

Field program offers students chance to study Oregon desert

For students who find it difficult to sit through traditional classroom instruction, naturalist Denzel Ferguson has a refreshing solution.

The Oregon author and biologist visited the University last week to show slides of Oregon's desert country, and took the opportunity to encourage students to spend part of their summer studying out-of-doors at the Malheur Field Station in southeastern Oregon near Burns.

Operated by Pacific University, the Malheur Field Station Summer Program offers a series of three-week science classes carrying University undergraduate and graduate credit. Students choose classes ranging from Field Botany to Field Photography to Aboriginal Life Skills in the Northern Great Basin.

Students who enroll in the program spend the three weeks studying Oregon's high desert plants, wildlife and natural history.

They often camp out in the field, with the field station serving as home base.

Ferguson, this year's program director, called the field instruction "quite a different kind of learning" because students experience first-hand the natural and man-caused problems of the desert.

The "cold desert" region of Eastern Oregon has fascinated scientists for years because of its several unique species of plants and animals, he said.

The science classes emphasize the area's natural and political history, Ferguson said. Several of his slides showed the adverse effects of erosion due to cattle overgrazing, which was the result of bad federal land-use policies, he said.

Homesteading and mining attempts have failed in the past, Ferguson said, but the early settlers recklessly scarred the fragile desert landscape in their attempts to make a profit from it. Now cattle ranchers taking advantage of federal grazing policies are doing the same thing, he added.

"But the people who have really found the pots of gold in the desert are the biologists and the birdwatchers."

China expert to speak

Ross Terrill, considered one of the leading China experts in the United States, will speak on "The Problem of Mao and a Changing China" March 6 at 8 p.m. at Room 138 Gilbert Hall.

Terrill, who is currently a research associate at Harvard's J.K. Fairbank Center for East Asian Research, is expected to draw on material from his most

recent book entitled "Mao."

In his book, Terrill describes Mao as a "remarkable man who felt more akin to nature and to history than to other people, a great man but not a lovable one, a man of strong prejudices who grew vain and bore grudges."

Terrill visited China four times between 1964 and 1978 and has had unusual access to leading government officials in Peking.

The free talk is sponsored in part by the Asian Studies Committee, the Honors College and the International Studies Committee.

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Sociology GTF goes to work in affirmative action

Sociology GTF Colleen Fong has joined the staff of the affirmative action office.

Fong, the new equal education specialist, will deal with matters relating to students and educational programs, activities and services.

She will also assist University departments with recruiting minority and female students into graduate programs and

with meeting their technical and service needs.

Fong's responsibilities also include handling all discrimination complaints, whether based on race, sex, age, handicap, marital status, religion, national origin or veteran status. She'll also provide career and educational counseling.

Before joining the affirmative action staff, Fong was a GTF in the Sociology Department and

the Ethnic Studies Program. She is a sociology graduate with emphasis on race relations and feminist theory.

Fong says she plans to continue her association with the Minority Student Union, the Minority Task Force of the Sociology Department and the Ethnic Women's Alliance.

The office is opened weekdays from 8 a.m. to noon

and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Room 472 Oregon Hall.

The program also provides services such as posting all academic and classified position openings and assistance with recruitment for University appointments.

For complaints or inquiries about employment matters, call Norma McFadden or Shalini Reilly at the affirmative action office, 686-3123.



Photo by Erich Boekelheide

University Inn residents Cathy Baker and Roland Sarlot spent a total of 27 hours painting this mural of The Beatles — a tribute to the late John Lennon — which is displayed next to the elevator on the fifth floor of the dorm.

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DEAR FIJI JACK, I think you are super cute and I've got my eye on you. **Your blonde secret admirer** 3-3

TRIXIE Saturday night was great (even though it took two house dances to contain all the fun!) How 'bout we paint the town another color next Saturday! **LUCKY FRANKIE** 3-3

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PHOTOGRAPHERS

See Opportunity section 3-5

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The Learning Resources Center will conduct a workshop to help you study more effectively for final exams, including organizing study, integrating course materials, and developing test-taking strategies. The workshop is free and will be held in 27 Friendly on Thursday, March 5, 2:30-3:30, and on Friday, March 6, 11:30-12:30. For more information, please call the Learning Resources Center at 686-3226. 2267-3-6

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Tuesday, March 3, 1981