

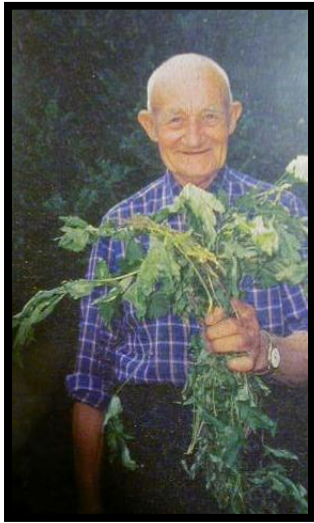
ENVS 411 Fall 2011

Environmental Studies Course

Northwest Ethnobotany

Instructors: Katie Lynch and Devon Bonady
Monday and Wednesday 10-11:50

CRN 16950



Forests have always been places for humans to harvest foods, medicines, and materials for clothing, shelter, spirituality, and decoration. From the early hominids to modern humans, from the 'old' world to the 'new' world, everywhere forests exist they provide important resources to human communities. These species are collectively known as non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Today, even in post-industrial countries such as the U.S., people from diverse cultural, ethnic and economic backgrounds continue to gather plants for a broad range of reasons.

This class will examine these people/plant relationships— and how this biodiversity is being tapped to promote both conservation and rural economic development. We will investigate the complex economics, multi-faceted politics, and diverse cultural traditions associated with NTFPs. We will look at the ancient gathering practices of Native Americans, the introduced plants and traditions of immigrants, and the emerging practices of people seeking to reconnect with the natural world.

NOTE: This course is the first in a series of three for the Plants and People Initiative of the 2011/2012 Environmental Leadership Program (ELP). This project involves learning and teaching about ethnobotany over the course of the school year. If you'd like to join the ELP program, you will take this course fall term, ENVS 425 Environmental Education winter term, and the ELP project spring term. For more information about the ELP, visit the Environmental Studies



website. Applications are due May 6th. Contact Devon (dbonady@uoregon.edu) to apply. There is limited space.