



Alpine Institute

Professionalism for the Outdoor Educator Itinerary

Program Details

Following is an example course itinerary. In most cases, a great deal more will be covered during the day than what is listed here.

It is important that those who participate understand that this itinerary is not set in stone. The instructors for this program have different experiences in the outdoor industry and will bring different things to the table. In addition to this, changes may be made due to weather or the length of time it takes to cover a topic. If you do not understand why an itinerary change occurred, please ask your instructor.

Food: The bulk of this program will take place in town. Some instructors may elect to do a single overnight on a short backpacking trip, for which you will need backcountry food. While the team is in town, there will be a one-hour lunch break each day. You may choose to bring a sack lunch or leave for lunch. There are several options nearby.

Lodging: AAI recommends a nearby hotel. See your program packet for more information. Alternately, it is possible to camp during the classroom sections of your program at Larrabee State Park or at Birch Bay State Park, though this will create some travel time to the building where classroom sessions will take place. As noted, you may spend one-night in the field. Confirm this with your program coordinator prior to your arrival.

Parking: If we elect to spend the night in the field, vehicles will be left in the airport parking lot. There is a daily charge for this (\$10-\$20 depending on where you're parked).

Inclusions and Exclusions

Inclusions: Permits and access fees, transportation during the course, guide, group technical equipment, and biffy bags.

Exclusions: Food, personal equipment, lodging the day before and after your course, personal health, baggage and trip insurance, and transportation before and after your course.

Itinerary

Every day will start at the Mountain Center promptly at 8:00am unless otherwise arranged by your instructor.

Day One

- Introduction to professionalism
- How to obtain and keep employment in the outdoor industry
- Common reasons for termination
- Introduction to mountain electronics
- Teaching techniques
- Map and compass for professionals
- Tour planning
- Leave No Trace - Plan Ahead and Prepare*

Day Two

- Diversity and gender issues in the outdoors
- Commercial permitting and land management issues
- Liability and accident insurance
- Resume development
- Leave No Trace - Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces*

Day Three

- Personal marketing
- Ancillary income (sponsorship, writing, photography, etc.)
- Type of jobs available and employment requirements
- Ancillary industry organizations
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) inspections
- Leave No Trace - Dispose of Waste Properly, Leave What You Find*

Day Four

- Development of a risk management plan
- Morning and evening guide meetings
- Preparation for final assessment
- Leave No Trace - Minimize Campfire Impacts, Respect Wildlife*

Day 5

- Final Assessment
- Leave No Trace - Be Considerate of Other Visitors*

***Alternate Leave No Trace Option:**

On Days Two and Three, or Days Three and Four, the team may elect to do either a short backpacking trip or visit some local natural sites to cover all the Leave No Trace material. This will also allow participants to practice teaching skills in the outdoors.

Final Assessment

Students will work in teams of two to develop a comprehensive expedition plan. This plan will include marketing materials, meeting place, itinerary, permit rules, equipment lists and a tour plan. They will present their final plan to the group at the end of the day.