



## Exploring the Geologic History of Washington

### An Opportunity for Informal Education in the Burke Museum

Two options for credit:

**GENERAL STUDIES 391H or ESS 490**

Monday and Wednesdays, 2:30–3:20 pm  
at the Burke Museum

Plus: 3 hours presenting in the exhibit galleries on 6 weekend days of the quarter.

This **3 credit** course is designed to help undergraduates acquire effective teaching skills through informal education within the exhibits at the Burke Museum for a new public program, *Burke 101*.

You will use real museum fossils, rocks, and minerals to bring fundamental scientific concepts to life for museum-goers of all ages. You will develop communication skills and experience in teaching hands-on lessons to very small groups in an informal setting. This course is suitable for any students interested in teaching in any format: K-12, college, and informal education.

**Topics** will be your choice in geology and/or paleontology and are tied to the exhibit *Life and Times of Washington State*. No prior experience in geology is required. Regular weekday class times will help you train and prepare for presenting and interpreting geology topics to Burke Museum visitors on selected weekends during winter quarter. You will be working with two experienced informal educators who are dedicated to making this a successful venture for you and your audience.

#### **Assessment:**

There are no quizzes or exams; assessment is based upon student's participation in gallery presentations.

#### **Contacts:**

Instructor: Dr. Liz Nesbitt, Curator of Paleontology, Burke Museum,  
[lnesbitt@u.washington.edu](mailto:lnesbitt@u.washington.edu)

Class Coordinator: Larkin Hood, museum education presentations and program planning, [burke101@u.washington.edu](mailto:burke101@u.washington.edu)