

# West Virginia University 2009 Adventure WV

Offered by:

**The WVU Mountaineer Adventure Program  
&  
The Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences  
Recreation, Parks and Tourism Resources Program**

RPTR 140 – 3-credit- Adventure WV – Odyssey 30  
CRN # 87719, Section 030

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## Course Description

The purpose of Adventure WV is to provide you, the first year student, with information and tools for making a successful transition from high school to college; to ensure that you become an active, responsible member of the WVU community; to help you acquire basic academic survival skills; and to help you develop into a self-motivated, independent learner.

This course will introduce you to the state's natural resources, culture, and history, as well as WVU's academic policies, procedures, services and traditions. Success in this course depends largely on your participation. Successful completion of course assignments will determine your final grade. Adventure WV is an alternative to the WVU U101 requirement.

## Mission

The Adventure WV program was developed to orient and transition new students for life at WVU. This is accomplished through development of new and lasting friendships, along with personal development. The program is built on safety, quality, fun, and care of the environment.

## Required Materials and Tools

1. Daily Planner
2. WVU eCampus
  - a. Many of the assignments such as the on-line quizzes and activities will require access to WVU eCampus. To access eCampus go to <https://ecampus.wvu.edu>. Log in using your MIX username and password. Click on the link for your Adventure WV course (RPTR).

## **Goals & Objectives**

### **Create a fun and exciting environment that fosters new friendships as well as individual growth.**

By the experiential design of the program

Leaders that are trained in group dynamics, effective communication and conflict resolution skills.

### **Develop a positive connection with WVU students, faculty, staff, and the university community.**

By developing a common thread through shared experiences

Through the use of the "Leave-a-Trace" program

By fostering traditions

### **Ease the transition to college life.**

By addressing issues that face college students.

By instilling a sense of accomplishment by setting people up for success and positive experiences that will aid them through college.

### **Offer opportunities for leadership, teamwork, and community service with other incoming freshmen.**

Teambuilding initiatives and group challenges.

By creating community service projects.

### **Enhance interpersonal skills such as trust, communication, acceptance, and social interaction.**

Through leadership building, group initiatives, and debriefings.

### **Encourage improvement of participant self-awareness, decision making skills, initiative and self-confidence.**

By positive encouragement and commitment.

Compassionate and insightful leaders.

### **Develop wilderness skills and awareness of outdoor recreational opportunities at WVU.**

By visiting and discussing recreational areas in WV.

By teaching skills throughout the program.

By making students aware of the Outdoor Recreation Center.

### **Combat substance abuse and homesickness**

Through discussions and debriefings

Through teaming up with WVU Student Health Services and the Carruth Center.

### **Support Student Retention.**

## Course Assignments

**\*\*FOR ALL CLASS PAPERS, PLEASE USE 12 POINT TIMES NEW ROMAN FONT  
AND 1.5 LINE SPACING\*\***

### Participation and Attendance: (200 pts, 20%)

Class attendance and active participation are the easiest things students can do to facilitate learning and complete their classes successfully. Therefore your attendance and *active* participation are required on the summer expedition, at the University Welcome, two fall semester classroom meetings, and CCE project. Participation will be evaluated by your instructors during the expedition, while attendance will be taken at each class session and other required events.

### Journal: (100pts, 10%)

You will need to bring a journal on the summer expedition. Time will be allotted each day for you to reflect and write about the day's events and the evening discussions. Journal entries should be a reflection of the days events – not a description of what was done, but a discussion of your thoughts and feelings experienced during the days' activities. Journals will be collected and graded the last day of the expedition.

### Goal Letter and Reflection: (100pts, 10%)

The goal letter will be written during the summer expedition. This assignment requires you to write a letter to yourself outlining your first semester goals at WVU. These goals could address academics, personal development, social skills, and anything else that you want to accomplish. This letter should also address the steps you will take to ensure you achieve these goals. The goal letter will be returned to you at the second class session in November. Your final assignment for the class will be to review the goals you had set during the summer expedition and write a paper that discusses how far you have come in accomplishing your first semester goals. Specific requirements for this final paper will be handed out during your class in November as well.

### Post Trip Reflection Paper: (100pts, 10%)

Upon completion of the summer expedition, you are required to write a four to seven page paper on the experience. **Be sure to list which program you participated in and the dates of the program.**

- The paper should be a reflection upon your Adventure West Virginia experiences with an analysis of how/if at all the Adventure West Virginia program was effective in helping you adjust to WVU and college life.
- It is important to be specific in describing aspects of the program most important to you, as well as aspects of the experience that did not help or may have hindered your adjustment.
- Describe your experience in a manner that helps the reader understand your emotions; fears, joys, challenges, thrills, and annoyances. This paper will be used to help determine how to adjust future Adventure West Virginia experiences.
- Describe how the program has impacted your view of West Virginia (not at all for some, maybe a great deal for others).

- Did the program challenge some of your assumptions? Reinforce ideas you already had? What were the most important aspects of the program in effecting your views of West Virginia?

**Some questions to ask yourself when writing this paper include:**

- How was I challenged?
- How did I overcome challenges?
- How, if at all, did the week help with starting college?
- What way (if at all) did the program change your perceptions about WVU and/or West Virginia?
- What are my overall thoughts of the program?
- This paper is due at the Reunion Picnic on Sunday August 26<sup>th</sup> at the ball room in the Mountain Lair from 7-9pm. Make sure your name, program # is on your paper and you put it with other papers from your program.

**Paper Due Date: August 30th, 2009** at Adventure WV Reunion (we recommend doing it before the start of school—because there is a lot going on the first week of school)

**Instructions for turning in your Reflection Paper:**

Two parts of the paper are due on Aug. 30th at the Reunion.

1. Bring a hard copy of your paper to the reunion. Make sure your name and program number are on the paper and that it is placed in the correct program pile.
2. E-mail a digital copy of your paper to: [adventurewv@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:adventurewv@mail.wvu.edu) . When you send your electronic copy of your paper it is preferred that you send the paper as a word document, or in rich text format.
  - a.) If you have Microsoft Word as your word processor, simply attach the document and send it along.
  - b.) If you do not have Microsoft Word, then save your document in Rich Text Format.
  - c.) The filename of the document should include your last name and program number. *For example: smith\_program15.doc*

**University Welcome (New Student Convocation) and First Floor Meeting:**  
(Required or one letter grade reduction)

The University Welcome serves as West Virginia University's official introduction to welcome new students. WVU challenges new students to succeed through academics, civic responsibility, service to others, leadership training, and lifetime learning. For on-campus freshman, the first floor meeting is a time for residence hall students to meet other residents on their floor, learn residence hall policies, and begin to build a relationship with their floor mates, RA, and other residence hall staff. To receive credit for attending the events you must save the "attendance tickets" that are passed out and attach them to your Reflection Paper.

*Note: Commuting students will only receive one ticket when they attend the University Welcome – commuters will not attend a residence hall floor meeting.*

**Information Security Awareness: (50pts, 5%)**

Students will complete a 20 question pre-assessment and six modules (Introduction to Information Security, Email Security, Copyright Infringement, Password Security, Virus Protection, Identity Theft) of five questions each. Additional modules (Instant Messaging, Social Engineering, Web Browser) may be available for extra credit. In order to complete this activity, login to the eCampus website. Information from these modules will be discussed in class. **All modules, quizzes and the Pre Assessment must be completed and submitted by September 4th, 2009.**

**Classroom Meetings: (100pts, 10%)**

We will meet twice during the semester (please see last page of syllabus for times and location of your class.) Attendance is required. If you have a conflicting class you must contact us **at least one week in advance** and provide a copy of your course schedule showing the conflict and we can reschedule you for another class. There will be no make up classes for students who do not show up.

**Center for Civic Engagement Assignment: (200pts, 20%)**

You will be required to complete one three to five-hour long service learning project project. All projects must be scheduled and approved through the Center for Civic Engagement (293-8761x3384). You will need to sign up for a project at the CCE by Oct 1. The project must be completed by November 6th. In addition, students will be required to write a 3 page paper on various aspects of the project. We will go over this process during the 1<sup>st</sup> class session.

**Online Quizzes: (150pts, 15%)**

Each quiz is worth 50 points. All quizzes are posted on eCampus and **must be completed by the due date**. Please refer to the course schedule for due dates.

**Other Activities:**

**Adventure WV Reunion: Sunday August 30, 2007 7pm—9pm** in the Mountainlair Ballroom (top floor). **Wear your Adventure WV shirt!** Make sure you bring your reflection paper and email us a digital copy to: [adventurewv@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:adventurewv@mail.wvu.edu) . **The papers are DUE at the reunion!** This is a chance to meet up with your whole Adventure group. We will be showing a slideshow from your trip along with other Adventure WV trips, followed by a raffle to win rafting trips, outdoor gear, and cool WVU prizes. Raffle will be at the end of the slideshow and you must be present to win.

**Evaluation**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>%</b>
Participation and Attendance	200	20%
Journal	100	10%
Goal Letter and Reflection	100	10%
Post Trip Reflection Paper	100	10%
University Welcome and first Floor Meeting	(required or grade letter reduction)	
Classroom Meetings (2 meetings)	100	10%

Information Security Awareness pre-Assessment	20	2%
Information Security Awareness Modules (6 modules)	30	3%
Center for Civic Engagement Project	200	20%
Quizzes		
Quiz 1 (Due 9/25)	50	5%
Quiz 2 (Due 10/16)	50	5%
Quiz 3 (Due 11/20)	50	5%
<b>Course work Total</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Grade Scale:**

A 93-100	A- 90-92.99
B+ 87-89.99	B 83-86.99
B- 80-82.99	C+ 77-79.99
C 70-76.99	D 60-69.99
F 59 and below	

**LATE POLICY**

**Important:**

- Hand in all assignments to the Adventure WV office, not the Outdoor Rec Center.
- Do not leave them under our doors or in our mailbox as they may not collect the assignment for several days and you will be penalized for additional lateness. There is also a risk it could get lost!
- Always keep a personal copy of your assignment.
- Do not expect your instructor to open a file sent by email or a disk copy of your work, unless arranged beforehand. **All assignments must be handed in as hard paper copies and typed.**

<b>Period of Lateness</b>	<b>Deduction</b>
Up to 24 hours after the due time	10% of the value of the assignment
From 24 hours to 48 hours after the due time	20% of the value of the assignment
From 48 hours to 72 hours after the due time	30% of the values of the assignment
From 72 hours + after the due time	100% of the value of the assignment

Extensions will only be granted in justified cases. **NOTE:** This **does not** include workload, sporting events, field trips etc. Documentation for justified cases will be expected (i.e., medical certificate, death notice etc.). Late assignment work will not be accepted or graded if it is handed in more than 72 hours after the due time. However, to receive a final grade for a course you may have to have completed all assignments.

**Academic Honesty and Integrity**

In this course and all courses at WVU, we expect and value academic honesty and integrity. We expect that our students will subscribe to the following: “Students should act to prevent opportunities for academic dishonesty to occur and in such a manner to discourage any type of academic dishonesty.... Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism; cheating and dishonest practices in connection with examinations, papers, and projects; and forgery, misrepresentation, and fraud.” (WVU Undergraduate Catalog)

***WVU’s Social Justice/Disability Statement***

West Virginia University is committed to social justice. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. The instructor of this course concurs with that commitment and expects to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise the instructor and make appropriate arrangements with Disability Services (293-6700).

**Adventure WV Fall '09 Course Schedule**  
**Odyssey WV Program 30: August 8-14, 2009**

- **August 23, 2009 Sunday:** University Welcome and 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting
- **August 30, 2009 Sunday:** 7pm—9pm in the Mountainlair Ballroom (top floor). *Wear your Adventure WV shirt!* Make sure you bring your reflection paper and email us a digital copy to: [adventurewv@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:adventurewv@mail.wvu.edu) . **The papers are DUE at the reunion!** This is a chance to meet up with your whole Adventure group. We will be showing a slideshow from your trip along with other Adventure WV trips, followed by a raffle to win rafting trips, outdoor gear, and cool WVU prizes. Raffle will be at the end of the slideshow and you must be present to win.
- **September 4, 2009:** Information Security Awareness modules and pre-assessment assignment due.
- **September 16, 2009:** 1<sup>st</sup> Class Meeting 7:30-9:30pm @ room G21 Life Sciences Building. Bring your daily planner and syllabi for all of your classes.
- **September 25, 2009:** Quiz 1 due
- **September and October:** You should be working on your CCE Project!
- **October 16, 2009:** Quiz 2 due
- **November 6, 2009:** CCE Project and due. All hours must be complete and paper turned in to the Center for Civic Engagement.
- **November 18, 2009:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Meeting 7:30-9:30pm @ room G21 Life Sciences Building .
- **November 20, 2009:** Quiz 3 due
- **December 4, 2009:** Goal Letter Reflection Assignment Due. This is your final assignment for this course. A description of the assignment will be handed out during your 2<sup>nd</sup> class meeting. Paper is due at the Adventure WV office by 4:30pm.