

June Term – SMU in Taos – June 4–July 3, 2013

Water Resources of the Upper Rio Grande Watershed

3 credits



Rio Grande at Taos Junction Bridge seen in Google Earth: <http://www.panoramio.com/photo/2466769>

TOPICS:

- HYDROLOGIC CYCLE
- GLOBAL WATER RESOURCES/SUPPLY SCENARIO
- CONSIDERATION OF WATER AND BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS
- CONSIDERATION OF WATER AS A COMMODITY
- REVIEW OF SELECTED CASE STUDIES
- BASICS OF WATER QUALITY ANALYSIS AND BIOMONITORING
- ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY FOCUSED ON WATER RESOURCES

Catalogue Description: The purpose of this course is to explore how various human activities within watersheds impact the aquatic ecology of rivers and streams and compromise the safety of our water supply. Projections indicate increasing future water scarcity. The focus will be on surface waters within watershed boundaries with attention directed toward the American southwest, and specifically the Rio Grande watershed. Water resource case studies from other regions of the world also will be examined.

Base Camp – Fort Burgwin, Ranchos de Taos, New Mexico

Contact: Dr. Peter Phillips, Professor of Biology, Winthrop University,
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29733 phillipsp@winthrop.edu or pcphillips@smu.edu

Course Instructor: Dr. Peter Phillips' research and interests in natural resources have focused on water: fisheries, aquaculture and water quality in both coastal regions and rivers of the southeastern US, Central America and the Caribbean for 35 years. He has conducted research principally in Costa Rica, but also El Salvador (Peace Corps volunteer), Dominican Republic (Fulbright Scholar), Mexico and the eastern Caribbean (St. Vincent and the Grenadines). In addition to his faculty position at Winthrop, he is the Water Quality Research Director for the Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation, Charlotte, NC.

<http://www.winthrop.edu/cas/faculty/default.aspx?id=14144>