# HNRS 2373-02/3373-02

**Instructor:** Dr. Charles Chase [Associate Professor]

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**Office Hours:** Announced in class

## Course Title:

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

## Course Goals:

To provide the student with a working knowledge base of skills and information that will provide for a safe and enjoyable involvement in the natural environment under a variety of conditions.

## Course Requirements:

1. 100% attendance is expected; daily attendance is taken; unexcused absences, and subsequent lack of interaction in the class, will be factored in the grading process as per the methods of evaluation employed listed in this syllabus.
2. Test make-ups ONLY if arranged for in advance.
3. NO late assignments are accepted.

## Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:

--express the general concerns and needs of someone experiencing an involvement in the natural outdoor environment

--know how to dress for the outdoors under varying conditions

--know how to care for clothing and basic equipment for participation in the outdoors

--demonstrate the ability to navigate on land with or without a compass

--reveal the appropriate application of travel techniques

--reveal a command of improvising a pack and employing packing techniques

--reveal a skills of obtaining water and fully addressing thirst needs

--reveal a command of the varied techniques of acquiring food in various forms and fulfilling nutritional needs

--reveal a command of basic applications of wilderness first aid and trail remedies

--demonstrate the ability to improvise/construct shelters appropriate for varying environmental conditions

--reveal the ability to construct appropriate ground to air communications for rescue purposes

--reveal an understanding of basic search and rescue techniques for lost individuals

--demonstrate a command of the basics of firecraft techniques

--reveal an understanding of water crossing techniques for individuals and groups
Course Description:

Knowledge, techniques, and skills for safe enjoyment of family and individual camping.

Methods of Evaluation Employed:

Exams:(non-comprehensive) 40%
Class experiential activities; performance and product development: 60%

12 point scale, A+ to D-, grading starts with highest grade in class or 90% of perfect, whichever is higher; 90, 80, 70, 60, A through D format.

Faculty Comments:

There is no required text for the course. Lecture, discussion, and hand-outs will provide the content for the course. Most units of study will have closure consisting of a class experiential involvement whenever possible and appropriate. This involvement and demonstration of command of basic skills will be part of the student’s overall grade.

Disability Statement:

West Texas A & M University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Disability Support Services and to contact the faculty member in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations.

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Scholastic Dishonesty:

It is the responsibility of students and instructors to help maintain scholastic integrity at the University by refusing to participate in or tolerate scholastic dishonesty. Commission of any of the following acts shall constitute scholastic dishonesty. This listing is not exclusive of any other acts that may reasonably be said to constitute scholastic dishonesty: acquiring or providing information for any assigned work or examination from any unauthorized source; informing any person or persons of the contents of any examination prior to the time the examination is given in subsequent sections of the course or as a makeup; plagiarism; submission of a paper or project that is substantially the same for two courses unless expressly authorized by the instructor to do so. (2012-2013, CODE OF STUDENT LIFE, Rules and Procedures for Students, West Texas A&M University).

A complete statement regarding scholastic dishonesty can be found in the Student Code of Life at http://www.wtamu.edu/administrative/ss/code/code/css/code_17.html

Evacuation Statement:

When you receive notice to evacuate the building, please evacuate promptly but in an orderly manner. Evacuation routes are posted in various locations indicating all exits, outside assembly area, location of fire extinguisher, fire alarm pull stations, and emergency telephone numbers (651-5000 or 911). In the event an evacuation is necessary;
evacuate immediately; do not use elevators; take all personal belongings with you; report to outside assembly area and wait for further information; students needing assistance in the evacuation process should bring this to the attention of the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

**Tentative Schedule:**

Week 1: Introductory concepts and activities  
Week 2: Dressing for the outdoors  
Week 3: Care of clothing and equipment  
Week 4: Knots and techniques for securing  
Week 5: Compass use and navigation techniques  
Week 6: Travel techniques and special concerns  
Week 7: Firecraft techniques and applications  
Week 8: Ground to air communications and search techniques  
Week 9: Thirst, water procurement and preparation  
Week 10: Shelter fundamentals; improvised and commercial  
Week 11: Food; procurement, preparation and preservation  
Week 12: Backpacks and packing  
Week 13: First aid and personal survival kits  
Week 14: Water travel and water crossing techniques  
Week 15: Cold weather concerns and applications