

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**  
**College of Education and Human Development**  
**School of Sport, Recreation and Tourism Management**

Wilderness Travel & Sustainability (2)  
Spring 2020  
PRLS 480 DL2 (CRN 3970)

<b>DAY/TIME:</b>	DISTANCE LEARNING SYNCHRONOUS	<b>LOCATION:</b>	BLACKBOARD Tuesday 4:30 – 6:30 PM Online
<b>FACULTY:</b>	Nancy Chamberlain, M.S.	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	nchambe2@gmu.edu
<b>OFFICE LOCATION:</b>	REMOTE	<b>PHONE NUMBER:</b>	571-259-4379 Cell
<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>	BY PHONE OR FACETIME		
<b>PREREQUISITES</b>	None		

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This experiential course\* is designed for students with prior backpacking experience. Involves discussions, demonstrations, and activities that teach students wilderness skills, safety and judgment, leadership and teamwork, and environmental ethics. Topics covered include basic wilderness first-aid, hazard evaluation, emergency procedures, expedition behavior, self-awareness, judgment and decision making, campsite selection, shelter and stove use, fire building, sanitation and hygiene, cooking, nutrition and rationing, equipment care and selection, staying warm and dry, route finding and navigation, Leave No Trace backpacking, weather, natural history, and wilderness ethics. Application of these skills will occur during the off-trail backpacking trip in a remote wilderness area. Not only will students practice these wilderness skills, but they will also develop leadership abilities by working in a collaborative team environment.

\*Due to the Covid 19 restrictions, this course will be modified to meet the recommendations of the CDC to support health and safety of students.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

1. Define Wilderness.
2. Define Front Country.
3. Define Sustainable Use.
4. Identify 3 land use management challenges related to visitor experience faced by land management agencies (specific to user conflict).
5. Identify leadership traits most valuable to expedition success.
6. Identify the stages of team development.
7. Describe the impacts of group dynamics and expedition behavior on participants during travel in the natural environment.
8. Appreciate the importance of leadership and influence on a group; with a primary focus on outdoor travel, by completing the FEMA online certification regarding Leadership & Influence.
9. Identify risk assessment tools and skills relevant to travel in the natural environment.
10. Appreciate the role of GPS in the outdoor and emergency response by completing the FEMA online certification.
11. Demonstrate Leave No Trace land use ethics by completing the online certification.
12. Create a virtual personal gear resource kit.
13. Create reference list of agencies/organizations that employ individuals in and/or associated organizations offering certification supporting the outdoor industry, wilderness and/or sustainable travel. (with minimum of 10 sources).
14. Create a virtual first aid kit appropriate to backcountry travel.

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION STANDARDS**

Upon completion of this course, students will meet the following professional accreditation standards as set forth by the Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Related Professions:

7.01 Students graduating from the program shall demonstrate the following entry-level knowledge: a) the nature and scope of the relevant park, recreation, tourism or related professions and their associated industries; b) techniques and processes used by professionals and workers in these industries; and c) the foundation of the profession in history, science and philosophy.

## **COURSE DELIVERY METHOD**

This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using a synchronous format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email and email password. The course site updates will be emailed to you.

**Under no circumstances, may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face**

**class meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.**

### *Technical Requirements*

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard’s supported browsers see: [https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#supported-browsers](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#supported-browsers)

To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see:

[https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting\\_Started/Browser\\_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems](https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems)

- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students will need a headset microphone for use with the Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing tool. [Delete this sentence if not applicable.]
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]
  - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - Windows Media Player: <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player>
  - Apple Quick Time Player: [www.apple.com/quicktime/download/](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/)

### **Expectations**

Because asynchronous courses do not have a “fixed” meeting day, our week will start on Tuesday and finish on Monday before 11:59 p.m. EDT. All time and dates will be expressed according to Standard Time.

- Log in Frequency – Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to the course materials at least two (2) times per week.
- Technical Competence – Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College and University technical services. Contact the IT Help Desk for Bb assistance at 703-993-8870.
- Technical Issues – Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly and save all your work in a word processing program. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

- Workload – Please be aware that this course is not self-paced. Students are expected to meet specific deadlines and due dates listed in the Class Schedule section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities and assignments due.
- Instructor Support – Students may schedule one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Students may meet with the instructor via telephone, teleconference or Facetime. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested date/time.
- Netiquette – The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment may be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting responses...once it is out there...it is out there! Shock, awe and downright disrespectful comments and/or cursing will not be tolerated in the virtual learning environment. Be positive in your approach with others, seek understanding and be as diplomatic as possible when selecting your words. Do not post anything illegal or anything that you would not want your Grandmother to see/read! This is a cooperative and collaborative space for sharing and learning from others. Faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.
- Accommodations – Online learners who require effective accommodations to ensure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

## REQUIRED READING

Harvey, M. W. & Simer, P. (1999). *The National Outdoor Leadership School's wilderness guide: The classic handbook*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

## Assignments and Examinations

Reading assignments and resources will be placed on Blackboard for the student's convenience. All quizzes will be due no later than 5/14/2020. Due dates TBA.

- Chapter quizzes (5) will be taken directly from assigned reading in text.
  - Quiz # 1 – Taken from Chapters 1, 2 (Pages 52-61), 7, 12
  - Quiz #2 – Taken from Chapters 3, 4, 11 & Equipment List Pages 251-254
  - Quiz # 3 – Taken from Chapters 5, 6, 8
  - Quiz #4 – Taken from Chapters 2 (Pages 49 – 53), 5, 6
  - Quiz #5 – Taken from Chapters 6, 7, 9, 10
- Completion of Leave No Trace pre-test designed by Virginia TECH and post-test assessment using the same instrument to measure the impact of participation in the field portion of the course. The pre-test will be distributed at the beginning of class on Blackboard. The post-test will be made part of the final examination.
- Completion of Leave No Trace Awareness Certification  
<https://lnt.org/get-involved/training-courses/online-awareness-course/>

- Completion of two (2) online certifications from the FEMA  
ICS 240b Leadership & Influence  
<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-240.b>

ICS 922 Application of GIS for Emergency Management  
<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-922>

- Final examination: 12/15/2020

#### **Website Links:**

Leave No Trace: [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)

FEMA - <https://training.fema.gov/>

Virginia Adventure Education: <https://www.facebook.com/vaadventureeducationconference/>

National Outdoor Leadership School: <https://www.nols.edu/en/>

Wilderness Medical Associates: [www.wildmed.com](http://www.wildmed.com)

Wilderness Medical Associates First Aid Kit: <https://www.wildmed.com/blog/building-a-wilderness-first-aid-kit/>

Outdoor Leadership Employment Links:  
<https://www.ithaca.edu/hshp/depts/rls/oalinfo/joblinks/>

#### **SUPPORTING COURSE MATERIAL**

A Power Point is made part of this course. The document is located on Blackboard in Course Content section and represents the entire course. This document serves as a preview for coming topics and assignments. The course is also separated into weekly modules accordingly. If this or the syllabus requires updating, you will receive an email to alert you to the change. Weekly assignments should be submitted on Blackboard unless otherwise indicated.

#### **PROFESSIONAL DISPOSITIONS**

At all times, students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and disposition. This course can be particularly provocative with respect to socio-political positions. We will aim to be respectful of all positions and search for understanding at all times.

Effective communication is an important part of our lives and this course. Therefore, we will all be asked to treat our colleagues with respect in all types of communications (such as e-mail, class conversations, etc). Communication is an important facet of this course.

**COURSE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION WEIGHTING:**

Following is the breakdown of the grading system for our course:

- Quizzes 20 PTS Each (5) 100 PTS
  - Participation 200 PTS
  - Pre-test/Post Test LNT Assessment 50 PTS
  - FEMA Training Certification 100 PTS
  - FEMA Training Certification 100 PTS
  - Leave No Trace Certification 100 PTS
  - Outdoor industry/employment reference list 50 PTS
  - Personal Gear Resource Kit 50 PTS
  - Build A First Aid Kit 50 PTS
  - Expedition Plan 100 PTS
  - Exam Final 100 PTS
- TOTAL 1000 PTS

**TOTAL 100%**

**GRADING:**

A+	1000-950
A	949-900
A-	899-850
B+	849-800
B	799-750
B-	749-700
C	699-650
D	649-600
F	595-500

**GRADING SCALE**

A+	98 – 100	B+	88 – 89	C+	78 – 79	D	= 60 – 69
A	94 – 97	B	84 – 87	C	74 – 77	F	= 0 – 59
A-	90 – 93	B-	80 – 83	C-	70 – 73		

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Dates and deadlines listed on this page include full semester only. For add/drop deadlines for courses that meet less than a full semester, see Non-standard Sections Dates. Visit [https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall\\_2020/](https://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars/fall_2020/)

For graduation deadlines, please go to the Graduation Timelines page.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Full Semester</b>
Schedule of Classes Available in PatriotWeb	Mon. Mar 9
Priority Dates Begin	TBD
Consortium Registration Deadline	TBD
<b>First Day of Fall Classes: Payment Due Date</b>	Mon. Aug 24
Last Day to Submit Domicile Reclassification Application	Mon. Aug 24
<b>Last Day to Add: All Individual Sections Forms Due</b>	Mon. Aug 31
Labor Day : University Closed	Mon. Sept 7
<b>Last Day to Drop: With 100% Tuition Refund</b>	Tue. Sept 8
<b>Drop period begins: 50% Tuition Refund Period Begins</b>	Wed. Sept 9
<b>Final Drop Deadline: Last Day for 50% Tuition Refund</b>	Tue. Sept 15 (Final Drop)
<b>Unrestricted Withdrawal Period: 100% Tuition Liability</b>	Wed. Sept 16 - Mon. Sept 28
<b>Mid-term Evaluation Period: 100-200 level classes - Grades Available via PatriotWeb</b>	Mon. Sept 21 - Fri. Oct 16
<b>Selective Withdrawal Period - Undergraduate</b>	Tue. Sept 29 –
<b>Students Only (100% tuition liability)</b>	Wed. Oct 28
Fall Break (Classes Do Not Meet)	Mon. Oct 12
Monday Classes/Labs Meet (Tuesday Classes Do Not Meet This Week)	Tue. Oct 13
<b>Incomplete Work from Spring/Summer 2020 Due to Instructor</b>	<i>Sat. Dec. 5</i>

Description	Full Semester
<b>Incomplete Grade Changes</b> from Spring/Summer 2020 Due to Registrar	<i>Fri. Dec. 11</i>
<b>Thanksgiving Recess: No Classes (University Closed Nov. 26-29)</b>	Wed. Nov 25 - Sun. Nov 29
<b>Last Day of Class</b>	Sat. Dec 5
<b>Reading Day(s):</b> Reading days provide students with additional study time for final examinations. Faculty may schedule optional study sessions, but regular classes or exams may not be held.	Mon. Dec 7 -Tue. Dec 8
<b>Examination Period</b>	Wed. Dec 9 -Wed. Dec 16
<b>Winter Graduation</b>	Thu. Dec 17
<b>Degree Conferral Date</b>	Sat. Dec 19

### Professional Dispositions

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/>  
 [Additional course or program specific language may be added.]

### CLASS SCHEDULE

[Insert Class Schedule here.]

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

### Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

### GMU Policies and Resources for Students

#### *Policies*

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/> ).



- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <https://ds.gmu.edu/>).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

#### *Campus Resources*

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to [tk20help@gmu.edu](mailto:tk20help@gmu.edu) or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

#### **Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:**

As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing [titleix@gmu.edu](mailto:titleix@gmu.edu).

**For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/>.**

[Additional Program or Division content, supplemental materials, instructions, and graphics may be placed here, as appropriate.]

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