



MAST-166 – Whitewater Raft Guide Training 2

Business

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025

Course Outline Review Date: 2030-03-01

Program Area: Tourism, Recreation, & Hospitality

Description:

Building upon Whitewater Raft Guide Training 1, this course gives students advanced skills and maneuvers in rivers up to Class 4. Students refine river reading skills, work as a team and learn advanced guiding skills. Students develop leadership skills to coach and command a raft crew in preparation for meeting the qualifications required by the BC Rafting Outfitters Association. Multiple days on the Elk and Bull rivers will allow students to develop strong team rafting skills as well as safety and risk management practices.

Program Information:

This course is an elective running concurrently with MAST 167: Introduction to Whitewater Kayaking.

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	
Total	40

Course Requisites:

- Completed the following:
 - [MAST145 – Whitewater Raft Guide Training 1 \(2\)](#)

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 and interpret river dynamics;
- identify and utilize all rafting equipment, related safety gear and clothing;
- demonstrate competence in rigging the raft to prepare it for river travel;
- demonstrate river rescue techniques and self-rescue techniques;
- demonstrate control in manoeuvring the raft in up to class 3 water using oar and paddle strokes;
- gain experience through exposure to rafting in up to class 4 water;
- deliver a Safety talk as outlined in the BC River Rafting Guide Certification Manual; and
- demonstrate competence in coaching/commanding 'clients' in specified paddle strokes to assist movement of raft in desired direction.

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
- Manoeuvring the raft in class 3 water using back rowing, turning and ferrying;
- Class 4 water dynamics and raft handling
- Entering and exit specified eddies using oar and paddle strokes
- Offensive swimming techniques in moving water
- Throw bags and rope throwing
- Leadership skills in simulated rescue scenarios
- Safety talk as outlined in the BC River Rafting Guide Certification Manual
- Manoeuvring raft using advanced techniques such as: ferrying, staying parallel, turns and sideslips, eddy manoeuvres, lining, scouting, righting a capsized raft

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 and participation	10%

Advancement in rafting skills throughout the course	45%
Advancement in overall professionalism, skill acquisition, and attention to safety	45%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

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

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 166 Whitewater Raft Guide Training 2

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.