



ATBO-107 – Natural Interpretation

Business

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2022
Course Outline Review Date: 2024-01-01

Program Area: Tourism, Recreation, & Hospitality

Description:

This course helps participants acquire knowledge and develop skills in the interpretation of natural landscapes. It is an introduction to the natural history of the Rockies and Columbia Mountains of BC: the landscape, geology, flora and fauna, species identification, ecosystem relationships and biogeoclimatic zones of the interior mountain environment. This course is for front-line interpreters involved in the preparation and presentation of interpretative topics related to the Adventure Tourism industry.

Program Information:

This is a required course of the Adventure Tourism Business Operations Diploma Program. It is typically taken in the first year of ATBO studies.

Delivery Methods: On-campus (Face-to-Face), Practicum

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	21
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	24

Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	45

Course Requisites:

- Corequisites: Enrolment in the Adventure Tourism Business Operations Certificate Program.

Flexible Assessment: Yes

In some cases students may be able to apply for recognition of prior learning outside the classroom. This flexible assessment process provides equivalent course credit. It is a rigorous process that may include external evaluation, worksite assessment, demonstration, standardized test, self-assessment, interview, products/portfolio, and challenge exam, or other measures as appropriate. Tuition fees apply. Contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see <https://www.bctransferguide.ca/> or <https://transferalberta.alberta.ca> . For more transfer credit information, please visit <https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer>

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrolment Services office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Required Text

Ben Gadd, *Handbook of the Canadian Rockies* (2nd edition, 2016 printing)

Suggested Reading

Harley McAllister and Abby McAllister, *Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills*, (8th or 9th

edition), Seattle, The Mountaineers

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator <https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/> for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- understand and explain the role and value of natural history interpretation in guiding and outdoor education;
- understand the basis for biogeoclimatic zonation in the province and be able to differentiate the zones that occur in the Rockies and Columbia Mountains, identify indicators of each zone, and describe how plant and animal species are adapted to the zones in which they live;
- deliver a short lesson on a natural history topic by way of an informative talk;
- speak knowledgeably on a broad base of introductory information in the topic areas of flora and fauna, species identification, and ecosystem relationships;
- develop a depth of information about a specific area of the province in terms of climate, biodiversity, ecological relationships, geology, and/or cultural history;
- communicate clearly, concisely, and correctly in written, spoken, and visual forms that meet the needs of natural interpretation audiences; and
- reframe information, ideas, and concepts using narrative, visual, and symbolic representations which demonstrate understanding.

This course should help the student:

- develop the ability to discuss and present information on the natural history, flora and fauna, and biogeoclimatic zonation of the Rocky Mountains and Columbia Mountains of B.C.;
 - develop interpretive techniques based on the fundamental principles of interpretation;
 - develop the confidence and skill needed for effective interpretation;
 - develop interpretive materials; and
 - prepare and deliver interpretive talks.
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Course Topics:

- Flora and fauna of the Canadian mountain environment
- Species identification and the binomial nomenclature of species
- Climate and biogeoclimatic zonation
- Ecological systems and relationships
- Geology and physiography of the Rockies and Columbias
- Plate tectonics and mountain building

- Human history in the Rockies and Columbias
- Presentation skills
- Interpretive writing
- Field trips (4) to varied mountain environments

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments.

Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face)

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Presentation	20%
Field trip homework assignments	30%
Writing assignments	20%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Pass requirements: None

Evaluation Notes: A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments, and use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a "0" on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at

<https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
 - Policy 2.4.4 Student Conduct (plagiarism, other cheating, behavioral misconduct)
 - Policy 2.5.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.5.3 Grade Appeal
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Concerns Re Faculty
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Equivalent Course(s) and Course Code Changes

Equivalent Course: Students who have received COTR credit for ATBO 107 may not receive additional credit for MAST 114.

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.