

## APPENDIX E

### STUDENT FIELD SAFETY COMMITMENT

Field laboratory courses include hands-on, inquiry-based investigations. Field activities involve walking and exploring remote, natural open spaces that may pose a health and safety risk to students and instructors who are not prepared properly. To ensure a safe and healthy environment in our field activities, the following Student Field Safety Commitment has been developed. Students must sign the commitment and return a signed copy to their instructor on the first day of the field course and before they can participate in any field activities. The students should keep a copy in their field notebook as a reminder of appropriate behavior.

#### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Students are **not** allowed off trail or to explore areas without their instructor's explicit knowledge and permission.
2. Behave in a mature and responsible manner at all times in the field. All inappropriate behavior is especially prohibited.
3. Follow all verbal and written instructions carefully. If you are unsure of an activity, ask your instructor for help before proceeding.
4. Do not touch any plant, insect or animal unless specifically instructed to do so.
5. Carefully inspect logs or rocks before sitting on them.
6. Never touch or disturb a snake.
7. Do not use cell phones during lab sessions (i.e. phone calls, texting, checking email, etc. is prohibited while in the field) unless authorized by the instructor (e.g., take photos for experiments).
8. Headphones and earbuds are **not** permitted in the field. Remain alert at all times.
9. Perform only those activities/experiments authorized by the instructor.
10. Students are encouraged to bring 1L of water
11. Students will receive training related to the locations and operating procedures for all applicable field safety equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE).
12. Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) in the field at all times.
  - a. PPE consists of **long pants or long skirts (no shorts, dresses, or short skirts) and closed toe/heel shoes** that have traction (ballet-style slippers are not permitted). Students should **wear hats** and either **apply sunscreen or wear long sleeves** for sun protection.
13. Report any incident to the instructor/TA immediately—no matter how insignificant it may appear. This should include all injuries such as cuts, burns, breathing problems, or other signs of physical harm. Students should also report incidents that do not result in physical harm, so that lessons can be learned from these "near misses".

14. Unauthorized personnel are not allowed on field trips. Visitors must be authorized by the instructor and the faculty in charge of the course.

### **SAFETY COMMITMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (student's name), have read and understand the Student Field Safety Commitment set forth above. I understand that I must obey these rules to ensure my own safety and that of my fellow students and instructors. I will cooperate to the fullest extent with my instructor and fellow students to maintain a safe working environment in the laboratory. I am aware that violations of this safety code will result in disciplinary action as specified in the Code.

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Student Signature

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Date