



**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course has an emphasis on leading clients on overnight wilderness trips. Students will learn the important necessary “soft skills” required to professionally conduct extended backcountry tours for guiding in the adventure travel industry. Topics may include: client expectations and professionalism, specialized training and professional development (hard skills), trip planning and preparation, outdoor clothing and gear selection, outdoor cooking and nutrition, leave no trace camping, wilderness safety, liability and risk management, wilderness survival, outdoor leadership, and wilderness communication. Case examples of high profile adventure travel companies may be explored. Course exam will involve a 2-day winter camping trip to allow students to demonstrate applied theory covered throughout the semester. Course material is based on the National Occupational Standards for Outdoor Adventure Guides set by the Canadian Tourism Human Resource Council

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

**1. Discuss and demonstrate the important aspects of wilderness survival.**Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Understand the importance of being careful and protecting yourself from “further” harm in a wilderness survival setting.
- Demonstrate abilities to signal for help using a variety of communication devices.
- Choose an appropriate location for a long term shelter.
- Build, maintain and carry a proper wilderness survival kit.

**2. Develop a checklist of important clothing and equipment needed for conducting wilderness tours**Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Understand the difference between “low tech” vs “high tech” equipment, and the pros and cons of each
- Describe and demonstrate the importance of layering, and use of quality fabrics for outdoor clothing
- Explain and list a variety of well-known manufacturers of quality outdoor equipment, such as: backpacks, tents, stoves, clothing, sleeping bags, water filters, and other necessary items

**3. Learn to test potential foods and create a survival food to keep you warm.**Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain energy and nutritional requirements for survival
- Explain and demonstrate the edibility test
- Explain and demonstrate what nutrients are available from other sources such as plants and insects
- Demonstrate efficiency in calorie use
- Demonstrate proper hydration and nutrition for wilderness survival

4. **Build a fire from items found in the wilderness**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Understand and demonstrate proper fire making techniques using friction, lenses, electricity, chemicals and matches.
- Describe methods of campsite selection, and reducing ones impact on the environment
- Describe how to plan ahead, prepare well, and prevent problems before they occur

5. **Develop a safety and risk management plan**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain how common accidents occur on extended wilderness trips and inherent risks
- Create an emergency evacuation plan complete with phone numbers and locations of nearest medical facilities

6. **Describe and practice skills of wilderness survival.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain the importance of remaining calm and stationary in a wilderness emergency
- Describe the various types of shelters that can be built from natural materials, and the pros and cons of each
- Explain various methods of water collection, and their importance to wilderness survival
- Demonstrate a variety of fire-building techniques using natural and man-made materials
- Describe at least five methods of land-to-air signaling techniques used for acquiring assistance
- Taste and describe a number of different edible trees and plants useful for sustaining ones energy

Practice various camp skills including knots, lashing, tool making, snaring, use of natural materials and construction of shelters

7. **Complete a 3 day survival trip**

Potential Elements of the Performance

- Plan, hike and navigate to a preset destination
- Work safely while constructing a shelter

- Travel efficiently to conserve energy and water
- Find water sources
- Build a signal fire and ignite it within 2 minutes
- Build a warm shelter and sleep in it 1 night without any supplies

### III. TOPICS:

1. Safety and efficiency
2. Trip Planning and Preparation
3. Outdoor Clothing and Equipment Selection
4. Outdoor Cooking and Nutrition
5. Wilderness Safety and Survival
6. Outdoor Leadership

### IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Stroud, L., 2008. Survive. Scarborough, Collins Canada. 373 pp

Winter camping equipment and snowshoes

### V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

#### Assignments

30 %	Survival Technique Demonstrations
15%	Video Assignment
15%	Presentations
10 %	Survival kits
20 %	Quizzes
10%	Final test

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	3.00
B	70 - 79%	2.00
C	60 - 69%	1.00
D	50 – 59%	0.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	

CR (Credit) Credit for diploma requirements has been

	awarded.
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.

If a faculty member determines that a student is at risk of not being successful in their academic pursuits and has exhausted all strategies available to faculty, student contact information may be confidentially provided to Student Services in an effort to offer even more assistance with options for success. Any student wishing to restrict the sharing of such information should make their wishes known to the coordinator or faculty member.

## VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

### Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session. *<Optional: It is the departmental policy that once the classroom door has been closed, the learning process has begun. Late arrivers will not be granted admission to the room.>*

### Communication with Instructor

All communication with instructor may be done by using email or in person.  
Lawrence.Foster@saultcollege.ca  
705 759 2554 extension 2463  
Office J1202

**Emails must contain a subject heading and reference the course code they will be deleted without response.**

### Updates and Inclement Weather

Students are expected to check LMS and their Sault College email for updates and changes to classes and field trips prior to any outing.

## VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum located in D2L and on the portal form part of this course outline.