



# INTRODUCTION TO LICHENS



2024 EAGLE HILL  
NATURAL HISTORY  
SCIENCE SEMINARS  
ON THE COAST OF  
EASTERN MAINE

**Instructor: Fred Olday**

**When: June 30 - July 6, 2024**

This introductory level seminar is designed primarily for undergraduates 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 intriguing organisms. The seminar will also provide a solid foundation for those contemplating 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 present these organisms in their natural settings where students will be introduced to 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 in identifying lichens is assumed, although familiarity with basic microscope technique would be most helpful.



**GENERAL INFO**

**CALENDAR**

**APPLY**



## about the instructor

Dr. Fred Olday (folday@gmail.com/207-483-4023) 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, trail clearing, and becoming more familiar with the local bryophyte and lichen floras.