

RLST 5430/7430L Camp Administration Outdoor Education Laboratory
Spring 2009

Instructor: Dr. Gwynn Powell
Telephone: 542-4332
Classroom: 205 Ramsey Center
E-mail: gpowell@uga.edu

Office: 353 Ramsey Center
Class hours: Variable
One or two credit hours available

This lab is designed for students who are in FRES 1010, RLST 2430 or RLST 5430/7430. The instructor reserves the right to determine eligibility of students to enroll.

Students will have the opportunity to: (A) Learn basic outdoor education skills, activities and techniques; (B) Gain confidence in the outdoors as a classroom; (C) Translate personal learning into a teachable skill; (D) Lead elementary-aged children through outdoor education sessions.

Outdoor Education (1 credit) is becoming a “lost art” both in society and in many camps. The goal of this laboratory experience is to develop your skills for leading age-appropriate outdoor activities and to collaborate with Sandy Creek Nature Center (SCNC) to practice program leadership. The long-term goal is to help children become more aware and educated of their outdoor surroundings.

Course plan: (A) Complete assigned readings; (B) Participate in training sessions at Sandy Creek Nature Center; (C) Serve as a program assistant at SCNC for 30 hours during the semester

Assignments: (A) Write a self-analysis of outdoor skills for SCNC staff (graded by UGA); (B) Attend and successfully participate in training sessions (feedback from SCNC); (C) Attend and successfully provide program leadership for SCNC; (D) Write a one-two page event critique for each program leadership experience

Outdoor Camping (1 credit) is a skill set that many of today’s generation have limited personal experience. The goal of this laboratory experience is to give you your first night in the woods or if you are advanced, to expand your teaching and sensitivity toward beginners in the woods. As a group, we will camp-out and practice teaching each other outdoor camping skills, and then lead an outdoor skills session for children at an after-school program.

Course plan: (A) Complete assigned readings, (B) Participate in planning meeting; (C) Participate in a one-night, one-day camping trip as a class (share expenses); (D) Develop and implement a lesson for leading a group of children in an outdoor camping skills focused activity

Assignments: (A) Attend and participate in planning meetings; (B) Complete a skills sheet during the camping trip; (C) Turn in a written lesson plan for the outdoor skills session (draft and final copy); (D) Lead an outdoor skills session with peers on the trip and with children at the after-school program; (E) Write a two-three page critique of the laboratory experience

Graduate level for both sections: In addition to the above, the graduate students will add the experiential component of active management and administration of the process behind the implementation of events (comprehensive evaluation plan, marketing plan, risk management plan, or a financial plan)

The course policies for FRES 1010 and RLST 2430/5430/7430 apply to the laboratory experience.