

# UC Climate Stewards



## Instructor

Summer Swallow, M.Ed.

## Phone

707.591.9310 x123

## Email

[SSwallow@  
PepperwoodPreserve.org](mailto:SSwallow@PepperwoodPreserve.org)

## Course Start & End

April 1 – May 13, 2021

## Climate Stewards Website

<http://calnat.ucanr.edu/cs>

## Registration

[https://www.pepperwoodpr  
eserve.org/?event=uc-  
climate-stewards-course-  
2nd-  
session&event\\_date=2021-  
04-01](https://www.pepperwoodpreserve.org/?event=uc-climate-stewards-course-2nd-session&event_date=2021-04-01)

## Course Fee

\$350

## Course Location

Online via Zoom; plus 3 self-guided, independent field trips

## Course Schedule

7 Thursdays starting at 6pm plus time for independent field trips

## Course Overview

**\*\*Given the rapidly-evolving global coronavirus situation, everything in this schedule is subject to change. Please keep up-to-date on regional policies and instructor announcements for current information.\*\***

**General.** The UC Climate Stewards seeks to foster a committed corps of volunteers ready to effectively engage in transformative local solutions to promote community and ecosystem resilience in a changing climate. The UC Climate Stewards course will introduce you to social-emotional learning and trauma-aware practices, climate change communication, climate science, and community resilience planning. The course curriculum will combine themes of communication, community engagement and climate science with guest lecturers, independent field trips, and project-based learning to immerse you in the dynamics of your local community.

This UC Climate Stewards Course will integrate locally relevant themes of fire, water and stewardship. Through guest speakers, independent field trips and activities we will learn about and discuss principles and practices towards increasing community and ecosystem resilience to fire, drought, and floods.

## Learning Outcomes

- Increase access to up-to-date and locally relevant climate science to improve climate literacy
- Improve participants' self-efficacy and agency by fostering climate change communications skills development, civic engagement, and local conservation and community action
- Establish an inclusive community of practice focused on stewardship, communication, and community solutions to advance resiliency
- Build statewide support and capacity to effectively advance state and local climate goals
- Meet all of the course requirements.



## **Course Requirements**

- **Contact Time:** Each UC Climate Stewards course consists of a minimum of 40 educational hours (online, classroom, and field time), which includes a minimum of 12 hours in the field.
- **Required Reading and Online Work:** Read the entire UC Climate Stewards Handbook, complete six (6) online course modules, and complete all assigned homework.
- **Class Attendance and Field Trips:** Participants must attend all classes and engage in a minimum of 3 independent field trips. Field trips will be completed independently by each participant in order to comply with health and safety guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Field trip locations are flexible and not limited to areas immediately surrounding Pepperwood Preserve. A detailed field trip guide will be provided the first week of class. If one class meeting is missed, the participant will be expected to complete make-up activities on their own time at the direction of the instructor.
- **Capstone Project:** Participants are required to complete a Capstone Project in one of six areas: Community Resilience and Adaptation, Environmental and Climate Justice, Conservation/Restoration (Stewardship), Participatory Science, Education/Interpretation, or Program Support. The Capstone Project provides an opportunity for participants to integrate their own personal interests with the in-class material toward the development of an applied work project done in conjunction with a community organization. Participants must get pre-approval for Capstone Projects in the first three weeks of the course. Participants are encouraged to work in teams when appropriate. Participants will deliver an individual or group capstone presentation (5 minutes long per person) on graduation day. Participants are expected to spend a minimum of 8 hours on the capstone project and will add hours spent on the Capstone Project into the volunteer portal.
- **Class Participatory Science Project:** Each participant must contribute to the participatory science project adopted by the class. Our class participatory science project is ISeeChange.org. Each student is required to post at least 1 observation and comment on at least 1 post within any of the Investigation categories.
- **Evaluation:** Completion of the online post-course evaluation survey is critical for the ongoing success and improvement of the course. You will be provided with a link to the evaluation survey toward the end of the course.

- **Volunteering and Volunteer Portal (VMS)**: Participants will be provided with an online account to track their volunteer hours, including hours spent on their Capstone Project. Tracking volunteer hours is an essential way to prove need and impact of the UC Climate Stewards Initiative. (See page 4 for more details on Volunteering)

### **Course Materials**

*Please notify the instructor immediately if you do not have an e-mail account.*

- **Required:** Access to internet connected computer or mobile device and an email account for communication, access to all course materials and Volunteer Portal access.
- Internet connected device with video camera and microphone to participate in Zoom-based virtual class meetings.

### **Required Text**

- Climate Stewardship: Collective Action Across California, *Brendan Buhler and Adina Merenlender*. (not yet published, available online as digital text after registration; requires an active internet connection, if this presents a barrier please immediately notify your instructor)

### **Recommended supplemental reading**

- The Thinking Person's Guide to Climate Change, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. *Robert Henson*. 2019.
- Made to Stick, *Chip and Dan Heath*. 2008.

### **Recommended Resources**

- **CalNat YouTube Channel**: View videos from UC Climate Stewards conferences, meetings, and more.  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGBYG5ShV4VDiUiRbEmmObg>
- **CalNat Mapping Tool**: UC California Naturalist Program provides a GIS-based map-producing tool you can use for both content delivery and logistics. Choose from multiple base maps and layers to explore bioregions, compare and contrast field sites, create maps to field trips and capstone projects and more.  
[http://calnat.ucanr.edu/Resources/CalNat\\_Maps/](http://calnat.ucanr.edu/Resources/CalNat_Maps/)

## **Volunteering and the Volunteer Portal**

All participants completing this course will receive a Climate Stewards pin. After completion, participants are encouraged to continue performing at least 40 hours of volunteer service each year if they would like to receive additional annual pins. Pins are awarded each year for participants who meet this goal, and the pins differ from year to year.

- Volunteer activities must relate to Community Resilience and Adaptation, Environmental and Climate Justice, Conservation/Restoration (Stewardship), Participatory Science, Education/Interpretation, or Program Support, be sponsored by an organization, and be UNPAID.
- Interested in developing a long-term relationship with Pepperwood? Become a Pepperwood Steward! Pepperwood Stewards are the cornerstone of Pepperwood's volunteer community. In addition to receiving unique access to the Preserve and special events, these dedicated volunteers have the opportunity to contribute to research and restoration projects while working collaboratively with Pepperwood's network of scientists. Stewards receive discounts on classes and events, and are part of a vibrant community of passionate nature enthusiasts. For more information on becoming a Pepperwood Steward and how to get started, contact Sloane: [SShinn@PepperwoodPreserve.org](mailto:SShinn@PepperwoodPreserve.org)
- Your 8-hour capstone project will count toward your first year's volunteer hours. You (not your instructor) will log these hours into the [UC Volunteer Portal](#). A welcome e-mail will be sent to you after instructors add your information to the system. Notify your instructor if you do not receive that e-mail. You will be provided with a user name and password in the introductory e-mail after the start of the class.
- The portal website is <https://vms4.ucanr.edu/>.
- There are resources available to help you familiarize with the UC CalNat/Climate Stewards volunteer portal and commonly used features. Check out our help guides and videos geared toward users and program administrators: [http://calnat.ucanr.edu/Resources/VP\\_Help/](http://calnat.ucanr.edu/Resources/VP_Help/)

## Homework Policy

All homework assignments are due according to the date posted in Canvas. Each homework unit is due prior to the start of our class discussion for that unit (by midnight the night before our Saturday class). All homework should be submitted through Canvas. It is the student's responsibility to complete all assignments on time. If there are extenuating circumstances, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to make individual arrangements. If students have difficulty using the Canvas portal or submitting homework, contact your instructor as soon as possible.

## Attendance Policy

Participants must complete a minimum of 40 hours of course work comprised of asynchronous independent study, Zoom synchronous instruction, independent field trips, and capstone project work. Only 2 synchronous class sessions (4 hours total) can be missed, and participants will need to request a make-up session or assignment from their instructor for the missed class(es). Participants that miss more than 2 classes are not eligible for the UC Climate Stewards certificate. Participants need to complete at least 3 independent field trips to different locations in their area, and the locations will need to be approved by the instructor prior to the site visit to ensure that the site is relevant to the curriculum.

## Cancellation Policy

A full refund will be given for cancellations 21 days (3 weeks) or more before the start of this event. For cancellations within 20 to 8 days (2 weeks) before the event, a 50% refund will be given. Refunds will not be given for cancellations within 7 days of this event. However, registrants that can successfully refer another student to replace their spot in the course prior to the first day of class will receive a full refund. Registrants that must cancel due to a verifiable medical emergency personally, or in their family, within 20 days (2 weeks) before the course begins and before the third class meeting, will receive a full refund. No other cancellations, for any other reason, will result in a refund.

## **Instructional Methods**

The course will integrate a range of instructional methods including online modules, presentations, peer-to-peer discussions, small group activities, hands-on and inquiry-based activities, experiential learning and field-based activities. Requests for reasonable accommodations for disabilities or limitations should be made prior to the date of the program or activity for which it is needed. Please make such requests as early as possible by contacting your instructor.

## **Statement on Inclusion and Accommodations**

If you have a learning or physical need that will require special accommodations in this class, you will need to notify your instructor in writing of your accommodation needs. Please notify at least 30 days prior to the first class if you require any special accommodations. This will allow us ample opportunity to provide suitable accommodations. We make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Materials will be available in alternate formats upon request. Pace of work will be slow to moderate, including a variety of hands-on activities with frequent opportunities for breaks built in.

## **Statement on Financial Accessibility Cost**

Students are responsible for course fees and the purchase of suggested books. Students are also responsible for costs associated with any travel, meals and equipment.

Scholarships to reduce the cost of course program fees may be available on a limited basis depending upon need.

## Course Schedule

Wk	Date, Time	Topic	Speaker
1	April 1, 6-8pm	<b>Welcome to Climate Stewards! Introductory Webinar</b>  <i>Check in: Canvas access, course flow, field trips, Capstone Project</i>	Summer Swallow, M.Ed., Environmental Educator; Nicole Barden, Environmental Educator, Pepperwood Preserve
2a		<b>Canvas Online Unit I – Community Connections</b>  <i>*each Canvas unit is self-paced, complete units before class meeting*</i>	
2b	April 8, 6-8pm	<b>Class Discussion Unit I – Community Connections</b>	Summer and Nicole
3a		<b>Canvas Online Unit II – Interpretation/Communication/Education</b>	
3b	April 15, 6-8pm	<b>Class Discussion Unit II – Interpretation/Communication/Education</b>  <i>Due: Capstone Project Proposal Form</i>	Summer and Nicole
4a		<b>Canvas Online Unit III – Climate in Context, Part 1</b>	
4b	April 22, 6-8pm	<b>Class Discussion Unit III – Climate in Context, Part 1</b>  <i>Check in: Capstone Projects, Field trips, Class Participatory Science Project</i>	Lisa Micheli, PhD, President & CEO, Pepperwood Preserve

<b>Wk</b>	<b>Date, Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
5a		<b>Canvas Online Unit IV – Climate in Context, Part 2</b>	
5b	April 29, 6-8pm	<b>Class Discussion Unit IV – Climate in Context, Part 2</b> <i>Check in: Capstone project updates</i>	Tosha Comendant, PhD, Conservation Science Manager, Pepperwood Preserve
6a		<b>Canvas Online Unit V – Community Resilience</b>	
6b	May 6, 6-8pm	<b>Class Discussion Unit V – Community Resilience</b> <i>Check in: Class Participatory Science Project</i>	Summer and Nicole
7a		<b>Canvas Online Unit VI – Community Engagement</b> <i>Due: Capstone Project and Course Evaluations</i>	
7b	May 13, 6-9pm	<b>Class Discussion Unit VI – Community Engagement, Capstone Presentations and Graduation</b>	Summer and Nicole

