

Grande Prairie Regional College
Department of Physical Education and Athletics
PE 2050 Introduction to Outdoor Environmental Education
Course Outline Fall 1998

OCT 22 1998

Instructor: David Kay, office 215, phone: 539-2034, email Kay@GPRC.ab.ca

Class times: Tuesdays/Thursdays 9-10:50 am., A213
Field trip: Aug. 24-28 Mt. Robson

Transferability:

University of Alberta: PEDS 205 (3)
University of Calgary: Jr.OPAT (1.5)
University of Lethbridge: PHAC 2705/2715 (3)
Athabasca University: APST 2xx (3)

Course Description: This course is designed to provide a conceptual and experiential introduction to outdoor environmental education and leadership. In addition to weekly lecture and lab components, the course includes a five-day backpacking trip held at the end of August before classes start.

Note: Students will be responsible for their own food and a share of the transportation costs while on the hike.

Course Objectives:

1 To demonstrate an appreciation for traveling and living in a wilderness setting with a minimum of environmental impact.

Why do we go? Values, feelings, emotions attached to travel in the outdoors.

What is wilderness? Where is wilderness in Alberta?

- loving our wilderness to death, carrying capacity and impact

2. To demonstrate practical skills in outdoor travel and outdoor living with particular emphasis on safety and comfort in the out-of-doors.

- Insulation, clothing and equipment

- Navigation with map and compass

- Diet and nutrition

- Weather

- Hiking- canoeing - kayaking - survival - cross country ski touring

- Emergency care

3. To create group skills including leadership within a group, communication in the group and group cooperation in an outdoor setting.

- Group management in the outdoors - Risk management

- communication skills - trusting - briefing/debriefing, sharing circles - leadership styles

4. To discuss environmental issues affecting northern Alberta, British Columbia, North West Territories or the Yukon.

Student presentations: Take an environmental issue which interests you, research the issue and develop a classroom presentation to share what you have learned and the conclusions you have developed.

Prepare and submit a written paper for this presentation due the day of your presentation.

Possible Issues:

- * Logging in northern Alberta
- * Salmon fishing on the west coast
- * Horses in the back country or multi user difficulties in the back country
- * Snowmobile, dirt bike and ATV traveling in wilderness settings.
- * Eliminating the grizzly in our wilderness

5. To discuss the basic ecological principles which are evident in common ecosystems.
- Care of the environment

Course Content:

There will be both conceptual and experiential sessions covering a wide variety of topics such as environmental issues, outdoor living skills, outdoor activities, survival, trip preparation, outdoor programs, etc.

Student Evaluation:

Hike and Log book, due Sept. 10 **20%**

* marking based on completeness and the incorporation of the qualities of outdoor travelers

Acquire First Aid Certification: **10%**

Environmental Issue Presentations **35%**

Your classroom presentations will center around an environmental issue based in western Canada. You will work in groups to create and make a 40 minute presentation. Presentations should be done in a thorough and logical manner and supplemented with a written paper.

Equipment responsibility : helping, caring for gpre equipment, returning equip **5%**

Final examination **30%**

Textbook:

Hatton, M.J. (1992) Lightweight Camping: A Four Seasons

Source Book, Thompson Educational Pub Inc.

Optional Sources:

Meyer, K. (1994) How To Shit In The Woods, Ten Speed Press

Ford, P and J. Blanchard (1993) Leadership and Administration of Outdoor Pursuits, Venture Pub. Inc.

Ewert, A.W. (1989) Outdoor Adventure Pursuits: Foundations, Models and Theories, Publishing Horizons, Inc.

Brawn, C.A. (1991) Eco-Backpacking Responsibilities, Challenges, Joys, The University of Calgary

Miles, J. C. and S. Priest (1990) Adventure Education, Venture Pub. Inc.