



INTRODUCTION TO LICHENS



2021 Eagle Hill
Natural History
Science Seminars
on the coast of
eastern Maine

Instructor: Fred Olday

When: June 13th - 19th, 2021

This introductory level seminar is designed primarily for students in the biological sciences, people involved in natural history inventory work and interpretation, and for teachers or anyone whose appreciation of the outdoors has ever excited their curiosity about these attractive and little understood organisms. The seminar will also provide a solid foundation for further self-study or more advanced coursework. The basic structure, life history, ecology, and classification of lichens will be covered in formal lectures and discussions. Field trips to a variety of habitats will introduce these organisms in their natural settings where students will be taught to recognize common lichen genera, describe their macro- and microhabitat preferences, and learn basic collection techniques. Lab work will focus on the identification of representative lichens selected by the instructor and the identification and curation of student collections. The goal of the seminar is to provide participants with the confidence, basic knowledge, and skill to pursue further study of lichens on their own. No prior experience identifying lichens is necessary. A lab fee of \$50 is required for a student identification kit which one may take home following the seminar. Items to bring with you—laptop computer, 10-20X hand lens, and a copy of 'Keys to Lichens of North America: Revised and Expanded' by Irwin M. Brodo. A list of suggested collecting equipment will follow.



GENERAL INFO

CALENDAR

APPLY



about the instructor

Dr. Fred Olday (folday@gmail.com) has previously instructed in botany, chemistry, and soils at University of Massachusetts Lowell and at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine. Following a career in the Maine wild blueberry industry, he has returned to College of the Atlantic where he presently teaches courses in bryophyte and lichen biology. He spends as much time in the outdoors as possible where he divides his time between hiking, canoeing, and becoming more familiar with the local bryophyte and lichen floras.