

# HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER BLOCK

Travel, Research, & Lead — Science Expeditions in the U.S. and Ecuador  
Summer Semester for 10th / 11th Grade Students

**TUITION: \$10,095 | GRADES: 10th – 11th**

## **COURSE HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Strengthen your college application
- Earn 0.5 Science credits in just 32 days
- Gain 0.5 Leadership elective credits
- Scientific Research Expeditions and Hands on Field Work

## **ACADEMIC FOCUS:**

- Honors Natural Science: Advanced Topic in Anthropogenic Effects
- Elective in Principles of Leadership and Environmental Ethics
- Outdoor Leadership Certification
- Leave No Trace (LNT) Certification
- Wilderness Medicine Certification

## **LOCATIONS & DATES:**

- We offer 3 locations for our Summer Semester:
  - ▶ North Carolina — June 18–July 19, 2025
  - ▶ Ecuador — June 18–July 19, 2025
  - ▶ Oregon — Coming 2026

## **WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?**

- Gain hands-on research experience through field expeditions
- Combines academic excellence, leadership development, and outdoor adventure
- Blend classroom learning with adventure
- Boost your college application



Scan QR code  
for more info.



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# North Carolina – High School Summer Semester

## Life on Campus

At NCOAE North Carolina, life on campus is an engaging mix of academics, adventure, and community building, all rooted in the principles of experiential education. A typical day might start with an early morning yoga session or a beach walk at sunrise, followed by an interactive class on ecology or ocean dynamics. The afternoon could be spent applying these lessons in real-world settings, like surfing or sea kayaking along the North Carolina coast or climbing at a nearby gym. Evenings provide time for reflection, group discussions, and bonding activities around a campfire or in small groups. This blend of rigorous academics and outdoor adventure prepares students for their field experiences and research, allowing them to connect deeply with both their studies and their peers.

## Campus Learning Highlights

### Focus on Academic Excellence

- Rigorous Honors-level coursework in Natural Science.
- Topics: Biodiversity, Water Quality, Environmental Justice.
- Resources: OpenStax Biology, EPA History, and “Silent Spring” (Rachel Carson).

### Leadership Development

- Workshops, role-playing, and teamwork exercises.
- Preparing students for practical leadership roles.

### Classroom Activities

- Deep dives into topics like population growth, ecosystem services, and climate change.
- Interactive discussions balancing environment, economy, and society.

## A Day in the Field

- **Morning Routine:** The day begins at sunrise with preparation, a healthy breakfast, and a review of the itinerary, including coursework, research projects, safety protocols, and environmental objectives.
- **Adventure-Based Learning:** Students participate in activities like hiking, rock climbing, or whitewater paddling, tailored to the location and educational focus, while engaging in discussions on ecosystems, geology, ecology, and sustainability.
- **Field Research:** Extensive hands-on research teaches data collection and analysis techniques in natural environments, linking theory with practical application.
- **Midday Break:** Lunch is enjoyed in scenic settings, fostering reflection, community-building, and addressing challenges faced earlier in the day.
- **Skill Development:** Afternoon activities include advanced navigation, wilderness first aid, and Leave No Trace principles, integral to outdoor leadership training.
- **Leadership Practice:** Participants rotate leadership roles, making group decisions and applying outdoor leadership theories in real-time under instructor guidance.
- **Evening Debrief:** The day concludes with dinner preparation and a reflective debrief, emphasizing group dynamics, lessons learned, and environmental stewardship.

## Field Learning Highlights:

### Hands-On Scientific Exploration

- Activities: Water quality testing, biodiversity assessments, soil analysis.
- Tools: Volunteer Stream Monitoring Manual, Earth Force® Kits.

### Outdoor Leadership in Action

- Skills: Backcountry navigation, Leave No Trace principles.
- Students take turns leading peers in real-world environmental settings.

### Integrating Science with Practice

- Applying classroom concepts to address real-world challenges.
- Topics: Climate change impacts, energy sources, and sustainable practices.