



## MAST-145 – Whitewater Raft Guide Training 1

### Business

**Effective Term & Year:** Fall 2025

**Course Outline Review Date:** 2030-03-01

**Program Area:** Tourism, Recreation, & Hospitality

#### Description:

This course introduces students to the BC Rafting Industry. It prepares students to gain competency in rafting skills, leadership on the river and an understanding of guide standards in the rafting industry. Students will learn how to read whitewater, manage a team in the raft, perform river rescues, rig a raft, and maneuver a raft in up to class 3 water. Students will gain experience and exposure in up to class 4 waters.

#### Program Information:

This course is required for graduation and is the prerequisite for MAST 166 Whitewater Raft Guide Training 2.

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

**Credit Type:** College of the Rockies Credits

**Credits:** 2

#### Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	40

Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

### Course Requisites:

- Completed the following:
  - **MAST165** – Swiftwater Rescue Technician 3 (2)

### 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:

Jeff Bennett, (1996). The Complete Whitewater Rafter, Ragged Mountain Press, Camden Maine, British Columbia.

River Rafting Guide Certification Manual, 2002. Registrar of Commercial River Rafting, Province of British Columbia.

*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:

- identify river dynamics;
- identify and utilize all rafting equipment, related safety gear and clothing;
- demonstrate river rescue techniques and self-rescue techniques; and
- maneuver the raft in up to class 2/3 water using oar and paddle strokes.

## Course Topics:

- Dynamics of moving water including water mechanics, current types, volume, gradient, obstacles, hazards, types of waves, types of holes and rapid classifications
- Raft materials, designs, valves, tie in points, accessories, repair equipment and procedures, oars, oar frames, paddles, ropes, lifejackets, wet suits, helmets and footwear
- Maneuvering the raft in class 2 water using paddle strokes and commands
- Experience and exposure to class 3 and 4 river sections
- Entering and exit eddies using oar and paddle strokes
- Rescue of an endangered person from the raft and from shore
- Offensive swimming techniques in moving water
- Throw bags and rope throwing

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 Attendance & Participation	10%
Rafting Skills	45%
Leadership, risk management, and professionalism	45%
Total	100%

### Grade Scheme

COM	NCG
Completed to the minimum defined standard	No credit granted – less than minimum defined standard

**Evaluation Notes Comments:**

Students must complete each learning outcome to at least a novice level to pass the course. Novice level is determined in the Competency Scale Description provided by the program.

**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**

Prior Course Code: MASD 215 Whitewater Rafting Section A & B >> MAST 145 Whitewater Raft Guide Training 1

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.

