

Duration: On demand (six months to complete)

Credit Hours: 36 Hours

General Information

The Swamp School's online Certified Wetland Botanist (CWB) course is a unique blend of online learning paired with local hands-on practice that is designed to help you learn your wetland plants. The course is presented in a topic format and should normally take about 12 consecutive weeks if aggressively pursued but you have six months to complete the program. The classroom portion is offered entirely online as a virtual classroom experience. There is no need to travel to our location.

This course is part of the Certified Wetland Delineator Series. The series includes this course as well as the Certified Hydric Soils Investigator (CHSI), Certified Wetland Hydrology (CWH), and Certified Wetland Delineator (CWD) Courses.

“A major part of the course includes the collection of plant samples and uploading them to your virtual herbarium. You will be asked to key out and identify major diagnostic characteristics of a select number of wetland plants common to your region. We will coach you on how to do this and provide you with guidance and a number of tips and tricks to properly identify the species in your virtual collection.”

Course Description

The CWB course is designed to educate the student on all aspects of plant identification, use of field guides and how to use plant identification keys, common and scientific names of plants, plant form and function, habitat requirements, and techniques for winter wetland plant identification. You will also become familiar with the USACOE wetland indicators. The course Each topic will focus on a different classification of plants by region. The course is designed to allow you to demonstrate your knowledge of each region and its indicators through the use of assignments, discussions, quizzes, and tests.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to present original work for all assignments, respond to forum discussions and provide responses to other students' discussions. ALL information for course assignments, (data forms, pictures, drawings, etc.) must be current and completed within the time frame of your published course start and end dates unless a specific exception to this policy is granted by the staff of the Swamp School. Submissions completed for an employer's work-related project will be accepted as long as they meet the time restrictions mentioned above.

Class assignments include the preparation of a submission that may include an essay, pictures, maps, or other course-related material. Course work is primarily plant identification and some plant calculations. Occasional quizzes are included in the program as well as a mid-term and a final exam.

Instructor Contact - Directly within the class via Moodle e-mail

Time Limits

While there are no specific time limits (other than the 6-month registration period), in the event that a student falls more than 2 weeks behind during the class term, the student will receive a “how’s it going” email from the instructor and the student's course access is subject to suspension without notice until the student contacts the Swamp School to discuss continuation in the class. At the end of six months, it is up to the student to contact the Swamp School to discuss re-enrollment options.

Plagiarism and Writing Standards

The Swamp School's expectation is that all student work will be original. A detailed description of our policy on proper submission of an assignment is outlined in our Plagiarism Statement and Writing Standards.

Grading*

- Weekly Assignments 40%
- Exams 30%
- Class Discussions 15%
- Presentations 10%
- Plant Math Quiz 5%

* A minimum overall grade of 80% is required to pass this course.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic
Topic 1	Wildflowers - Parts 1 & 2
Topic 2	Ferns - Parts 1 & 2
Topic 3	Wetland Plant Math/Field Data & Plant Math Quiz
Topic 4	Conifers
Topic 5	Deciduous Trees - Parts 1 & 2
Topic 6	Sedges & Mid-Term Exam
Topic 7	Grasses
Topic 8	Rushes
Topic 9	Shrubs - Parts 1 & 2
Topic 10	Woody vines
Topic 11	Winter Trees 1
Topic 12	Winter Trees 2
Topic 13	Winter Trees 3
Topic 14	Final Exam

Certification

Upon successful completion of the course, students will receive a certificate with an electronic seal of authenticity. This certification will remain valid for 5 years and is eligible for renewal with additional continuing education. The Certified Wetland Botanist (CWB) is part of the Swamp School's Certified Wetland Delineator Program (CWD).