

# PEOL 399 - Backcountry Photography Preparation

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## Outing Course Description

### A. General Description

Outdoor adventures often involve breathtaking scenery and once-in-a-lifetime experiences. Photography makes it possible to capture images of these experiences to share them with others and to create a visual “diary”. This course covers everything you’ll need to know to produce professional quality film and digital images. Topics include basic photographic principles, landscape, wildlife and action photography, the selection care and maintenance of equipment, care and storage of equipment, film and digital images on extended and remote trips in adverse conditions, and image processing, enhancement, presentation, filing, cataloging and archiving. There will be opportunities for review and critique of participant images. The course also includes preparation for the Backcountry Photography Outing course.

### B. The Physical Environment

This course takes place entirely on campus. There are classroom sessions each week, and a fitness test (two mile run) on campus prior to the outing.

## Prerequisites/Corequisites to Participation

PEOL 285 Wilderness Survival and PEOL 351 Backpacking 1 Outing are prerequisites to participation. Backpacking experience equivalent to the PEOL 351 Backpacking 1 Outing may be accepted in lieu of taking the PEOL 351 Backpacking 1 Outing, at the discretion of the instructor. There are no exceptions to the PEOL 285 Wilderness Survival requirement.

PEOL 399 Backpacking Photography Outing is a co-requisite to the PEOL 399 Backcountry Photography Preparation course.

All participants in PEOL 399 Backcountry Photography Preparation must attend the first session, certain pre-outing sessions, and the post outing session. Those who have not taken Backpacking Photography Preparation in a previous term will need to attend all of the classroom sessions. Those who have taken Backpacking Photography Preparation in a previous term must attend the first session, certain pre-outing sessions, and the post outing session. However, those who have taken Backpacking Photography Preparation in a previous term (and now have a "P" or "I" for this course on their transcripts) should not re-enroll in the course.

All participants must have access to:

- 1.) a film or digital camera with exposure controls
- 2.) enough film or storage media (and batteries) for a three day outing, and
- 3.) a manual for the camera (These are usually available on the internet).

## Course Objectives

The Outdoor Pursuits Program emphasizes safe and responsible participation in outdoor activities. In addition to meeting the objectives of prerequisite and corequisite courses, upon completion of this course participants should be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

- 1.) current film and digital cameras and the advantages of each system of image capture.
- 2.) exposure and focus controls and the use of common camera adjustments and attachments.
- 3.) basic photographic techniques, including exposure control and the effects of aperture, shutter speed, and depth of field.
- 4.) the characteristics of common battery types and techniques for maximizing their utility in field applications.
- 5.) techniques for image processing and enhancement.
- 6.) techniques for filing, indexing and archiving images.
- 7.) making effective presentations using prints, slides and digital images

## Evaluative Criteria

Students enrolled for credit will be graded in the following areas. The instructor will provide specific information.

To be considered for a passing grade, a student must:

- 1.) attend the first class session and not less than 7 of the remaining 9 lecture sessions
- 2.) pass the final exam
- 4.) obtain a minimum score of 80 points on the evaluative criteria:

Attendance (10 classroom sessions at 5 pts if on time)	50	points
Portfolios Part 1-4 (at 5 points each)	20	points
Combined portfolio	10	points
Final exam (during finals week)	<u>20</u>	<u>points</u>
Total:	100	points

This is a pass/no-pass course. To be considered for a passing grade, participants must:

- 1.) attend first class meeting,
- 2.) miss not more than two (2) other class sessions,
- 3.) submit all written assignments on time, and
- 4.) attain a score of 80% or higher on the evaluative criteria.

## Estimated Time Commitment Required by this Course

The following table includes estimates of the amount of time you will probably need to commit to each of the major aspects of the course.

1.) Lectures	20	hrs.
2.) Readings (minimum)	6	hrs.
3.) Outing preparation and post trip tasks	5	hrs.
4.) Portfolio assignments	12	hrs.
5.) Exam preparation (minimum)	<u>3</u>	<u>hrs.</u>
Total:	45	hrs.

## Course Instructor

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