

2015 Living History Encampment Tentative Syllabus

A 5 Day, 3 Night Living History immersions into 1840s Fur Trade Era of the American West
At Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site.

Course Instructor

Barbara Ingles, Retired Teacher, La Junta Middle School, inglesb@centurytel.net

Course Coordinator

Greg Holt, Lead Interpreter, National Park Service, Bent's Old Fort NHS (719) 383-5023, Craftsman Instructor

Current List of Teachers and Assistants

Topographical Engineers – Don Erickson – (303) 979-2213 – erickson@bentstvrain.org, Bruce Richardson, Kevin Reddy, Bob Elsloo, Bob Mergel, Rick Lohsen

Trapper/Hunters – John Carson, Lloyd Brittain – 719-383-5026

Trader – John Luzader – (970) 663-2342 – lmow@juno.com, Michael Schaub, Ed Duncan

Domestic Cook – Kimberly Prack

Blacksmith – Greg Holt

Carpenters – Jim Harsh

Mexican Laborer – Joe Frausto, Eddie Aragon

2015 Living History Encampment Syllabus

Wednesday June 3, 2015

On-site Lectures, Tour and Preparations – Bent's Old Fort NHS, 35110 State Highway 194 E.

	<u>Fort Wagon Shed</u>
9:00 – 9:15 am	Welcome – Goals of Program (Why you're here) – Superintendent Alexa Roberts
9:15 – 9:45	Administrative details - pretest turned-in, schedule, course objectives, discussion, college course registration, rules, practices, procedures, intrusions, safety, expectations – Bent's Old Fort NHS Lead Interpreter Greg Holt
9:45	Bent's Fort's Documentary Film "Traders, Tribes and Travelers"
	<u>Fort Plaza</u>
10:15	Bent's Fort Tour – Greg Holt

Tour will be performed in first person. The tour will be based on archeology, diaries, journals, paintings, sketches, oral histories, newspapers, work and trade ledgers

- 11:30-1:00 Lunch Break
- 1:00 Fort Wagon Shed
Integrating Bent's Fort History into all Academic Areas of Study – Colorado State Teaching Standards - Barbara Ingles
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 TBD if Bally Building or wagon shed – (Artifact Collection Storage Building)
“The Real Bent's Fort” – Archeological Evidence
- 4:00 Fort
Check out and change into period clothing using the fort changing rooms and restrooms.
- 4:30 Council Room
Period clothing and accoutrements inspection and assistance – Living Museums of the West's John Luzader
- 6:00 Class Dinner at La Junta TBD
Overnight accommodations on your own

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Lectures and Classroom Work – Otero Junior College, 5 Western Ave., La Junta, Colorado, Student Center, Room 120

- 8:00 a.m. Welcome – Greg Holt
Day's schedule
- 8:15 Interpretation and the National Park Service Mission – Bent's Old Fort NHS Chief of Interpretation Rick Wallner
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Living Museums of the West – John Luzader
Tilden's Principles
Respect/Attitude
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Living Museums of the West (Continued)
1st./2nd/3rd person portrayals
Living history - can you be politically correct and historically accurate?
Developing your character, basic interpretation, storytelling and voice skills, folk arts

2:30	Break
2:45	Living Museums of the West (Continued)
4:00 – 5:00	Rules of Engagement for the Research and Development of Historical Accurate Fur Trade Living History – Michael Moore Interpretation Research Authenticity Tactics and Techniques for Interpretation
5:00	Dinner (on your own) and travel to fort
6:00	Unload, change into period clothing Head to Camp
6:30-8:00	Camp setup and move in – all instructors
8:00	Character Role Presentations – trader, hunter-trapper, carpenter, blacksmith, Topographical Engineers, domestic laborer women, Plains Indians – Living History Instructors
	<u>Friday June 5, 2015 7:00 – 10:00 a.m.</u>
7:00 – 8:00 am	Frontier Trail Life – Greg Holt Disassemble camp Pack up and load wagon
8:00 – 9:00	Santa Fe Trail Caravan Traveling the trail Arrival at Bent’s Fort Unload and separate into groups
9:00-10:00	Bent’s Fort employees (craftsmen, domestics, laborers, cooks, trappers, traders) – sign on with the company and begin work Topographical Engineers and Army – set-up camp and duties

Friday June 5, 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Saturday June 6, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday June 7, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Work and Duties in First Person Living History Role

Craftsmen – safe tool use, shop use, fire starting, ready and make tools, check stock, build and repair furnishings and equipment

Traders – fire starting, inventory stock, learn Indian sign language, assign work to employees, parcel goods, pack mule and travel to Indian camp, perform trade, games, plan business strategy

Hunters – fire starting, plan expedition, repair traps, sign, goods, horse, mule and equipment with trader, pack, setup camp and corral, establish command, scout area, set traps, check traps, skin and stretch beaver hide, leather work, oil rendering, castor bait making, skinning/stretching hoops, hide baling, tracking, tool sharpening, pemmican making, catfishing, bullet making, glue making, jerk and dry meat and make boudins, turn in furs, meet with Indians, gaming

Cooks – food preparation, fruit drying, open hearth cooking, candle making, butter churning, goat milking, cheese making, hosting and serving dining room, gardening.

Mexican Laborer Men and Women – adobe making, white washing, plastering, cooking, livestock use and care, fruit drying, firewood gathering, goat milking, cheese making, hand dipped candle making, retablos, taking care of chickens, gardening.

Topographical Engineers – camp setup; customs of service; regulations; barometry, cadastral surveying, and celestial navigation using period instruments; map making; sketching; flora collection; record keeping; reports.

Sunday June 7, 2015

8 – 9:00 am	Continue period work
9:00	Period Breakfast for all in Fort Dining Room
10:00 – 11:00	Participant Presentations – Participants demonstrate what they learned on location
11:00-1:00	Cross Training – time for participants to try other roles and work
1:00	Program evaluation Post-test. Class Photo Opportunity
1:30	End of Training