

BIO211 GELO Assignment

Description of activity: The Canyon Lab allows students to independently develop their own research question, collect their own data in the field with the GPS units, and analyze the class dataset to answer their research question. Students use GPS units to collect GIS data by specifically mapping the distribution of native and non-native plants in a canyon that is representative of a chaparral ecosystem. The students input their geospatial data into ArcGIS, (an industry standard software package used to manage and analyze geospatial data) and then interpret this geospatial data, draw inferences from that data. They then independently write a full lab report.