Course Description: This course is an introduction to biological illustration by way of field sketching natural history on-site. Emphasis is placed on observation, visual data collection, annotated field sketching, and the research process in preparation for final illustration projects. Students will become acquainted with an array of rendering techniques and visual conventions for scientific illustration.

Pre-requisites: DSN S 131, Design Representation, or comparable introductory drawing course

Assignments:
Classes will comprise a mix of lectures, group work, presentations, research, fieldwork, and studio/lab work. Each day will require sketching from observation, including work toward mid-term and final projects. Sketchbooks will include field studies, process work, preliminary sketches, field notes, lecture notes, and written assignments. Students will select themes, or scientific areas to research, investigate in the field, and develop into final pieces.

Course Objectives:

- Students will be able to list and order steps required for an effective workflow for sketching in the field and developing a scientific communication piece from collected data.
- Students will be able to observe and record science through annotated sketches in the field
- Students will demonstrate concept development for multiple visual solutions
- Students will practice and utilize tools and techniques for biological illustration
- Students will be able to implement conceptual and critical thinking skills

Required Course Materials:

- A day pack for drawing materials and gear
- A light-weight bleacher seat, or something else to sit on that is easy to carry/can strap to your pack
- Zip-lock freezer bags – a range of sizes.
- A large-format (8 ½” x 11” or 11” x 14”) spiral bound sketchbook, 50-100 pages
- A crowquill pen holder, nib, and small bottle of India ink
- Prismacolor Colorless Blender (found with color pencils, can buy by each)
- Medium-toothed color pencil paper
- A set of technical pens (Microns are fine)
- A range of graphite drawing paper: 2H, HB (2 of these), B, 2B, 4B, 6B, 8B
- A range of erasers: kneaded, white/plastic, pink pearl, tuff-stuff
- Artist tape
- Small ruler
- Smooth-finished Bristol paper pad, ~25 sheets
- Borden & Riley #90 Vellum Sheer Trace Pad, 50 sheets, 11x14”
- Watercolor block pad of paper, small to medium size
- Basic small watercolor pan paints set and range of brushes (rounds: 0, 5, 9 and a .5-1” flat)
- X-acto knives and blades
- Blending stumps, size 1-3 – optional
- Gray, or neutral colored mat board
- Chamois cloth – optional
- Tracing paper for final project (1-5 sheets) and cover stock (1 sheet)
- Portfolio, or some way to protect and carry artwork home
- Rain gear, water bottle, sun protection gear
- Digital camera if you have one
- Binoculars if you have them

**Textbook to Purchase:** None

**Equipment:** None

**Course Requirements:**
Courses at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory are inquiry-based in structure, typically consisting of a mix of lectures, exercises, field trips, and projects designed to teach students essential aspects of a particular topic, as well as visual problem-solving and communication. Teaching is often by the Socratic Method with an emphasis on interaction between student and teacher.

**Course Grade:**
- 30% on participation and presentations, overall productivity
- 30% on sketchbook work, annotations from field observations, from lectures, and assigned readings
- 40% on final projects developed from sketches done in the field and studio, based on scientific themes, or area, described in project proposal

**Grade Scale**

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**Course Schedule:**
This course is a two-week immersion-based teaching and learning experience. Daily activities will depend on weather and other considerations and will cover a range of biological subject matter. Classes will comprise a mix of lectures, group work, presentations, research, fieldwork, and studio/lab work. Lecture and study topics will include observation and field sketching, landscape drawing, and illustration techniques and conventions for specific scientific subject matter.

**Policies and Instructions:**
As a registered student in a Distance Education course through The University of Iowa, you are responsible for the policies and instructions posted below.
Special Modifications: If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in University of Iowa Continuing Education courses or programs, please contact Student Disability Services: 3015 Burge Hall, (319) 335.1462, or sds-information@uiowa.edu, or fax: (319) 335.3973. Reasonable accommodations for students with physical, mental, or learning disabilities will be made. The Division of Continuing Education is committed to both Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 508 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Academic Misconduct: All forms of plagiarism and any other activities that result in a student presenting work that is not his or her own are academic fraud. All academic fraud is reported to the departmental DEO and the Associate Dean of Continuing Education. All incidents of academic misconduct (plagiarism and cheating) will be subject to the rules and regulations of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences as defined and stated in the Academic Policies Handbook (http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook).

In this class, students are not allowed to collaborate with others on assignments. Do not share your work with others or ask others to see their completed assignments since both are considered academic misconduct. If you need help, please contact the instructor by email. Students are responsible for understanding this policy; if you have questions, ask for clarification.

Understanding Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Visit this site (http://www.sexualharassment.uiowa.edu/) for definitions, assistance, and the full University policy.

Complaint Procedures: If at any time you have concerns about this class or your performance in it, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you do not feel that your concern has been resolved satisfactorily, you may contact the Department Chair (contact information provided at the top of page one of this syllabus). If you still do not feel that your concern has been resolved satisfactorily, you may contact University College, 310 Calvin Hall, (319) 335-1497, uc-academics@uiowa.edu. All complaints must be made within six months of the incident.

Administrative Home of the Course: The administrative home of this course is the University College (UC), which governs academic matters relating to the course such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, issues concerning academic fraud or academic probation, and how credits are applied for various graduation requirements. Different colleges might have different policies. If you have questions about these or other UC policies, contact your academic advisor or the Division of Continuing Education, 250 Continuing Education Facility, (319) 335-2575, dce-registration@uiowa.edu. As a registered student in a Distance Education course through The University of Iowa, you are responsible for the policies and instructions as posted online: http://uc.uiowa.edu/students/admitted-university-college-programs/academic-standards.