



Outdoor Leadership Program
Asheville, NC 28815-9000

Outing Program:

It has been a fun filled year for Outdoor Programs and trip participants. We have had many action-packed weekends and weekdays with a wide variety of scheduled and impromptu trips. Rock climbing seemed to be a favorite among students and the trips filled up quickly. Also offered were many day hikes and weekend trips on a number of North Carolina's finest trails and forests. Aside from rock climbing and hiking Outdoor Programs offered an exciting surf trip to Charleston, where several students promptly got hooked on surfing and a never before offered horse-back riding trip in the fall. Due to the popularity of this trip it was offered again in the spring with just as much success. The funniest Outdoor Programs activity was probably the Jones Mountain Challenge which featured a mud crawl on the soccer fields and then a nice dip in the pond. Next year Outdoor Programs will continue to offer the regular favorites but also plans to add horse-back riding, the Jones Mountain Challenge, and the Gear Swap to the permanent favorites list. There are also plans underway to set up a caving trip among other things that have been proposed by crew members and trip leaders. We are all looking forward to the fun that next year has to offer.



1st Annual Mountain Adventure Race Day!

In late spring seventy WWC students and a few faculty and staff organized into teams of three to take on the challenges of a grand adventure race. The race was superbly organized and supported by the Outing Program.

Events included running, walking, map work, several river crossing, several team challenge events which included carrying one team member suspended between a two by eight up Jones Mountain, climbing the challenge Wall, and mud filled belly crawl through an obstacle course. The mud crawl got the most hoots and hollers from the team members. The final event required each team to jump into the Pond and swim around an obstacle. It really helped to get the mud off!

A new tradition has emerged! Everyone is looking forward to next year's event and wondering what bizarre challenges that Jason and his crew will conjure from the inner sanctum of the Outing Program Office!

World Wide Course - New Zealand



The ODL Department is once again heading down south for another learning expedition in New Zealand. The course is titled "New Zealand Light." In the fall during the campus component of the class, students will prepare mind, body and spirit for our winter expedition to New Zealand.

Students will familiarize themselves with the country's social, political, and natural history. Students will do research and present information about topics such as the natural history of NZ; the music, literature and customs; the role of recreation and adventure in the NZ culture; current environmental issues being addressed there; and the environmental hazards and risk management issues in traveling in foreign countries.

The group will also establish the trust, respect and communicativeness required to bring integrity to this group learning adventure. During the fall semester break the group of 12 students and two faculty trip leaders will spend fifteen days immersed in the wilderness and culture of New Zealand. In keeping with the theme of traveling lightly, time spent in motor vehicles will be kept to a minimum. Emphasis will be upon exploring the dramatic natural environments (rocky coastline, temperate rainforest, farmland, and alpine forest). Activities will include backpacking, canoeing, a visit on a Maori Marae (meeting house), and a farm stay with families. The trip will also include a service project.

Outdoor Leadership

Newsletter

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Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics!



Our most recent news is our partnership with the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics. Leave No Trace (LNT) is a national education program that unites the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and educational programs in teaching the principles of LNT and wild land ethics. We

will now offer a Leave No Trace Trainers course and certification to all ODL majors. Upon completion of the course each student will become a Leave No Trace Trainer and be able to teach state of the art minimum impact techniques.

Instructor Development Practicum- 2004

Julie Walicki

“This course was amazing! I wouldn’t have traded it for anything. I got the opportunity to step out of my comfort zone numerous times and truly grow as an individual. I have learned more in the past six weeks than I have in any single course in the past. My knowledge gained stretches from setting up a repel and relying over a rock face, to navigating a bush –push, to facilitating a group meeting to resolve a conflict, to getting someone’s quality world to try to see where they are coming from and understand each other a little better. Both my hard and soft skills have been improved and I know I be a better outdoor educator because of it.”

This field based experiential course that we offer in cooperation with the North Carolina Outward Bound School offered ODL majors an intensive immersion experience. The first 10 days of the course involved individual and group goal setting and immersion into general wilderness skills and expedition planning. The class planned their menu and purchased and packed all of their food and then headed out for a nine-day in the field Wilderness First Responder Course (WFR). At the completion of the WFR, they had a day off and then headed out on a two-week mountain expedition with the North Carolina Outward Bound School. This phase of the course focused on leadership for Outdoor Education and the Outward Bound philosophy.

At the completion of the course the students planned and completed a service project with the clients of the Cooper Riis Healing Farm Community.

Academics in Action!

One of the requirements of the Organization and Administration of Adventure Based Programming course is to learn about funding sources and grant writing. Each student is required to research a funding source (foundation or state or federal agency) and write a proposal to fund some project or program that they would like to see supported. This year several students wrote grant proposals for the College. One was submitted to the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources for expanding and improving the college’s waste reduction and recycling program. Another was submitted to Sigma Xi for funds to pay for radiocarbon dating for the Warren Wilson Cherokee Village Project. Another student wrote a proposal to Wachovia foundation to support funding for the National Women’s Outdoor Leadership Conference, which was founded by the women of the North Carolina Outward Bound School. Way to go ODL majors!

Environmental Education Class

Tucka Saville and Martha Barbee

Mallory McDuff’s environmental education class effected positive change in the lives of nine elementary school classes. We participated in a Project Wild Workshop from which we chose four environmental education lessons to teach to children between kindergarten and seventh grade. The students learned about and dissected owl pellets, created their own animal with specific adaptations, become ore aware of their environment in a game called “stalking the shoe” and engaged in predato0r prey interactions while playing “oh Deer”. The class had been working up to this experiential day for several weeks while we studied different approaches to environmental education. Environmental education is truly a key to both environmental sustainability and personal growth. Environmental education is an empowering experience for teachers, student and all of us. Every work of feedback was valuable to us and discovered a lot about the field we have chosen.

Time spent climbing mountains
will not be deducted
from your life...