

## PEO 413 – FIELD LEADERSHIP

### Take-home Examination

The purpose of this take-home examination is to provide you with the opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of a couple of important topics critical to leading groups into outdoor adventure settings.

Please observe the following guidelines:

- This examination is worth 30% of your grade in the course, so craft detailed, well written responses. While we value your experience and opinion, you **MUST validate and strengthen your responses by referring to assigned readings**. You are welcome (and encouraged) to include information from other sources. While it is not necessary to provide a *reference list* for any sources you utilize, it's expected that you will reference any article or reading that you utilize within the context of your response (e.g. "According to \_\_\_\_\_ as stated in the article on emergency response", "As stated in the LNT article on the Wilderness Survival website...").
- You will be graded for grammar and spelling. Poorly written responses will be downgraded accordingly.
- Responses must be word processed and presented in the same order as the questions on the exam (e.g. 2A, 2B, etc.).
- Electronic submissions are due no later than **Tuesday Mar. 14 at 4:30 p.m. Send your submission to Dan AND Michael.**

**A SCORE OF 70% OR BETTER ON THE EXAM IS REQUIRED FOR A PASSING GRADE IN THE COURSE**

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1. One member of a two-person tent group approaches YOU (one of the two outing leaders) as the sun is setting to inform you that her tent partner has not been in camp for the better part of an hour. You are camped 8 miles from the roadhead in a remote backcountry location.
  - A. Describe your leadership response to this situation. Be specific and include the rationale for each decision. Assume that the person does not return to camp and is not sleeping in the tent. Describe everything your backcountry group could/should do prior to making the decision to send for outside help. (8 PT.)
  - B. What safety measures/protocols/contingency plans would YOU put in place to prevent or minimize the possibility that someone goes missing from a backcountry campsite? (3 PT.)
  - C. What items of gear would YOU want a lone hiker to be equipped with on excursions away from a backcountry camp? (4 PT.)

You are expected to utilize AT LEAST the following resources: *Responding To Emergencies AND Group Control* – available on the course website.

2. You are in the process of preparing a group of novice backpackers for a 7-day trip into the northern reaches of North Cascades National Park in Washington (8 students and 2 leaders). Your route ventures through a variety of environs, including lush old growth forests, subalpine forests, alpine meadows, snow slopes, and the occasional small glacier. You are committed to camping in the forest as much as possible in order to make disposing of human waste more manageable and ecologically responsible. Still, you will need to spend two nights above treeline in the alpine zone. Prior to approving your wilderness permit, The National Park Service requires that you submit a LNT plan that addresses, *in detail*, the following topics, including the reasoning behind your choices (to make sure you know your stuff). (15 PT.)
- A: LNT techniques for hiking on AND off-trail;
  - B. Selecting a backcountry campsite and managing impacts while camping;
  - C. Managing human waste - including the goals of disposing of fecal matter; the forces of nature that decompose fecal matter, use/nonuse of toilet paper, and your preferred methods for disposing of fecal matter in the following environments:
    - a. Western old growth forest;
    - b. Alpine environment (relatively well visited locations).
  - D. Promoting hygiene within your group, including after going to the bathroom and before preparing food, cleaning dishes and washing articles of clothing.
  - E. Managing food and litter in bear country. There are a fair number of black bears in the park.
  - F. Managing an encounter with a black bear (there are no grizzlies in the park).
  - G. Techniques for building a Leave No Trace fire, including where you would build one and your plan for leaving minimal trace at, and around, the campfire site. Stating, "we will not build a fire", is not an option. The Park Service wants to know the steps you would take to build a fire, protect the environment in the process, and minimize visual impact.

You are expected to utilize AT LEAST the resources made available in the Wilderness Survival readings, notably:

*Leave No Trace Ethics* -

[http://opp.uoregon.edu/wild/readings\\_articles/course\\_docs/backcountry\\_ethics/LNT\\_ethics.pdf](http://opp.uoregon.edu/wild/readings_articles/course_docs/backcountry_ethics/LNT_ethics.pdf)

*Bears and Cougars* -

[http://opp.uoregon.edu/wild/readings\\_articles/course\\_docs/bears\\_and\\_cougars.pdf](http://opp.uoregon.edu/wild/readings_articles/course_docs/bears_and_cougars.pdf)