

WILDERNESS LEADERSHIP (WLEE)

WLEE 101 Introduction to Outdoor Education

4 Semester Hours

This course explores the theories, principles and skills of wilderness leadership and experiential education, including the historical and philosophical foundations. Field experiences may include minimum impact backcountry travel and living skills, environmental ethics and interpretation, navigation, climbing, canoeing, sea kayaking and trail service opportunities. There is a required weekend trip.

WLEE 151-159 Wilderness Activities

WLEE Skill courses (see page 167). Weekend trips required. These courses meet General Education Distribution Area V.

WLEE 200 Leadership and Group Dynamics in Outdoor Pursuits 3 Semester Hours

This course is offered as a component of the Immersion Semester in which five interrelated courses are taught in an on-going fashion. This course will study theories and principles of small group dynamics, leadership principles, including problem solving, group member roles, decision making, ethical issues, communication skills and a variety of other concepts. Emphasis will be placed on situations and populations relevant to wilderness-based and experiential education programs. **Only offered as part of the Immersion Semester.*

WLEE 201 Lifeguarding 2 Semester Hours

This course equips students with the lifeguarding skills and knowledge to prepare them as a professional rescuer in aquatic facilities. With successful completion of the course objectives, students earn American Red Cross certification in Lifeguard Training, First Aid and CPR for the Professional Rescuer. Course eligibility contingent upon Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 202 Water Safety Instructor (WSI) 2 Semester Hours

This course equips students to plan, conduct, teach, and evaluate swimming and water safety courses. With successful completion of the course objectives, students earn American Red Cross certification in Water Safety Instruction. The program covers skills and knowledge in a logical progression for aquatic skill development. Prerequisites: Minimum age of 17 years. Course eligibility contingent upon Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 220 Theory and Practice of Experiential Education 3 Semester Hours

This course begins with an examination of historical, philosophical, social and psychological foundations of experiential education and proceeds to examine current trends and theoretical developments. Particular attention will be focused on understanding how current theory may be applied to the practice of Wilderness Leadership and Outdoor/Adventure Education. Prerequisite: WLEE 101 or permission of the instructor.

WLEE 250* Wilderness First Aid 3 Semester Hours

This course is offered as a component of the Immersion Semester in which five interrelated courses are taught in an on-going fashion. This course focuses on medical emergencies when help is miles away and dialing 911 is not an option. Lecture and hands-on simulation sessions help students prepare to handle emergency situations that involve prolonged patient care, severe environments, and improvised gear. Students will have an opportunity to receive Wilderness First Responder certification through a nationally recognized medical education provider with complete attendance and ability to meet WFR knowledge, skill, and certification criteria. Taking the course does not guarantee certification. ** Only offered as part of the Immersion Semester.*

WLEE 251 Canoe Instructor 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course is designed for those involved in teaching river skills, including among other things paddling technique and the necessary skills for safe craft handling on rivers. These programs are designed for moving water and whitewater environments. This instructor program track is based on the American Canoe Association River Canoe Instructor Curriculum and offers instructor ACA certification at differing levels based on an individual candidate's personal skills and teaching ability, however, participation in the course does not guarantee certification. There are two weekend trips required. Prerequisites: Completion of Immersion Semester; Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 252 Advanced Rock Climbing 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course will introduce and provide many opportunities to practice the advanced techniques and systems required to participate and lead safe, enjoyable, and environmentally sound climbing trips. It will include examination of and participation in top rope climbing, multipitch climbing, rappelling, fixed line climbing, and basic rock rescue. A weekend trip is required. Prerequisites: Completion of Immersion Semester. Course eligibility contingent upon Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 255 Kayak Instructor 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course is designed for those involved in teaching river skills, including among other things paddling technique and the necessary skills for safe craft handling on rivers. These programs are designed for moving water and whitewater environments. This instructor program track is based on the American Canoe Association River Kayak Instructor Curriculum and offers instructor ACA certification at differing levels based on an individual candidate's personal skills and teaching ability, however, participation in the course does not guarantee certification. There are two weekend trips required. Prerequisites: Completion of Immersion Semester; Course eligibility contingent upon Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 256 Advanced Navigation 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course is designed to familiarize students with advanced wilderness navigation skills including the use of various map grids, the various map types used in North America, the Global Positioning System, deduced reckoning, triangulation, coastal navigation, off trail navigation and the use of computer software in trip planning. Two Saturday field days will be required. Prerequisite: Completion of Immersion Semester. Course eligibility contingent upon Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 257* Environmental Ethics and Skills in Outdoor Pursuits 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course is designed to develop understanding and appreciation for environmental philosophies and ethics related to outdoor pursuits. The student will develop competency in teaching and deliberating minimum impact practices for various outdoor pursuits in diverse ecosystems. This course offers a Leave No Trace Trainer certification; participation in the course does not guarantee certification. **Only offered as part of the Immersion Semester.*

WLEE 259 Coastal Sea Kayaking 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course is designed to familiarize students with strokes and maneuvers, self and assisted rescues, and kayak navigation required for travel in open coastal waters and moderate surf zones. Students will become familiar with the risk management and safety concerns as well as practice group management techniques relative to boating in open coastal waters. Prerequisites: Completion of Immersion Semester; Course eligibility contingent upon Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 260 Facilitation of Group Games and Initiatives 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course is designed to introduce the students to the basics of facilitating group games, initiatives and low ropes elements. History, theory, principles and skills of group and game initiative leadership will be explored in an experiential context. Emphasis will be on sequencing and leading activities safely and methods of group processing. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

WLEE 265 Advanced Swiftwater Rescue 2 Semester Hours

This 2-credit advanced WLEE skills course focuses on the prevention of river accidents, including knowledge of river dynamics, swiftwater hazards, swimming, boat handling and trip management. The course emphasizes the safety of rescuers, while instilling the skills, knowledge, and rescue philosophy needed for access and rescue of river victims. Certification in American Canoe Association Advanced Swiftwater Rescue may be offered; however, participation in the course does not guarantee certification. There is a weekend trip required. Prerequisite: Completion of Immersion Semester; Course eligibility contingent upon Instructor's approval of student's competence in the basic essential skills unique to this course.

WLEE 291 Wilderness Leadership and Experiential Education: Internship Preparation 1 Semester Hour

This course is designed to prepare the student to search, apply, interview and prepare for a professional internship in the wilderness leadership and experiential education field. Subjects covered include: defining and setting learning objectives and goals for the internship experience, developing a professional resume, writing cover letters, applying for internships, interviewing skills, professionalism on the job, and other professional job seeking skills. Students will develop and finalize reporting procedures and schedules with their academic advisors for the internship experience. Prerequisite: WLEE major; sophomore level standing or permission of instructor.

WLEE 301 Wilderness/Experiential Education Practicum 1-6 Semester Hours

This course provides students with practical work experience, professional development, or other approved experiences aligned with the student's professional goals. Experiences may be either through a program offered by the College or through an existing outdoor or experiential education agency or professional association. The student's practicum development program must be approved by the faculty. Only 1 hour is required; however, students may take up to 6 practicum hours. Prerequisite: WLEE major; junior level standing or permission of the instructor.

WLEE 305 Risk Management and Legal Liability in Outdoor Programs 3 Semester Hours

This course familiarizes students with civil law as it applies to experiential and outdoor programming. Topics covered include torts, legal duties, legal liability, the structure of the lawsuit, the reasonable and prudent professional, industry standards, practical risk management and readings in relevant case law. Emphasis is placed on understanding how case studies and case law impact field practices. Prerequisite: WLEE 101; junior level standing or permission of instructor.

WLEE 310* Outdoor Pursuits Education: Water-Based 3 Semester Hours

This course is offered as a component of the Immersion Semester in which five interrelated courses are taught in an on-going system. The focus will be on developing teaching styles, techniques and methods for water-based outdoor pursuits. This course offers hands-on experience in skill development and leadership training of sea kayaking, flatwater and whitewater canoeing, and flatwater and whitewater kayaking. * *Only offered as part of the Immersion Semester.*

WLEE 320* Outdoor Pursuits Education: Land-Based 3 Semester Hours

This course is offered as a component of the Immersion Semester in which five interrelated courses are taught in an on-going system. The focus will be on developing teaching styles, techniques and methods for land-based outdoor pursuits. This course offers hands-on experience in skill development and leadership of backpacking, rock climbing, caving, navigation and backcountry living skills. Other land based activities may be included. * *Only offered as part of the Immersion Semester.*

WLEE 340 Outdoor Program Administration 3 Semester Hours

This course examines administrative and program issues uniquely related to outdoor recreation and education programs in a variety of program settings including camps, schools, colleges and universities, community/county recreation programs, and military recreation programs. Prerequisite: junior level standing or permission of instructor.

WLEE 350* Wilderness Expedition 3 Semester Hours

This course is offered as a component of the Immersion Semester in which five interrelated courses are taught in an on-going system. This course involves participation in the planning, leadership, instruction, execution and evaluation of a 21-day expedition in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. * *Only offered as part of the Immersion Semester.*

WLEE 392 Wilderness Leadership and Experiential 6 Semester Hours
Education: Internship

This course is comprised of the actual internship experience with an approved agency in outdoor and experiential education and approved broad-based job description for a minimum of 480 hours over a ten to twelve week period. It is supervised by the advisor of the student in the WLEE major and an on-site agency professional. Students are expected to complete regular and thoughtful internship journal entries, prepare and present an internship presentation, develop a portfolio for the experience, and write a reflection paper on the knowledge and future application of their learning. Prerequisite: WLEE 391, approval of site by student's faculty academic advisor, completion of Immersion Semester.

WLEE 402 Ethics of Wilderness Leadership and 3 Semester Hours
Experiential Education

This course has a threefold focus: (1) students take a critical look at the complex ethical dilemmas and situations that arise within camps, wilderness and fitness programs, and other experiential settings; (2) students learn to use the tools of normative and analytic ethics from a philosophical perspective, consider various approaches to ethics in general, and apply these approaches to practical situations; (3) students examine their own personal ethical perspectives as these influence their work within professional contexts. Prerequisite: WLEE 101; senior level standing or permission of instructor.

WLEE 405 Senior Seminar in Wilderness Leadership 3 Semester Hours
and Experiential Education

Students majoring in wilderness leadership and experiential education will have the opportunity to explore topics that may not be covered within existing courses or further explore professional issues and trends. The open topics seminar will be faculty- and student-generated and will have as its reason-for-being the establishment of an open-ended format that can meet emerging student and faculty interests. Prerequisite: WLEE major, senior level standing or permission of instructor.