

ADIRONDACK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ADVENTURE SPORTS:
LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

COURSE: AVS 234 Ski Patrol Operations

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Introduction to Ski Patrolling is a multi-discipline course that encompasses elements of the National Ski Patrol (NSP) avalanche, outdoor emergency care, leadership development, mountaineering, Nordic, and ski and toboggan instructor disciplines. Instruction will follow the NSP guidelines and criteria.

PREREQUISITE: AVS 223, PED 174

CREDIT HOURS: Lecture: 2 hr. Lab: 3 hr. Credit: 3 hr.

COURSE OBJECTIVE: Students will:

1. integrate general learning theories of adventure based learning
2. contrast standards and practices of mountain operations
3. analyze and evaluate mountain operations
4. evaluate patroller instructor manuals, staff development, risk management and operational plans
5. apply on-mountain leadership skills
6. interpret the alpine mountain environment
7. devise and evaluate risk management plans and mountain protocol
8. evaluate standards of performance for snowsports leaders
9. synthesize relevant instructional methodology and experiential theory for snowsport leadership
10. explore and interpret the cultural and historical context of expeditionary leadership, adventure leadership, and ski patrolling
11. demonstrate competency in introduction to ski patrolling as defined by the National Ski Patrol
12. demonstrate knowledge of New York State and Adirondack Park skiing history and industry and evaluate the policies governing mountain operations
13. demonstrate advanced competency in snowsports management, operations, and safety

COURSE TEXTS:

National Ski Patrol. The Ski Patroller's Manual. Lakewood, CO: National Ski Patrol. 1997.

COURSE CONTENT:

- I. Effective Leadership and Instruction Requirements
 - A. Core Competencies
 - B. Non-Adventure Competencies
- II. Instructional Methodologies and Techniques
 - A. NSP
 - B. PSIA
 - C. Instructor Development
- III. Group Development and Dynamics
 - A. Stages of Group Development

- B. Affects of Group Dynamics
- IV. Alpine and Mountain Environments, Activities, and Risk Management
 - A. Inherent Risk
 - 1. Skiing
 - 2. Ski Patrolling
 - B. Risk
 - 1. Risk Mitigation and Safety Management
 - C. Liability
 - 1. Standard of Care
 - 2. Negligence
 - 3. Litigation
 - D. Ski Area Responsibilities
 - 1. Operations
 - 2. Qualifications, Screening, Selection, Continuing Education
 - 3. Legal
 - 4. Guest Relations
 - E. NSP Responsibilities
 - 1. Education
 - 2. Membership
 - 3. Credentials
 - 4. Standardized Education
 - F. Personal Risk Management
 - 1. Assessing Risk
 - 2. Transport of Injured
 - 3. Body Substance Isolation and Hazardous Materials
 - 4. Patrol and Avalanche
 - G. Insurance
 - 1. NSP Insurance Program
 - 2. Area Insurance Program
 - 3. Personal
 - H. Policy and Protocol
 - 1. Standards of Practice
 - 2. Standard Operating Procedures
- V. Adventure and Snow Sports Leadership
 - A. Cultural Foundations
 - B. Historical Foundations
 - C. Technical, Safety, and Environmental
 - D. Instructional and Organizational
- VI. Snowsports Leadership
 - A. Responsibility
 - 1. Skills
 - 2. Equipment Limitations
 - 3. Environmental Elements
 - B. Judgment and Decisions
 - 1. Problems, Options, Solutions, Plan
- VII. Professionalism
- VIII. Customer Service

- IX. The Alpine Mountain Environment

- A. Thermoregulation, physiology, and nutrition in the alpine mountain environment
- B. Topography
- C. Geology
- D. Environment
- E. Flora and Fauna
- F. Weather
- G. Avalanche
- X. Equipment
 - A. Ski Design
 - B. Boot Mechanics
 - C. Binding Function and DIN Setting
 - D. Poles
 - E. Ski Lifts
 - F. Equipment Care and Maintenance
- XI. Patroller Equipment
 - A. First Response
 - B. Mountain Operations
 - C. Transportation
- XII. Toboggan
 - A. Types
 - B. Construction
 - C. Components
 - D. Storage, Inspection and Setup Procedures
 - E. Operations
 - 1. Alpine Maneuvers
 - 2. Nordic Maneuvers
 - 3. Operating Positions
 - F. Belay Techniques
 - 1. Alpine
 - 2. Nordic
- XIII. Scene Management and Incident Command System (ICS)
 - A. Scene Size Up
 - 1. BSI
 - 2. Scene Safety
 - 3. Number of Patients and Responsiveness
 - 4. NOI/MOI
 - 5. Extrication
 - 6. Personnel or Equipment Needs
 - B. Scene Safety
 - C. Organization
 - D. Scene Leadership
- XIV. Rope and Belay Rescues
 - A. Technique
 - B. Equipment
- XV. National Ski Patrol
 - A. History
 - B. Strategic Plan
 - 1. NSP Vision
 - 2. NSP Mission
 - 3. Benefits

- C. Benefits to Mountain Management
 - 1. NSAA-NSP
 - 2. PSIA-NSP
 - 3. Operations Agreement
 - D. Policy
 - 1. Board of Directors
 - 2. National Education Committee
 - E. Membership
 - F. Code of Conduct
 - G. Patrol Units
 - H. Guest Services
 - I. Quality Services
 - J. Guest Relations
 - K. Safety Education
- XVI. Mountain Management and Operations
- A. Services
 - B. Departments
 - C. Activities
 - D. Environmental
 - E. Policy and Protocol

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Bowman, Warren M.D. Outdoor Emergency Care: Comprehensive Prehospital Care for Non-Urban Settings. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett.2003.

Levine, Carol. Alpine Teaching Handbook. Vail, CO: Vail Resorts Management Company. 2001.

Professional Ski Instructors of America. Alpine Technical Manual. Lakewood, CO: Sprint Press, Inc. 2002.

Professional Ski Instructors of America. Core Concepts for Snowsports Instructors. Lakewood, CO: Sprint Press, Inc. 2001.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

With or without reasonable accommodation, all students must be able to:

- Navigate difficult and varying terrain in the mountain, aquatic, challenge course, and alpine environments.
- Lift and carry heavy loads that often exceed 50lbs. over difficult and strenuous terrain.
- Walk, paddle, climb, and hike long distances carrying substantial weight.
- Assist in rescue efforts which may include lifting, climbing and carrying substantial weight over difficult and varying terrain.

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a post-secondary student with a disability who is in need of academic accommodations or auxiliary aids is required to notify the College of the nature of the disability and to provide appropriate documentation which supports the request for reasonable accommodations or auxiliary aids.

Individuals who would like to self-identify with a disability (and have not already) or think they may have a disability and want to request accommodations should contact the Office of Accessibility Services directly in Warren Hall, or call 743-2282 / (TTY) 743-2323 for an appointment.