

Course Description:

This course explores the winter environments of New England through a number of day-long and half-day hikes, readings, and discussion. We will explore Connecticut's famous traprock ridges, eastern hardwood forests, the glaciated Riga Plateau and Long Island Sound. Students are expected to participate in three of six hikes, participate in class discussions and investigate one of these environments in greater depth. This course includes a significant outdoor component and will expose you to wintry, possibly cold and/or wet environments. It requires adequate clothing and footwear as the hikes will be rain (snow) or shine. Additional equipment (e.g., snow shoes, microspikes) is available through Trinity's outdoor program. Students are strongly encouraged to check the course syllabus and contact the instructor with any questions prior to registering for the course.

Instructor: Christoph Geiss
McCook 217
christoph.geiss@trincoll.edu

office hours: by appointment

Time: Jan 4th – Jan 18th W,R 8:00 – 8:50 (lecture)
plus several half-day and all-day field trips

Lectures and field trips will be conducted **in-person**

The dates for these field trips are listed in the table below. Field trip dates were chosen with regards to athletic competition schedules. Students are required to attend **one full-day** and **two half-day** trips but can always go on more.

Date	Day	lecture		
4-Jan	Wed			
5-Jan	Thu		Lake Louise (Penwood)	(half day)
6-Jan	Fri			
7-Jan	Sat			
8-Jan	Sun			
9-Jan	Mon		Bear Mountain	(full day)
10-Jan	Tue		Hammonasset	(half day)
11-Jan	Wed		River Highlands	(half day)
12-Jan	Thu		Mt. Highby	(half day)
13-Jan	Fri			
14-Jan	Sat			
15-Jan	Sun			
16-Jan	Mon			
17-Jan	Tue		Bluff Point	(full day)
18-Jan	Wed			

Grading:

The course earns you 0.5 credits and bears a wellness credit in civil and environmental engagement. I will post several reading assignments on the Moodle course site. Class periods will be used to discuss these readings and prepare for upcoming hikes.

We will have some discussions about winter environments on the hikes and I expect you to be an active participant rather than simply slogging along.

Hike participation:	60%
full-day	30%
half-day	15% each
Class participation:	20%
Final paper:	20%