

Snowcamping 1 Outing

Description

This course provides an opportunity to learn and practice safe and responsible winter camping and travel techniques, snow shelter construction and backcountry routefinding techniques during a three day outing in the Oregon Cascades. Winter survival techniques will also be addressed, including an opportunity for a short solo survival experience if weather conditions allow.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

- Prerequisites:
- PEOL 285 - Wilderness Survival
 - PEOL 351 - Backpacking 1 Outing (or equivalent experience)
- Corequisite:
- PEOL 286 - Snowcamping Preparation*

** As part of the requirements of this course all participants must, prior to participation in the outing, 1.) pass a fitness test (a two mile run in 20 minutes) and 2.) achieve a satisfactory score on the required trip planning worksheet.*

In addition, participants must arrive at the meeting point for the outing on time and with all of the required gear for the outing. Gear requirements will be specified in the Snowcamping Preparation course.

Objectives

The Outdoor Pursuits Program emphasizes safe and responsible participation in outdoor activities. In addition to meeting the objectives of the prerequisite course(s), upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Accurately estimate the difficulty of a backcountry route in terms of its suitability for beginning ski touring and/or snowshoeing, from field observations and written information.
2. Understand the potential risks and hazards inherent to snowcamping in the Oregon Cascades.
3. List the personal and group clothing and equipment necessary for safe multi-day snow camping trips in the Oregon Cascades.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in the construction of snow shelters including snow caves, igloos, digloos, quinzees and one and two person emergency shelters.
5. Demonstrate proficiency in environmentally sound winter camping techniques.
6. Effectively utilize a map and compass while route finding in a winter environment.

Evaluative Criteria

To be considered for a passing grade (a "C" or better), a student must:

1. Attend the entire outing.
2. Attend the post-outing meeting.
4. Pass the final exam.