



Natural Interpretation – ATBO 107

Adventure Tourism Business Operations Program

Course Outline

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2000
OUTLINE EFFECTIVE DATE: May 2019
COURSE OUTLINE REVIEW DATE: January 2024

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course helps participants acquire knowledge and develop skills in the interpretation of natural landscapes. It is an introduction to the natural history of the Rockies and Columbia Mountains of BC: the landscape, geology, flora and fauna, species identification, ecosystem relationships and biogeoclimatic zones of the interior mountain environment. This course is for front-line interpreters involved in the preparation and presentation of interpretative topics related to the Adventure Tourism industry.

Program Information: This is a required course of the Adventure Tourism Business Operations Diploma Program. It is typically taken in the first year of ATBO studies.

Delivery: This course is delivered face-to-face.

COTR Credits: 3

Hours for this course: 45 hours

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours:

Instructional Activity	Duration
Lecture Hours	21
Seminars / Tutorials	
Laboratory / Studio Hours	
Practicum / Field Experience Hours	24
Other Contact Hours	
Total	45

Practicum Hours (if applicable):

Type of Practicum	Duration
On-the-job Experience	N/A
Formal Work Experience	N/A
Other	N/A
Total	

Course Outline Author or Contact:

Gideon Smith, BA, Technical Diploma

Signature

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Department Head
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Department Head Signature

Dean Signature

EDCO

Valid from: May 2019- January 2024

Education Council Approval Date

COURSE PREREQUISITES AND TRANSFER CREDIT:

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: Enrolment in the Adventure Tourism Business Operations Certificate Program.

Flexible Assessment (FA):

Credit can be awarded for this course through FA Yes No

Learners may request formal recognition for flexible assessment at the College of the Rockies through one or more of the following processes: External Evaluation, Worksite Assessment, Demonstration, Standardized Test, Self-assessment, Interview, Products/Portfolio, Challenge Exam. Contact an Education Advisor for more information.

Transfer Credit: For transfer information within British Columbia, Alberta and other institutions, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

Students should also contact an academic advisor at the institution where they want transfer credit.

Prior Course Number: N/A

Textbooks and Required Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Required Text

Ben Gadd, *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies* (2nd edition, 2016 printing)

Suggested Reading

Harley McAllister and Abby McAllister, *Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills*, (8th or 9th edition), Seattle, The Mountaineers

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <http://go.cotr.bc.ca/tuition/tCalc.asp> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to

- understand and explain the role and value of natural history interpretation in guiding and outdoor education;
- understand the basis for biogeoclimatic zonation in the province and be able to differentiate the zones that occur in the Rockies and Columbia Mountains, identify indicators of each zone, and describe how plant and animal species are adapted to the zones in which they live;
- deliver a short lesson on a natural history topic by way of an informative talk;
- speak knowledgeably on a broad base of introductory information in the topic areas of flora and fauna, species identification, and ecosystem relationships;
- develop a depth of information about a specific area of the province in terms of climate, biodiversity, ecological relationships, geology, and/or cultural history;
- communicate clearly, concisely, and correctly in written, spoken, and visual forms that meet the needs of natural interpretation audiences; and
- reframe information, ideas, and concepts using narrative, visual, and symbolic representations which demonstrate understanding.

This course should help the student

- develop the ability to discuss and present information on the natural history, flora and fauna, and biogeoclimatic zonation of the Rocky Mountains and Columbia Mountains of B.C.;
 - develop interpretive techniques based on the fundamental principles of interpretation;
 - develop the confidence and skill needed for effective interpretation;
 - develop interpretive materials; and
 - prepare and deliver interpretive talks.
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COURSE TOPICS:

- Flora and fauna of the Canadian mountain environment
- Species identification and the binomial nomenclature of species
- Climate and biogeoclimatic zonation
- Ecological systems and relationships
- Geology and physiography of the Rockies and Columbias
- Plate tectonics and mountain building
- Human history in the Rockies and Columbias
- Presentation skills
- Interpretive writing
- Field trips (4) to varied mountain environments

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT:

Assignments	% Of Total Grade
Presentation	20%
Field trip homework assignments	30%
Writing assignments	20%
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

Please see the instructor's syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments and use of electronic aids.

EXAM POLICY:

Students must attend all required scheduled exams that make up a final grade at the appointed time and place.

Individual instructors may accommodate for illness or personal crisis. Additional accommodation will not be made unless a written request is sent to and approved by the appropriate Department Head prior to the scheduled exam.

Any student who misses a scheduled exam without approval will be given a grade of "0" for the exam.

COURSE GRADE:

Course grades are assigned as follows:

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Mark (Percent)	≥ 90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	< 50

A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

ACADEMIC POLICIES:

See www.cotr.bc.ca/policies for general college policies related to course activities, including grade appeals, cheating and plagiarism.

COURSE CHANGES:

Information contained in course outlines is correct at the time of publication. Content of the courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will endeavor to provide notice of changes to students as soon as possible. The instructor reserves the right to add or delete material from courses.