to bring a journal or field notebook with you. In addition, you should also pack a daypack, rain gear, camera or smartphone with camera, and a water bottle.

The class will meet promptly at **5:45 pm on the Friday of your scheduled weekend at the Skyline Marina in Anacortes, WA**. To reach the marina, drive north on I-5 through Mount Vernon and take Exit #230, State Route 20 and 20 Spur to Anacortes. In Anacortes follow the signs directing you toward the Washington State Ferry (north on Commercial Avenue, west on 12th, continuing west on Oakes). You will come to a “Y” in the road, where the road to the ferry angles to the right, and *the road to the Skyline Marina (Sunset Ave.) continues straight ahead*. (Do not go to the state ferry!) From Sunset Ave., turn left (south) on Skyline Way. The marina, behind a large white building, will be on the left, and there are a few parking spaces that you may use *only* while you unload.

The boat we will be taking is called the Paraclete or Koinonia. For directions to the boat once you get to Skyline Marina, visit <http://www.paracletecharters.com/>. There will be handcars near the parking that you may use to load your belongings onto the boat.

The **long-term parking** is across the street in a lot marked “Decatur Northwest Homeowners Association”. The most obvious sign may be a barrel marked “DNW Impound”. To avoid being towed please park in the unpaved “back” portion of this lot, in the marked spaces if any are visible. Please leave a note on your dashboard that says “SPU.”

You should allow at least 2.5 hours (depending on Seattle traffic) for the drive from Seattle to the marina, unloading, loading, and parking. ***The boat leaves promptly at 6 pm!*** The returning boat will leave Blakely Island at about 1 pm on Sunday, arriving in Anacortes around 2:30 pm.

Seattle Pacific University owns and operates the Blakely Island Field Station through the generous gift of Mr. Thomas B. Crowley. Consistent with the Christian tradition and commitment of the university, we treasure the unique opportunity it provides for learning about and caring for the living world, as well as the friendship, enjoyment, and reflection which come with it. I hope this class will be an enriching and unforgettable experience for you.

Below is a *generic* packing list for your weekend trip. If you forget something, the caretakers will do their best to spot you, but remember that Blakely is a remote island!

- Clothes for Saturday and Sunday
 - Ideally clothes that you don't care about getting dirty or being active in
- Rain gear
- Shoes appropriate for your class' activities
 - Hiking shoes/boots
 - Shoes with good traction for classes that go tidepooling
- Sleeping bag or sheets and a blanket
 - A pillow and mattress provided by BIFS
- Toiletries
 - Hand soap
 - Shower necessities
 - Towel
 - Menstrual products
 - Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Water bottle
- Daypack
- Field notebook or journal
- Camera (smartphone camera is fine)
- If you have it:
 - Reusable mug
 - Reusable lunch bag
 - Reusable sandwich container