This course is directed toward pre-service education majors. It comprises a 16-day, inquiry-based field course and a science immersion and discovery experience in Wyoming, Nebraska, and South Dakota. The primary aim of this course is to expose education majors to geoscience principles to improve an educators' ability to teach inquiry, gain knowledge and understanding of geoscience, and to demonstrate effective teaching methods that can integrate geoscience into K-12 learning environments.

What recent teacher-participants said about their experience:

“I have never learned or done so much in 2 weeks ever in my life.” “I felt like I was on 'Survivor', and I was succeeding.”

“This is truly the best course I have ever taken. I learned more about geology, myself, others, life, etc. than I ever have or could have in one year.”

Goals:

To enhance the ‘geoscience experience’ for pre-service science education majors;
To teach inquiry concepts and skills that K-12 educators are expected to understand and employ;
To inspire science educators to use inquiry and geoscience as unifying themes in their teaching activities;
To provide all participants with a 'tool-kit' of effective inquiry-based, and discovery-learning teaching practices.

Details: All costs for transport, food, accommodation and student fees will be covered by UNL. In short, you will get a fantastic trip, three undergraduate credits, and amazing first-hand exposure to geoscience. Tuition and Fees for those accepted into this program will be covered with funding provided by a National Science Foundation grant. Applications will be accepted in early 2016 through the CSMCE Application/Registration Portal (https://cse.unl.edu/scimath/apps).

Watch a short video that describes the course and presents teacher perspectives:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pm3iPNPcCQ

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