

A LETTER OF INFORMATION

International field geo-cryological course for students and young scientists at the Kodar ridge in Zabaikalsky krai, Russia

The Industrial University of Tyumen (Department for Earth Cryology, Institute of Geology and Oil and Gas Production) is set to organize International field geo-cryological course for students and young scientists at the Kodar ridge in Zabaikalsky krai, Russia, which will take place in the second part of July and the first part of August, 2018.

Aim of the course is to study permafrost phenomena in the mountain regions with low-temperature cryolithozone.

Languages of instruction are Russian and English.

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Participants' academic level: All young specialists' levels: PhD, Master's, Bachelor's.

Course content:

1st stage will take place during four to five days in the picturesque Tyumen environs, the first city founded in Siberia in 1586. The stage will take place in 'The Nest' natural and rehabilitation complex, situated in a pine forest on Pyshma river bank. (Fig. 1)

All the course participants will gather and then adapt here, and then, upon arrival to the field, they will have a lecture course delivered by the leading scientists in the field of cryology. Moreover, they will take part in the cultural and informational events and will visit historical sites of Siberia.



Fig. 1. 'The Nest' natural and rehabilitation complex

2nd stage is a trip through Siberia with its picturesque views, along the Baikal-Amur Mainline, to the Severobaikalsk city, from where the northern part of the unique Lake Baikal is overseen. The trip will take two days. A temporary camp will be set up here, and the field workshops will take place.

3rd stage is a half-day trip further along the Baikal-Amur Mainline to the Novaya Chara railway station, where, among the primeval taiga, at the foot of the Kodar ridge, the base camp is situated as well as the unique objects of low-temperature cryolithozone. (Fig. 2)

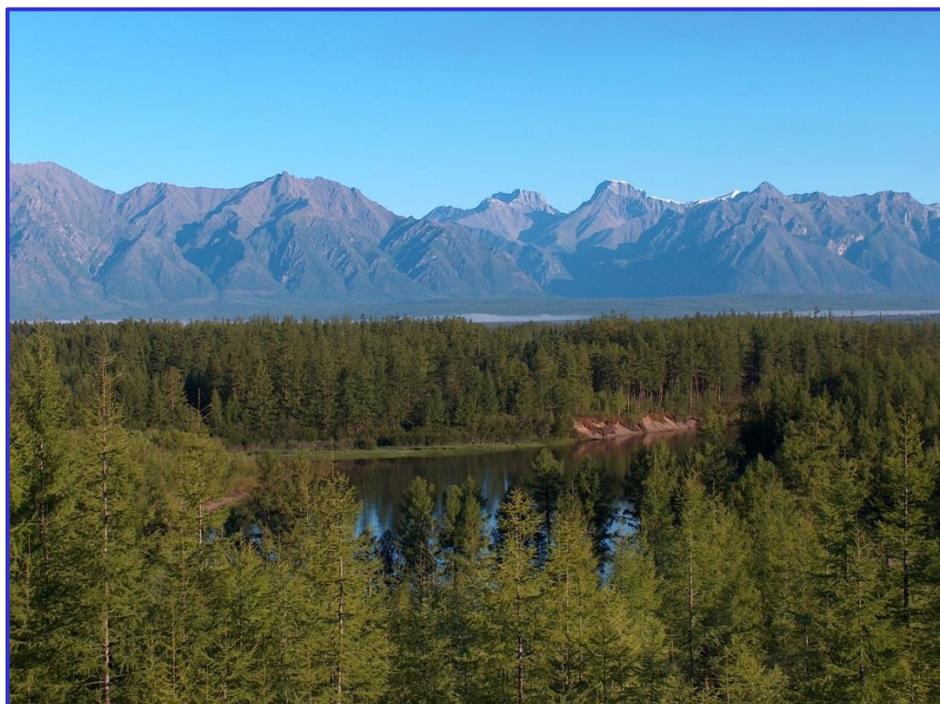


Fig. 2. The Chara river valley and the Kodar ridge

Here, in the river precipice, there can be found beautiful outcrops of polygonal-veined ice. (Fig. 3) They are always perfectly visible due to the constant washing by the river.



Fig. 3 polygonal-veined ice in the precipice of the Chara river right bank

Moreover, right behind the outcrop, the ancient glacier fields' outcrops lie, as well as associated cryolithozone phenomena (Fig. 4), along with ice of different kind. (Fig. 5)



Fig 4. Ancient glaciers' deposits at the foot of the Kodar ridge



Fig. 5. The IUT students on the Ingamakitskaya ice structure

From here, with the help of cross-country transport, routes will also be made to the upper reaches of the Chara river and along its tributary called the Sredny Sakukan river, where at the foot of the Peak of BAM (3072 m) the largest cold glaciers of the South of Eastern Siberia are located. Being developed initially under conditions of low-temperature frozen layers, these glaciers are specific in the fact that they themselves become a component of the cryolithozone (Fig. 6).



Fig. 6. The IUT students and professor V.S. Sheinkman on the Kodar ridge glaciers at the foot of the Peak of BAM

As a result, all the participants will receive presentations on all the aspects of the formation of various geocryological phenomena and on their interaction.

Short course schedule:

1st stage, 4-5 days: gathering of participants in Tyumen, placement on the campus of the ‘Nest’ Natural-Rehabilitation Complex; a cycle of introductory lectures and familiarization with landscapes in the vicinity of Tyumen and historical places.

2nd stage, 3-4 days: transfer by direct train from Tyumen to the Severobaikalsk station (about 2 days), daytime stop on the shore of the lake Baikal, an inspection of this unique lake.

3rd stage, 4-5 days: transfer by direct train to the New Chara station (half a day) and the study of unique geocryological objects in the valley of the Chara river.

4th stage, 6-7 days: trip by a cross-country transport to high-mountain geocryological objects of the field school, and their study by travelling through the mountain-pedestrian routes.

5th stage, 3 days: return to Tyumen and participants' departure.

Registration deadline:

1 March 2018

Participation fee:

Approximately 700 Euros. This is the average cost of similar activities held in the mountains of Siberia.

For Russian participants–mailing is carried out separately- the fee is 30 000 rubles.

The registration fee includes payment of all expenses from the moment of arrival to Tyumen until departure from it, including:

1. Accommodation and meals on the campus of ‘The Nest’ Natural-Rehabilitation Complex;

2. Transfer by train on the route Tyumen–Severobaikalsk–Novaya Chara and back;
3. Transport and support at the site of field practice;
4. Meals in the field stages of the course;
5. Excursions and cultural and information events;

Requirements for participants:

1. Participants independently apply for visas, insurance and tickets to Tyumen and back– the necessary letters of invitation will be sent upon request.

2. Participants should have proper health condition for working in the field in the mountains.

3. Participants should have their own personal equipment for working in mountainous conditions.

The rest of the equipment is provided by the organizing committee.

Organizing Committee