

Instructionally Related Activities Report Form

SPONSOR: Matt Furmanski

PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT: Art

ACTIVITY TITLE: Photography/sketching and painting

DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: October 21 to the 23

(1) PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

Originally the project was going to involve Dr. Cause Hana, and involve photo point documentation as well as photography and video of locations around the island and station. Dr. Hana announced the week before the scheduled trip that he had to take time off for health reasons, so the trip was modified rather last minuet. The Island was also going to be without a ranger or anyone at the station, as Robyn Shea was away on business the same weekend. The new modification involved reducing the number of students making the trip, this was actually accomplished by not adding anyone form the waitlist when students dropped out. I used the trip to investigate photography and sketching in the landscape, it actually turned out to be quite a success. We as a group spent much time out both nights tide pooling and taking photos, videos and sketching. The nocturnal landscape of the island is incredible, and almost a totally different experience that the island in the daytime. The CI students also interacted with a group of Bio students form Westmont College in Santa Barbara. This was a great experience for both groups.

(2) HOW DID THE ACTIVITY RELATE TO A COURSE(S) AND/OR LEARNING OBJECTIVES?

The activity directly related to art students in regards to their further understanding of art making as it relates to composition, form and content. The field trip also integrated aspects of social art making, that is art that carries a specific goal of communicating through visual means, issues that are of importance to us as a human community. The art work created will confront the viewer with questions about our environment, our place in that environment, and our responsibility as stewards of that environment, specific to the Nation Park and Santa Rosa Island, as well as our coastline.

(3) WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE STRENGTHS OF THE ACTIVITY?

Our small group bonded well, and we had plenty of time to discuss creative process and inspirations aspects of the landscape and the island, the kind of discussion that can only happen and be fostered in that kind f environment, well away form the classroom.



The strengths of the activity were apparent in the focus, concentration and camaraderie that students displayed during the field trip. Their reaction to an unfamiliar and isolated environment was novel and thought provoking, which gave them a new and challenging subject to contemplate vis-à-vis their artwork. For many of the students, this was the first time out of the city, and for some, this was the first time they had ever been on a boat, not to mention an island. This shift in perspective and primary experience is essential in an education.

(4) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY ARE/WERE THE ACTIVITY'S WEAKNESSES?

My mantra for this trip was "Adapt and Modify" and it worked great. I believe that this was a very successful trip, and despite the last minuet changes, apparent weaknesses turned in to strengths.

(5) HOW WOULD YOU IMPROVE THIS ACTIVITY FOR NEXT TIME?

I believe that this trip was great, especially with the circumstances that surrounded the absence of Dr. Cause Hanna.

(6) WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PROCESS?

I am good at leading a group when plans change last minuet, and activities and process have to change drastically. Adapt and Modify, I can do well. I always learn what a good experience this is for our students, no matter how many times I bring groups out.

(7) WHAT ARE STUDENT RESPONSES TO THE ACTIVITY? ATTACH STUDENT EVALUATIONS OR ASSESSMENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH FERPA RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMOVE ALL PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE STUDENT INFORMATION)

I literally can't put my experience at Santa Rosa Island into words; it was a really amazing weekend, and so necessary, considering it was right in the middle of the semester when midterms and essays cause so much stress. My absolute favorite part of the trip was going on hikes around the island. I love being active and being able to do it with such beautiful scenery was a huge plus. I'm a huge fan of having both mountain hikes and the beach within walking distance from one another, so it was literally like a dream come true to be there. Another super enlightening part of the trip was when Matt Furmanski took our group out to the tide pools and beach caves at night; I really enjoyed seeing the cave that had all of the dates (the earliest we found was from 1910!). Also, Matt knows so much about the different species of plants and animals on the island; it was really cool to get to hear all of his knowledge of the different behaviors and characteristics of each of the species that he pointed out. I honestly wouldn't have traded my experience at Santa Rosa Island for the world, and I really hope that I get the opportunity to visit again!



Nicolas Haro
11/1/2016
Santa Rosa Island Visit

During my time on Santa Rosa Island I experienced a lot of new things that I have always wanted to see in person. I have grown up fishing around the islands and have always wanted to go on or spend time there. I was finally able to do this and experience it with fellow classmates and a professor with a vast knowledge of the Island. Some of the memorable moments are hiking through Cherry Canyon, seeing the Milky Way Galaxy, spotting an island fox, and finding octopus at night.

I was also able to expand my artistic process by getting in touch with a side of nature that I have always looked at from a distance. It made me realize that there is a lot more to explore and get to know in this world. Luckily, the Channel Islands are very close to us, and offer a lot of different nature experiences that remind us of how the California landscape should be. Now that I have a little more knowledge of Santa Rosa I plan to re-visit the Island with friends and explore different areas. This trip gave me the motivation and extra encouragement to visit with my friends. I am very fortunate to have had the opportunity to spend time in this special place and look forward to the next visit.

Santa Rosa Island Trip by Mieriam Jantz

Going on the Santa Rosa Island trip during the Fall 2016 semester was an incredible experience. I am a Studio Art major and the island is exactly the kind of influence that I need for my art. I was able to gather excellent photos for digital design projects, and for a painting series I'm aspiring to do. I'm happy I was able to do some painting on the island as well. I feel proud to be better educated on the island that our university is affiliated with. Our first day was filled with camaraderie, scenic hikes, and delicious food we cooked together. I thought it couldn't get much better than that. Then night time came... I saw the most stars I've ever seen. We observed the Milky Way, and how vast Space feels. I could hardly take it all in. Then looking into the tide pools we got to see creatures of the night, including some octopuses. We also got to see hundreds of dolphins on the boat ride home, which felt like a dream. Getting to see so much beauty has truly inspired me. This was an experience I'll never forget. There is so much research and learning opportunities on the island, I could have stayed much longer. I'm so grateful to our university for funding this trip, and to our professor Matt Furmanski for coordinating it. His extensive knowledge of the island and passion for nature made the experience amazing.

(8) GIVE A SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR THE ACTIVITY.

A majority of the budget was spent on transportation on Island Packers and food for the weekend. The balance was used for art supplies and some basic equipment.

Attendee List for IRA#787

Matthew Furmanski, October 21 to 23, 2016

Matthew Furmanski

Nicolas Haro

Mierium Jantz

Christian Morris

Vanessa Rodgers

Gary Rodreguez

Karina Mendoza



California State
University

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**B. ON SEPARATE DOCUMENT, PLEASE ATTACH ATTENDEE LIST
(PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFO REMOVED)**

**C. PLEASE INCLUDE UP TO 6 IMAGES IN THIS DOCUMENT TO DEMONSTRATE
STUDENT PARTICIPATION**





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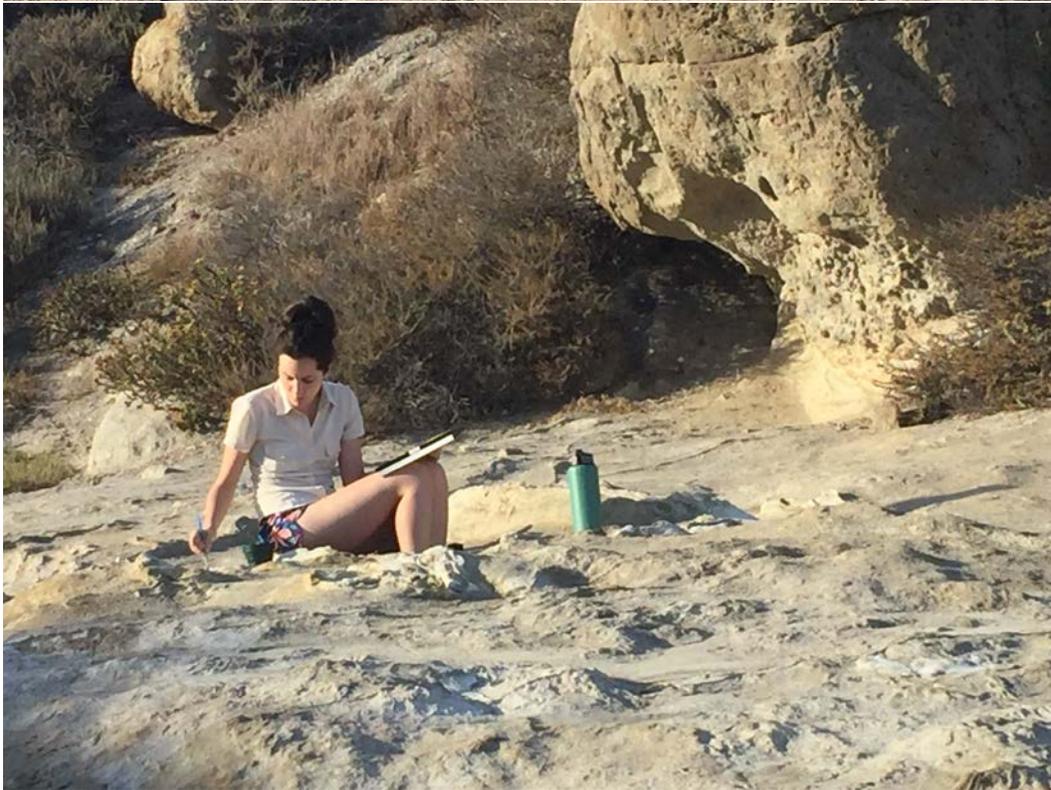




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