

## **California Naturalist – Class 1 – Homework – Chapter 1-- Bioregions**

We employ a somewhat different approach to homework. The intention of this approach is to foster greater engagement with the course material and cultivate wonder and curiosity. You are also encouraged to review the standard homework/study questions prepared by the UCANR California Naturalist Program and request instructor clarification of anything you're not sure about. You may opt to answer and submit these standard questions for each chapter instead of Sierra Stream's assignment. See below for a link to the PDF with those questions for all the chapters. NOTE: the PDF has not downloaded properly for some people. If this happens to you, please email [cnsi@sierrastreamsinstitute.org](mailto:cnsi@sierrastreamsinstitute.org) and we'll send it to you via email.

### **HOW TO SUBMIT HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

- Create a new email with subject line: CNat-Class x-FirstName LastName

*For example: CNat-Class 1-Jane Goodall*

- Then either attach your completed homework or paste it into the body of the email.

*Submissions WILL ONLY BE OPENED IF they meet these criteria.*

- Email your homework to the following email address:

[cnsi@sierrastreamsinstitute.org](mailto:cnsi@sierrastreamsinstitute.org)

### **BRING TO CLASS**

- JOURNAL, notebook, or clipboard with paper that you can write in/on comfortably on your lap (we will not be using desks or tables)
- HAND LENS if you have one (SSI has ones that can be used if you do not have one)

### **BEFORE FIRST CLASS**

- Read chapter 1 in the textbook - you may do the homework as you go if you wish.
  - Class content will build on the readings and PDFs throughout the course.

*Optional before first class:*

- EXPLORE our class website: <https://cnsi.wordpress.com>. This will be ever-evolving. Please note that the info is located in the drop down options.

[https://cnsi.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/chapter\\_one\\_just\\_biodiversity\\_and\\_bioregions.pdf](https://cnsi.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/chapter_one_just_biodiversity_and_bioregions.pdf)

## **HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT #1**

You will get the most out of the in-class experience if you have done your homework each week before class begins. However, there's some wiggle room on homework due dates for Classes 1 and 2. Homework for Classes 1, 2, & 3 will be due by Class 3.

The homework for every chapter in the book will be to engage & evaluate as described below. Starting with Class 2, additional optional questions and resources will be offered for those who wish to go deeper. If you prefer a more traditional homework approach you may INSTEAD submit answers to the standard homework/study questions prepared by the UC California Naturalist Program. See below.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Homework for Class # \_\_\_\_\_ ~ Chapter # \_\_\_\_\_ ~ Topic

\_\_\_\_\_

### **ENGAGE with material from reading and PDF by briefly noting:**

- *Two things that caught your attention. What interested you? Why?*

1.

2.

- *Two questions that come to mind about the material. What are you curious about?*

1.

2.

- ***One or two things you'd love to share with someone. Share it if you can!***

1.

2.

- ***Was there anything that was confusing, or about which you'd like more info or clarification?***

**EVALUATE ~ ongoing evaluation throughout the course**

- What has worked well so far (how did registration process go, is the cnsi website helpful, etc)?

- Opportunities for change?

- Anything else?

## Chapter 1 - UC California Naturalist Program Standard Homework/Study Questions

*Below are the standard homework/study questions prepared by the UC California Naturalist Program for Chapter 1. You are encouraged to review these and request instructor clarification of anything you're not sure about.*

***You may opt to answer and submit these standard questions for each chapter instead of the Engage & Evaluate homework described above.***

*This PDF contains study questions for all the chapters in the textbook:  
[https://cnssi.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/cal-nat-handbook\\_all-chapters\\_questions-and-study-guide.pdf](https://cnssi.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/cal-nat-handbook_all-chapters_questions-and-study-guide.pdf)*

### Chapter 1 - California Natural History and the Role of Naturalists

#### 1. California's Biodiversity

- a. What makes California such a hotspot for biodiversity?
- b. What are four characteristics of California that are unique in the North American continent?
- c. What is an endemic species?

#### 2. Biodiversity threats

- a. What are some of the key factors driving the losses of biodiversity worldwide?
- b. Specific to California, what are some of the most critical changes taking place?

#### 3. Ecosystem Services

- a. What are ecosystem services?
- b. What is the utility of developing monetary values for these services?

#### 4. Endangered Species Act (ESA)

- a. What does the ESA do?
- b. What are four problems that impede effective implementation of the act?

#### 5. Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and being a "naturalist"

- a. How are TEK practices similar to "western" naturalist practices?
- b. How are they different?
- c. What are some local TEK practices that have influenced the landscape of our region of California?

#### 6. Influential naturalists

- a. Name two naturalists who influenced your thinking.
- b. What did they communicate that you think is important?

## 7. Classification of species

- a. What is the “Linnaean Classification” system?
- b. How do we use it to describe species?
- c. What does it tell us about the relationships between organisms?

Assignment: Put together your first journal entry in your naturalist journal using the format suggested in your book. Adapt it to your personal interests and needs.