



MAST-111 – Risk Management in Adventure Tourism

Business

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025
Course Outline Review Date: 2030-03-01

Program Area: Tourism, Recreation, & Hospitality

Description:

This course equips students with the knowledge and skills to effectively manage risk in adventure tourism. Emphasizing the value of risk in fostering growth and resilience, it explores the latest thinking in the field of safety science. Through practical exercises and real-world case studies, students will learn to balance adventure and risk management in outdoor settings.

Program Information:

This course is required for completion of MAST certificate.

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	41
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	4
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	

Total	45
-------	----

Course Requisites:

None

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy [2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or 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:

Baierlein, J. (2019). *Risk Management For Outdoor Programs: A Guide to Safety in Outdoor Education, Recreation and Adventure*. Viristar LLC.

Jackson, J. & Heshka, J. (2011). *Managing Risk, Systems Planning for Outdoor Adventure Programs*, Direct Bearing Inc.

Smith, S. (2021). *Beneficial Risks: The Evolution of Risk Management for Outdoor and*

Experiential Education Program: Theories, Research and Lessons Learned Through Experience. Sagamore Publishing.

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:

- ? define and evaluate risk in adventure tourism, recognizing its value and challenges;
 - ? relate mission and operational goals with effective risk management practices;
 - ? identify and analyze personal and organizational risk philosophies;
 - ? explain the role of standards in risk management;
 - ? analyze incident causation and reporting systems to identify contributing factors and prevent recurrence;
 - ? explain fundamental legal principles relevant to adventure tourism;
 - ? demonstrate proficiency in delivering waivers;
 - ? conduct risk assessments and apply appropriate risk mitigation strategies;
 - ? communicate risks and responsibilities while engaging stakeholders;
 - ? develop trip plans and emergency response plans tailored to adventure tourism; and
 - ? apply systems thinking to monitor, evaluate, and improve risk management processes.
-

Course Topics:

- ? The Value of Risk
- ? Mission-Aligned Risk Management
- ? Risk Philosophies
- ? The Role of Standards
- ? Incident Causation
- ? Safety Culture
- ? Legal Principles
- ? Waivers
- ? Risk Assessments: likelihood, consequence, vulnerability, and exposure
- ? Risk Mitigation Strategies
- ? Risk Communication
- ? Trip Planning
- ? Emergency Preparedness
- ? Incident Reporting
- ? Risk Management Documentation

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
Class Participation	10%
Legal Case Review	30%
Risk Management Plan Blueprint	40%
Quizzes	20%
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

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

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 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Equivalent Course(s) and Course Code Changes

Equivalent Course: Students who have received COTR credit for MAST 111 may not receive additional credit for ATBO 109.

Prior Course Code: MSTA 111 >> MAST 111

Date changed: March 2009

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.