About the Course
This Institute is designed to teach educators about the physical, chemical, and biological components of the Great Lakes ecosystem, using Lake Superior as the classroom. This 5-day course is designed to enhance the ability of educators to teach about Great Lakes topics including watersheds delineation, stream and lake assessments, amphibian monitoring, communicating results, stewardship, and environmental careers. Mathematics; life, earth and physical sciences; technology; and social studies content expectations will be woven into the course content.

Participants will engage in hands-on data collection and analysis, field trips, lab experiences, and discussions with research scientists. Participants will take several day-trips on Lake Superior and inland lakes aboard Michigan Tech’s research vessel, Agassiz, to sample water chemistry, zooplankton, phytoplankton, sediment, and benthic organisms. Participants will discover how toxins move between the water and air, study the impact of aquatic exotics on the Great Lakes, and sample frogs and salamanders as bioindicators of environmental health. Michigan Tech University faculty will present many of the sessions.

Course Credit
Participants may enroll for 3 semester credits from MTU. To receive credit, participants must: develop two new lessons which are due September 1, 2008.
Cost

Cost per participant for the 5-day Institute is only $600 for both Michigan and out-of-state participants, which includes four nights room/board, field trips, instructional materials, and tuition for three graduate credits from Michigan Tech University. (The actual cost of the Institute is $1800. A grant from the Michigan Coastal Management Program of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, along with a departmental stipend from the Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering reduces the official 2007/08 MTU Graduate Resident and Non-Resident tuition of $369 per credit). Payment of the full registration fee is due Friday, May 30. Make checks payable to ‘Western U.P. Center.’

Financial Aid

Applicants who are K-12 teachers in the eight Great Lakes states may apply for a scholarship through the COSEE Great Lakes program http://coseegreatlakes.net/ (click on Marine Immersion) or contact Marti Martz mam60@psu.edu

To Apply/More Information

Application forms and updated information available at: http://wupcenter.mtu.edu
Application deadline is: Friday, May 30
Submit applications to:
Joan Chadde, Institute Coordinator
Western U.P. Center for Science, Math & Environmental Education
105 Dilman Hall -Michigan Tech University
1400 Townsend Dr., Houghton, MI 49931
Tel: 906-487-3341  Fax: 906-487-1620
Email: jchadde@mtu.edu

Accommodations

Participants will receive five nights lodging in MTU’s newly remodeled Wadsworth Hall in a single room with private bath and receive all of their meals from Monday lunch through Friday dinner. Michigan Tech Trails and downtown Houghton are within easy walking distance.

Getting to Michigan Tech

Michigan Technological University is located just east of downtown Houghton, MI (pop. 7,000). Houghton is served daily by Northwest Airlines (800-225-2525 or nwa.com) from Minneapolis to the Houghton County Airport in Hancock. Taxi service is available from the airport to Michigan Tech’s campus for approximately $20 per person by calling Neil’s Taxi Service at 906-482-5515.

Houghton, MI is a quaint town with roots in the historic copper mining days of the mid-19th century. Hiking and mountain biking is awesome at the nearby MTU Recreational Trail System, or stroll along Lake Superior at McLain State Park, or visit a nearby nature sanctuary. Learn more about MTU: http://www.mtu.edu or Keweenaw Tourism information: www.thekeweenaw.com