

Tompkins Cortland Community College

Master Course Syllabus

Course Discipline and Number: RECR 276

Year: 2024-2025

Course Title: Outdoor Recreation Field Adventure

Credit Hours: 3

I. Course Description: Students learn basic outdoor recreation pursuit skills in the classroom and practice those skills in an extended (typically week-long) field experience. Basic knowledge for outdoor and adventure recreation activities that take place in the United States are covered. Depending on the trip route, students could participate in activities including, but not limited to: backpacking, canoeing, hiking, mountain climbing, white-water rafting, and primitive camping. Additional fee required. Prerequisites: ENGL 100 and RDNG 116 if required by placement; instructor permission. 3 Cr. (1 Lec., 6 Lab.) Spring semester.

II. Additional Course Information:

1. RECR 276 meets the SUNY requirements for Applied Learning Experiences in the Field Study category.
2. Students must participate in the extended field experience/trip to pass the course. Before students can attend the trip, they must attend all preparation classes leading up to the trip and meet or exceed instructor expectations for safe participation. Students must be eligible academically and have no unresolved conduct issues at the college in order to be permitted to participate. The extended trip will take place during the summer months, or during spring break. The trip will be located within the northeastern United States. Locations of this course will change based on the season.
3. Camping equipment and clothing: Each student will be responsible for acquiring the necessary gear and clothing to participate in the extended field experience. An equipment list will be provided at the start of class and upon request. Group equipment including tents, backpacks, tarps, cooking gear, canoes, etc. will be provided by the College. Personal equipment like clothing, boots, and raingear is very specific per individual and thus cannot be provided by TC3.
4. This course contributes to student mastery of several Outdoor Recreation A.S. program outcomes and can be used by Outdoor Recreation majors to fulfill an outdoor activity elective requirement.
5. The course emphasizes development of the student's proficiency, competency and leadership abilities in a skill/knowledge area of outdoor recreation. It is open to students in other programs who can use it to fulfill an unrestricted elective requirement. This class may be offered as part of a learning community.
6. Recommended: prior completion of RECR160– <i>Backpacking</i> , RECR274 – <i>Outdoor Recreation Pursuits</i> , and RECR140 <i>Wilderness First Aid</i> .
7. All outdoor activities have several safety considerations that must be taken into account and followed. It is the responsibility of the student to familiarize themselves with these safety aspects and follow the aspects as well as the instructions from the course instructor. Failure to follow the proper safety procedures can cause injury, sickness, loss of personal property, or death. Furthermore, all outdoor recreation activities (including our class trip) require people to be free of the influence of illegal drugs and alcohol.
8. Students must be physically able to complete the mandatory field experience. Typically, this is a backpacking trip in the Adirondacks, but trips can be modified by the class to meet the needs and physical abilities of the individuals. Students should consult their personal physician to ensure they are healthy enough to participate in outdoor recreational activities.

III. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Plan, implement and participate in an extended outdoor adventure in a specific region of the country.
2. Demonstrate a set of base outdoor recreation skills including map reading, route planning, menu planning, camp cooking, and primitive backcountry camping that can be applied to a variety of settings.
3. Discuss and promote outdoor recreation ethics (Leave No Trace), follow and evaluate outdoor ethical guidelines, policies, and skills to help protect the environment from both negative physical and social impact.
4. Practice safe, effective outdoor recreation leadership skills.
5. Live and work cooperatively in a small group community and self-evaluate behaviors to accomplish the outdoor recreational goals set by the group.

IV. Tompkins Cortland Institutional Learning Outcomes; Program Learning Outcomes; SUNY General Education Outcomes

Tompkins Cortland ILOs N/A

Complete this section for “service” courses only (e.g. courses that are required of all students; courses that are not program specific but satisfy liberal arts requirements; or commonly used in multiple academic programs to meet non-program-specific requirements). Check only Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) that are meaningfully developed and assessed in this course. For each ILO chosen, include the SLO to which it aligns.

Students will:

- ☐ Communicate effectively, in oral and written forms, taking into consideration audience and purpose.
- ☐ Apply principles and methods of scientific inquiry and quantitative reasoning appropriate to their discipline.
- ☐ Use information, critical thinking, and the creative process to solve problems and reach conclusions.
- ☐ Use technology appropriate to their discipline.
- ☐ Describe the ways in which social, economic, or environmental sustainability depends on their own and the collective contributions of a diversity of ideas and people.

Program Learning Outcomes

Complete this section for program-specific courses (e.g. those that share the same 4 letter designation as the academic program or satisfy requirements in related programs). List the academic program(s) here and note which Student Learning Outcomes align to specific Programmatic Learning Outcomes. Please see the MCS Instructions for more details.

Specify the Academic Program

Recreation Leadership A.S. and Outdoor Recreation A.S.

PLO - Design, implement, lead, analyze and evaluate services that facilitate targeted human experiences, recreation, and leisure requirements using technology and equipment appropriate for the leisure experience.

SLOs:

1. Plan, implement, and participate in an extended outdoor adventure in a specific region of the country.
2. Demonstrate a set of base outdoor recreation skills including map reading, route planning, menu planning, camp cooking, and primitive backcountry camping that can be applied to a variety of settings.

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| 5. Live and work cooperatively in a small group community and self-evaluate behaviors to accomplish the outdoor recreational goals set by the group. |
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PLO: Describe/explain the history, development, impact, and value of leisure, recreation, and parks to individuals, society, and the environment.

SLOs:

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| 3. Discuss, and promote outdoor recreation ethics (Leave No Trace); follow and evaluate outdoor ethical guidelines, policies, and skills to help protect the environment from both negative physical and social impact. |
| 5. Live and work cooperatively in a small group community and self-evaluate behaviors to accomplish the outdoor recreational goals set by the group. |

SUNY General Education Outcomes N/A

If this course **assesses** a SUNY GEN ED Outcome, check all that apply and indicate which course outcome(s) address each checked item:

☐ **CRITICAL THINKING** - Students will:

- a. identify, analyze, and evaluate arguments as they occur in their own or others' work; and
- b. develop well-reasoned arguments.

☐ **INFORMATION MANAGEMENT** - Students will:

- a. perform the basic operations of personal computer use;
- b. understand and use basic research techniques; and
- c. locate, evaluate and synthesize information from a variety of sources.

☐ **GENERAL EDUCATION CATEGORY** - Area(s):

For courses that are approved to meet one (or more) of the ten SUNY General Education categories, indicate which category the course fulfills, and which outcome(s) are aligned with the SUNY outcomes for that category:

☐ This course does not address any of the above Tompkins Cortland ILOs, PLOs, or SUNY General Education Outcomes.

V. Essential Topics/Themes

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| 1. Outdoor skills including: Camp site selection and set up, overnight long-term camping, meal planning and preparation, stove use and safety, backcountry navigation, hygiene and sanitation, packing, first aid, clothing and outdoor equipment selection. |
| 2. Basic skills and practices pertaining to outdoor recreation activities, including, but not limited to, one or more of the following: snowshoeing, white water rafting, rock or ice climbing, kayaking, ultra-light camping canoeing, backpacking. |
| 3. Organizing, planning, prepping for, and participation in an extended (typically week-long) outdoor recreation experience with a small group and course instructor. |
| 4. Leave No Trace and outdoor ethics. |
| 5. Demonstrating respect for the communities visited on class trips. |
| 6. Emergency action plans for outdoor adventures. |

VI. Methods of Assessment/Evaluation

Method	% Course Grade
1. Leave No Trace and group living skills.	5-25%
2. Outdoor skill demonstration	25-50%
3. Exams (including a final exam)	20-50%
4. Project and research (Trip planning)	15-30%
5. Written reports and presentations	10-25%
6. Outdoor Living Experience – participation in trip	Pass/Fail
NOTE: The course instructor, with approval of the program chair, can make changes to evaluation methods.	

VII. Texts – ☒ Required ☐ Recommended ☒ Used for more than one course - RECR 274

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| 1. Drury J. and Holmlund, E. <i>The Camper's Guide to Outdoor Pursuits: Finding Safe, Nature-friendly, and Comfortable Passage Through Wild Places</i> . Current ed. Sagamore Publishing. |
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Editions listed are current as of date of syllabus. More recent editions may be used.

VIII. Bibliography of Supplemental Materials

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| 1. Priest, S., and Gass, M. A... <i>Effective Leadership in Adventure Programming</i> . (2018). or latest ed. |
| 2. Blanchard, J., Strong, M., and Ford, P. <i>Leadership and Administration of Outdoor Pursuits</i> . (2007) 3 rd ed. State College, PA. Venture Publishing. |
| 3. Miles, J.C., and Priest, S. <i>Adventure Programming</i> . (1999) State College, PA. Venture Publishing. |
| 4. Priest, S., and Gass, M. A. <i>Effective Leadership in Adventure Programming</i> . (2005) 2 nd ed. Champaign, IL. Human Kinetics. |
| 5. Martin, B., Cashel, C., Wagstaff, M., and Breunig, M. <i>Outdoor Leadership: Theory and Practice</i> . (2006) Champaign, IL. Human Kinetics. |
| 6. Goldenberg, M. and Martin, B. <i>Hiking and Backpacking</i> . (2008) Champaign, IL. Human Kinetics |
| 7. Journal of Outdoor Recreation, Education, and Leadership |
| 8. Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics – Documents and research |

Editions listed are current as of date of syllabus. More recent editions may be used.

IX. Other Learning Resources

Audiovisual: None specified
Electronic: None specified
Other: Various trail maps of locations visited, to be provided as needed.

Attendance Policy: To maintain good grades, regular attendance in class is necessary. Absence from class is considered a serious matter and absence never excuses a student from class work. It is the responsibility of all instructors to distribute reasonable attendance policies in writing during the first week of class. Students are required

to comply with the attendance policy set by each of their instructors. Students are not penalized if they are unable to attend classes or participate in exams on particular days because of religious beliefs, in accordance with Chapter 161, Section 224-a of the Education Law of the State of New York. Students who plan to be absent from classroom activity for religious reasons should discuss the absence in advance with their instructors. See college catalog for more information.

Services for Students with Disabilities: *It is the College's policy to provide, on an individual basis, appropriate academic adjustments for students with disabilities, which may affect their ability to fully participate in program or course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Coordinator of Access and Equity Services, to discuss their particular need for academic adjustments. All course materials are available in alternate formats upon request.*

Academic Integrity: *Every student at Tompkins Cortland Community College is expected to act in an academically honest fashion in all aspects of his or her academic work: in writing papers and reports, in taking examinations, in performing laboratory experiments and reporting the results, in clinical and cooperative learning experiences, and in attending to paperwork such as registration forms.*

Any written work submitted by a student must be his or her own. If the student uses the words or ideas of someone else, he or she must cite the source by such means as a footnote. Our guiding principle is that any honest evaluation of a student's performance must be based on that student's work. Any action taken by a student that would result in misrepresentation of someone else's work or actions as the student's own — such as cheating on a test, submitting for credit a paper written by another person, or forging an advisor's signature — is intellectually dishonest and deserving of censure.

Several degree programs offer student learning opportunities (such as internships, field work, and clinical experiences) outside the standard classroom setting. As part of the learning process, students must understand and engage in conduct that adheres to principles guiding employment within the professional workplace. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, academic integrity, accountability, reliability, respect, use of appropriate language and dress, civility, professional ethics, honesty, and trustworthiness. Disciplinary action may be initiated for inappropriate conduct occurring while participating in any course-related project or event.