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**University of California
California Naturalist**

Riverside Metropolitan Museum

The Riverside Metropolitan Museum is offering its first UC California Naturalist course in spring 2016! Immerse yourself in learning about California's diverse natural environment, with emphasis on the uniqueness of the Inland Empire--from chaparral and sage scrub to the Santa Ana River and the desert's edge. Become part of a committed corps of citizen scientists and volunteer naturalists ready to take an active role in local conservation, education, and restoration.

Participants in the course will receive hands-on, expert instruction through lectures, activities and field trips, plus exposure to real-world environmental projects. Through presentations and conversations with experts in their fields, this course will cover basic ecology, watershed concepts, geology, wildlife, plants, and global environmental issues, as well as offering tools for collaborative conservation and interpretation. The curriculum is designed to inspire participants to enhance their personal connection with the natural world and become active citizen scientists.

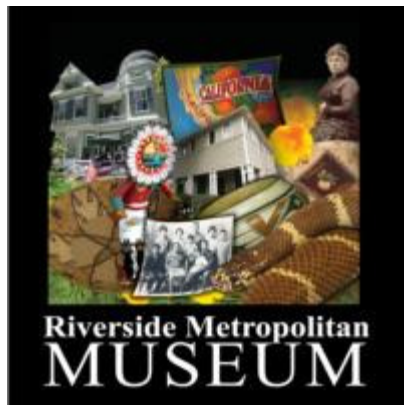
To receive the UC California Naturalist certification, participants engage in seminars, attend field trips, keep a field journal, read the course text, and complete a Capstone Project. Upon completing certification requirements, participants are also eligible for four academic credits through UC Davis Extension for an additional nominal fee.

Schedule: The Spring 2016 Riverside Metropolitan Museum California Naturalist course will run from March 10 through May 19, (with March 17 off). Classes will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:30-9, with field trips on three Saturdays (dates to be announced).

Location: Evening classes will convene at the Ameal Moore Nature Center at Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park, with occasional meetings at the Riverside Metropolitan Museum. Saturday field trips will be taken to variety of natural areas, with dates and locations to be announced.

Course fee: \$350. Registration is open - [click here!](#)

For more information, contact: Teresa Woodard at twoodard@riversideca.gov, or 951-826-5129.



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