

APPLIED SCIENCE & MANAGEMENT DIVISION

RRMT 201

Winter Travel and Survival

3 Credit Course

Winter, 2021



COURSE OUTLINE

RRMT 201

Winter Travel and Survival

Non-credit course

PREPARED BY: Ryan Agar, Instructor

DATE: November 30, 2020

APPROVED BY: Joel Cubley, Chair, School of Science

DATE: December 1, 2020



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>.

WINTER TRAVEL AND SURVIVAL

INSTRUCTOR: Ryan Agar

OFFICE LOCATION: n/a

E-MAIL: ragar@yukonu.ca

TELEPHONE: please contact the
School of Science (867) 668-8887

OFFICE HOURS: Upon request

CLASSROOM: C1440

TIMES: See course format section below

DATES: January 22, January 29, February
5, February 13, February 20, February 27,
2021

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is a non-credit field course to help prepare students for working and travelling in the wilderness in winter by providing basic training and practice in wilderness travel, survival and dealing with emergencies.

PREREQUISITES

Registration in the Renewable Resources Management program, or permission from the course instructor.

RELATED COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Significant sections of this course take place outdoors in winter conditions. During field days, students can expect to spend the majority of the day outside.

PHYSICAL FITNESS

In order to safely participate in this course students should have a reasonable level of personal fitness. At a minimum, students should be able to:

- travel on foot in winter conditions at a pace of 2 km per hour for up to four hours while carrying a 20-pound pack.

EQUIPMENT

Students are required to have appropriate personal equipment and clothing to work and travel safely in winter conditions for three to four hours at temperatures that may be below -20 °C. Every student must have their own 30 – 40 L backpack for personal and group gear.

A gear list is provided as a guide. If uncertain, students should communicate with the instructor *before* the first class.

Gear Lists

Clothing

- () Wool and/or Synthetic Socks
- () Base Layer Top - Synthetic, wool or silk
- () Base Layer Bottoms - Synthetic, wool or silk
- () Mid-Insulation Layer Top - Pile (fleece), light synthetic fill or wool sweater/jacket
- () Mid-Insulation Layer Bottom - Pile pants or multipurpose pants
- () Light Wind Shell - Windproof, water resistant layer for high aerobic work
- () Weather Layer Top - Gore-Tex or other waterproof breathable jacket
- () Weather Layer Pants - Gore-Tex or other waterproof breathable pants
- () Warm Outer Jacket - Down or synthetic
- () Toque - Wool or Synthetic
- () Face Warmer - Scarf, neck tube, face mask
- () Light Gloves - Wool, synthetic or leather
- () Insulated Gloves or Mitts - Wool or synthetic, w/ weather proof outershell
- () Gaiters - if pants do not secure over boots
- () Insulated hiking boots or winter boots

Personal Equipment

- () Pack - Light, and comfortable, 30-40 litres
- () Sunglasses
- () Sun and Lip Cream
- () Head Lamp
- () Insulated Water Bottle or Thermos
- () Lunch
- () Blister Kit
- () Individual First Aid Kit (IFAC)
- () Pocket Knife
- () Camera - *Optional*
- () Binoculars - *Optional*

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

No credit is given for this course but successful completion is required for graduation from the Renewable Resources Management diploma program.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will have knowledge of and be able to practice at a basic level:

- planning and preparation for winter wilderness survival in terms of clothing, shelter, water, food, emergency kits and psychological factors,
- tips and suggestions for winter camping,
- winter travel using skis or snowshoes,
- building of snow or brush shelters,
- recognition and first aid for hypothermia and frostbite,
- safe operation, loading and unloading of A.T.V.'s or snowmobiles,
- safe travel on snow and river and lake ice, and
- wilderness ethics.

COURSE FORMAT

This course will blend face-to-face lecture delivery with practical application of knowledge in a winter setting. On two Friday afternoons (January 22, February 5), students will have theory presentations and hands-on practice on campus, from 1 – 4 pm. This will alternative with full-day Saturday field instruction on January 29th and February 13th. On *either* Saturday, February 20th or Saturday, February 27th, students will participate in a full-day (7 hour), mandatory snowmobile safety course delivered by a Yukon Government instructor. More details to follow at the start of the course and on the Moodle site.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, *face-to-face theory instruction will take place in a lab setting where physical distancing will be maintained at all times.* Regardless, following YukonU policies at the time of the writing of this course outline, mask use will be mandatory at all times where physical distancing minimums cannot be reasonably maintained.

ASSESSMENTS:

Attendance & Participation

Attendance is mandatory at all lecture and field sessions. Every student is expected to actively participate in class activities; attendance alone does not result in full marks for the participation component.

Assignments

Each student is required to develop and submit a Winter Work/Travel Safety Plan, in advance of their final field outing on Feb. 13th. Additional details will be provided in class.

Tests

Students will be assessed in the field on demonstrated ability to complete essential tasks such as:

- building a fire
- constructing improvised shelters
- layering and moisture management
- travelling safely in winter terrain

EVALUATION:

Winter Work/Travel Safety Plan	15%
Participation	40%
Demonstrate Competency	45%
Total	100%

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIAL

There is no required textbook, but it is recommended that students acquire the following resource for supplementary background reading.

Alford, Monty. Winter Wise. Travel and Survival in Snow and Ice. Heritage House Publishing Co. Ltd: Victoria, British Columbia. 168 p.

ATV OR SNOWMOBILE OPERATORS COURSE

RRMT 201 includes at no extra cost the “The Canada Safety Council ’ ATV (All Terrain Vehicle) Operators Course”. This entails one introductory classroom session (to be scheduled) and one full-day practical session.

Students can bring personal ATVs’s if they wish, but they must be operational, registered, insured, and used with a helmet. Please notify the course instructor in advance if you are bringing a personal machine. Otherwise, ATVs will be provided at no charge.

On the full day practical session, students are expected to dress accordingly for the conditions and be able to spend a full day outside (ie. no running shoes, only winter footwear!). Students will also need a lunch. Transportation to the field site is provided and encouraged. Students must operate ATVs in a safe and responsible manner, wear helmets, and follow directions of instructor(s). Failure to do so will prohibit participation. The university reserves the right to offer snowmobile training instead of ATV training depending on weather conditions, and marginal or hazardous weather could require this component be postponed.

ACADEMIC AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Information on academic standing and student rights and responsibilities can be found in the current Academic Regulations that are posted on the Student Services/ Admissions & Registration web page.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when a student submits work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, without citing the source from which the material is taken. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of work, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Students may use sources which are public domain or licensed under Creative Commons; however, academic documentation standards must still be followed. Except with explicit permission of the instructor, resubmitting work which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the University.

YUKON FIRST NATIONS CORE COMPETENCY

Yukon University recognizes that a greater understanding and awareness of Yukon First Nations history, culture and journey towards self-determination will help to build positive relationships among all Yukon citizens. As a result, to graduate from ANY Yukon University program, you will be required to achieve core competency in knowledge of Yukon First Nations. For details, please see www.yukonu.ca/yfnccr.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, they should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): lac@yukonu.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Date*	Time	Location	Topic
January 22	1 – 4 PM	On-campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Your Trip • Strategies and Tactics for Staying Warm • Identifying cold emergencies
January 29	9 AM – 2 PM	Field: Practice and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelters • Fire building • Winter Travel • Layering and Moisture Management • Winter Terrain Identification
February 5	1 – 4 PM	On-campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tools for Winter Travel • Psychology of Survival • Calling for Help
February 13	9 AM – 5 PM	Field	Sumanik Ridge Walk-out
February 20	9 AM – 4 PM	Field	ATV/Snowmobile Course
February 27	9 AM – 4 PM	Field	ATV/Snowmobile Course

*Dates are tentative and subject to change depending on weather and other factors.