Expectations of Students in Naturalist Outreach Practicum

Participation in Class

- It is critical that you are present and engaged in class as we do many activities that are essential to learning the material and getting feedback on your presentations. We expect active participation and interaction in all aspects of this experiential course.

- If you miss more than 2 classes during the semester, you will be dropped a letter grade.

- One of the goals of the class is to help you develop a portfolio with resources that you can refer to as you go on to future outreach or teaching. It is easy to sit and listen to our many great guest lecturers, but you will remember more and have a better record of their suggestions if you take selective notes and ask questions. To encourage this effort, there will be an open notebook (handwritten or typed, no computers) final exam.

Scheduling Presentations

- Please review the Guide to Scheduling Your Presentations

- You will need to schedule eight presentations throughout the semester – most of which will be during the day (8am-3pm) when elementary schools are active. There will be the opportunity to speak to afterschool or Saturday programs, but these are relatively rare. We welcome schools that can bring their students to Cornell for talks, but most of your presentations will be off campus. Most community outreach events, like Insectapalooza, will be on the weekend.

- You should have at least one 3-hr block of time from 8am to 3pm during the week/ or at regular intervals during the semester when you will be free in which you can regularly schedule presentations.

- Presentations will be scheduled using Google Calendar. You (not the TA) will be responsible for keeping track of the presentations that you sign up for.

Transportation

- You are ultimately responsible for getting to and from your presentations.

- The TA will facilitate carpooling organization, but you must be actively engaged in finding a lift if you do not have a car. Consider Ithaca CarShare, friends, taxis, or buses, but ultimately you are responsible for figuring out how to get to your scheduled events. If you do not have a car or reliable transportation, do not commit to an event that you cannot get to.
• It will be easier to schedule presentations if you have a car or have access to a car.

• We cannot reimburse you for travel expenses – this is part of the course.

**Presentation Materials**

• You are responsible for collecting the majority of your presentation materials. There are materials that you can borrow, but you should not rely on borrowing all your materials from Dr. Rayor or other faculty. Even if you are able to borrow everything, you are expected to develop some items and posters on your own and will be graded accordingly.

• It will be easier if you begin to collect items for your presentation in the summer before the course.

• We cannot reimburse you for presentation material expenses – this is part of the course.