

**2025 Initial Training
Class Schedule**
(tentative – subject to change)

Day	Date	Time	Topic	Location
Tue	Aug 19	9-12pm	Orientation / Laws, Regulations & Ethics Rachel Richter – DFW Texas Parks & Wildlife	Global Spheres
Tue	Aug 26	9-12pm	Ecological Concepts Kelly Albus, PhD – Texas A&M Agrilife Research	Global Spheres
Tue	Sept 2	9-12pm	Urban Ecology Rachel Richter – DFW Texas Parks & Wildlife	Global Spheres
Sat	Sept 6	9-12pm	Optional Field Trip (see below for more information)	Blackland Prairie Raptor Center
Tue	Sept 9	9-12pm	Mammalogy Doug Elrod, PhD – NCTC	Thrive
Tue	Sept 16	9-12pm	Herpetology Taylor Willis, DVM – Dallas Zoo	Thrive
Sat	Sept 20	8:30-12:30pm	Onsite Field Study: iNaturalist & Interpretation Wendy Anderson, Sharon Betty	Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center
Tue	Sept 23	9-2pm	Aquatic Systems Tom LaPoint, PhD - Retired Professor, UNT	Global Spheres
Sat	Sept 27	9-12pm	Optional Field Trip (see below for more information)	TBD
Tue	Sept 30	9-12pm	Ornithology Tania Homayoun – TPWD Ornithologist	Global Spheres
Sat	Oct 4	8:30–12:30pm	Onsite Field Study: LLELA bird walk & prairie restore Sue Yost, Rick Freiheit	LLELA
Tue	Oct 7	1-4pm	Climate & Weather Michael Slattery, PhD – Professor TCU	Global Spheres
Sat	Oct 11	9-12pm	Optional Field Trip (see below for more information)	LBJ National Grassland
Tue	Oct 14	9-12pm	Native Prairies Jaime Baxter-Slye, PhD – Professor UNT	TBD
Sat	Oct 18	8:30 -1:30pm	Onsite Field Study: Geology & Soils Reid Ferring, PhD – Retired Professor UNT	Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center

Tue	Oct 21	6-9pm	Entomology & Mothing Sam Kieschnick – DFW Texas Parks & Wildlife	Thrive
Sat	Oct 25	9-12pm	Optional Field Trip (see below for more information)	TBD
Tue	Oct 28	9-1pm	Native plants & Pollinators Camille Maier, PhD – Professor TWU	TWU
Sat	Nov 1	9-2pm	Onsite Field Study: Forest Ecology & Tree ID Rick & Lisa Travis	Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center
Tue	Nov 4	9-12pm	Class project / next steps / graduation	Global Spheres

Optional Field Trips

Students must participate in **at least one** field trip, but may attend as many as desired.

1. [Blackland Prairie Raptor Center](#)
2. [Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge](#)
3. [LBJ National Grassland](#)
4. [Ray Roberts Lake State Park – Johnson Branch](#)