PE 405 ADVENTURE EDUCATION
FALL 2007

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Western Carolina University
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CONTACT INFORMATION:
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Home Page:   http://paws.wcu.edu/dgrube
Office Hours:   Tuesday & Thursday 8:00am-9:30am
                Wednesday 8:00am-12:00pm

CREDITS AND MEETINGS:
Credit Hours:  1 semester hour
Course Days/Times: Wednesdays/2:30-4:20pm
Course Location(s): Room 122H Reid Gym/Room 112A Reid Gym/Picnic Shelter

TEXT AND MATERIALS:

Required Text

Additional Resources
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK:

The professional education program at Western Carolina University is a community of learners based on knowledge, values, and experiences. We teach our candidates to use their knowledge of both human development and their disciplines to effectively teach all students to solve problems. Appropriate values and dispositions are central to excellent teaching. We model collaborative, caring, and intellectually stimulating learning communities so our teacher education candidates will create environments for all their students that encourage curiosity, foster motivation, and promote achievement of rigorous state and professional standards. We require our candidates to use state-of-the-art technology in their courses and in their field experiences.

The Adventure Education course is a required course in the physical education concentration for teacher certification. The focus of this class is on adventure education and wilderness leadership. Experiences will include the use of games, initiative problem solving activities, trust building activities and challenge/peak experiences in educational settings. The candidate will acquire basic backcountry living skills and examine the value of leadership, decision-making, and judgment factors in outdoor settings. Candidates will learn to teach across all domains of learning (affective, cognitive and psychomotor) through the application of adventure-based curricula. The candidates will have opportunities to utilize various technologies in outdoor leadership situations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the candidate will be able to:
1. explain the risks associated with outdoor pursuits.
2. lead students in games, trust, and initiative activities.
3. lead students in safe hiking/backpacking experiences.
4. understand the importance of leadership, judgment, and decision-making factors when leading groups in a wilderness setting.
5. demonstrate the correct way to tie several useful knots.
6. utilize a map and compass in wilderness navigation and orienteering activities.
7. demonstrate basic hiking and climbing techniques.
8. understand and appreciate environmental impact issues affecting parks and forestlands.
9. value an interdisciplinary focus through integration of outdoor education and physical education into other areas of school curricula.
10. utilize technology associated with outdoor pursuits.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS/ASSIGNMENTS:

1. **Cooperative Group Project** (20%). Each candidate will be required to complete a group project that involves presenting games and initiative activities to the class.
   - *Games & Initiative Activities*. The purpose of this group project is to work together in a cooperative effort in teaching games and initiatives. The group will use the Adventure Wave model for teaching through adventure.

2. **Final Exam** (20%). The final exam will be comprehensive of all material covered. This includes material from the textbook, class lectures, discussions, class activities, and practical skills learned during the semester.

3. **Quizzes** (20%). Candidates will be given five-(5) quizzes to assess their cognitive performance.

4. **Wilderness Expedition** (30%). The overall objective of this assignment is to have a practical experience whereby the candidate uses a variety of outdoor skills. Those skills might include: hiking, backpacking, backcountry living, map interpretation and orienteering, leadership and group cohesion, environmental ethics, and personal and group reflection.
   - **Reflective Paper** (10%). The paper should address material from the textbook, class lectures, discussions, and all activities. The candidate will be expected to discuss the importance of learning all the backcountry living skills and how judgment and decision-making factors are critical to wilderness leadership. Use of the systematic journal technique during the wilderness expedition is required to complete this assignment.

**Candidates will be provided with all necessary backpacking equipment. Food and other personal items must be purchased separately.**

EVALUATION:

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<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperative Group Project</td>
<td>92.5-100 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>89.5-92.4 A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>86.5-89.4 B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflective Paper</td>
<td>82.5-86.4 B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilderness Expedition</td>
<td>79.5-82.4 B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>76.5-79.4 C+</td>
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<th>Course Requirements</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperative Group Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>Reflective Paper</td>
<td>62.5-66.4 D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilderness Expedition</td>
<td>59.5-62.4 D-</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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COURSE POLICIES:

1. **Accommodation of Candidates with Disabilities.** Western Carolina University is committed to providing equal educational opportunities for candidates with documented disabilities. Candidates who require disability services or reasonable accommodations must identify themselves as having a disability and provide current diagnostic documentation to Disability Services. All information is confidential. Please contact Kimberly Marcus for more information at 227-7234 or kmarcus@email.wcu.edu.

2. **Attendance Policy.** All candidates are expected to attend all class meetings. Candidates may miss one-(1) class without penalty. There are no excused absences. More details are available at http://paws.wcu.edu/dgrube.
   → **Attendance/Tardiness Penalty:** Three-(3) points will be deducted from the final grade for each absence after one-(1). For each incident of tardiness to class, one-half-(.5) of a point will be deducted from the final grade.

3. **Cell Phones.** Use of cell phones at any time during class is prohibited. Phones shall be silenced and stored out of sight. Such disruptions will result in the candidate being dismissed from class.

4. **Class Participation.** Active participation in all class activities is expected. Candidates are expected to dress for activity (tennis shoes and active clothing).

5. **Examination Policy.** All candidates are required to take exams on site on the assigned dates and at the assigned times without exception. This includes the final exam. No credit will be given for missed exams.

6. **Risk Awareness.** Candidates should be aware that some physical activity is expected as partial fulfillment of the requirements of the class. This includes participation in practice lessons taught by the instructor and/or peers. Candidates should make the instructor aware of any physical limitations that will limit participation in the class. Candidates will be required to complete a Risk Awareness form at the beginning of the semester.