

Wilderness Navigation

Course Outline and Requirements

Class Schedule:

Friday November 7, 6:00pm – 9:15pm
Saturday November 8, 8:00am – 5:40pm
Sunday November 9, 8:00am – 5:40pm
(Class does not meet the weekend in between)
Friday November 21, 6:00pm – 10:15pm*
Saturday November 22, 9:00am* – 5:40pm
Sunday November 23, 8:00am – 5:40pm

* Note these two times are an hour different than previously published.
This is to allow time for some night navigation problems.

Required Text:

1. Wilderness Navigation; Finding Your Way Using Map, Compass, Altimeter & GPS; 2nd edition.
Burns & Burns. The Mountaineers. 2004. ISBN 0-89886-953-6

Prerequisite Knowledge:

1. Knowledge of basic math and geometry.

Stuff you Need:

1. Clipboard or notebook, pen or pencil
2. Calculator
3. Your Compass -- if you already own one. Don't go buy one until after the class, we have loaners.
4. Your GPS -- if you already own one. Again we have loaners, so don't rush out and buy one
5. Headlamp or flashlight for our second Friday night session.

Course Objectives: At the successful completion of this course you will be able to:

1. Use topographic maps in wilderness navigation situations
2. Plan wilderness travel routes using various types of maps.
3. Use various tools and techniques to determine position in a wilderness setting.
4. Understand and employ techniques for wilderness navigation with and without electronic devices.

Major Topics to be Covered:

1. The human navigation process
2. Types of maps
3. Map projections
4. Global Positioning System
5. Map Coordinate Systems
6. USGS topographic maps
7. Map scale
8. Topography
9. Using a compass
10. Measuring distance in the field
11. Route planning / route finding
12. Using an altimeter

Parking

You need to pay or have a permit. They do write tickets, even on weekends.

Lunch

Bring your own. Campus food service will be closed and there isn't much that's close.
There is a good Farmers Market on Saturday
Grocery store and fast food on Saratoga Ave, other side of Hwy 85.

Homework

There will be out-of class reading and problem solving assignments.

Attendance Requirements

You are expected to attend all classes and are required to participate in all field exercises.
There are points awarded for attendance and participation.

Determination of the Final Grade

The top score in the class will be the benchmark at 100%. Grades will be determined as follows:

- A \geq 90% of the highest number points scored by an individual
- B \geq 80% but $<$ 90%
- C \geq 70% but $<$ 80%
- D \geq 60% but $<$ 70%
- F $<$ 60%

Thus if the top score in the class is 940 points and you receive 725 points your grade would be $725/940 = 77\% = C$. Conventional rounding of whole numbers will be used.

Quizzes may not be made up. Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class on or before due date.

Point Breakdown for course:

Classroom attendance and participation Δ	100 points
Quiz	100 points
Homework assignments	100 points
Total score possible	300 points

Δ = Student must participate in entire class to receive credit

Instructor Information

Office Location: Classroom before and after class

Phone Number: 650/529-9410 650/867-0170 Mobile

E-mail: john@maptools.com

Website: <http://maptools.com/pkmgmt024> userid = pkmgmt24 password = contour

Office Hours: 30 minutes before and after class

Emergency Procedures

West Valley College is one of the safest campuses in California. However, earthquakes and other incidents have been known to happen. The college has an emergency procedures plan. This document includes how to respond to emergencies that might occur on campus and in the classroom. A copy of the plan is available to review from the Division Office or me. A condensed version in the form of a yellow colored flip chart is posted along with other emergency information on the bulletin board at the southeast corner of the classroom near the fire extinguisher and first aid kit.

I strongly urge each of you to have basic emergency supplies in your car and have a flashlight with you when you are on campus, especially at night. Please ask me for a list of supplies that I carry in my car if you are not sure what to have.

EVACUATION: In the event of an evacuation, the emergency assembly area for this classroom is across Theater Way in Parking Lot #1 (Head east from the classroom across the street).

Important phone numbers and location of emergency supplies:

Life threatening emergency - regular phones 911

Life threatening emergency - campus phones 9-911

Life threatening emergency - cellular phones 408/299-2311

Student health services on campus x2222 (741-2222)

Safety escort x2092 (741-2092)

Instructor and Student Responsibilities

This information is printed in the College Catalog.

Disability and Educational Support Program:

The primary purpose is to integrate all disabled students into classes and programs beside their fellow students. A variety of services and special classes are provided in an effort to equalize educational opportunities for students with disabilities. Services include:

Interpreters, Counseling, Note Takers, Specialized Equipment, Readers, Registration Priority, Mobility Assistance, Liaison with Faculty, Special Parking, Community Liaison, Braille Transcription, Instructional Support, Campus Orientation, and Test-Taking Assistance.

Classroom: Village Portables, Room 17 (NE most portable)

Student and Instructor Responsibilities

Information is available in the College Catalogue.

Classroom Decorum

As a courtesy to your fellow students and me please switch your pagers and cell phones off or put them on non-audible (vibrate) mode. If you smoke tobacco products only do so in safe locations and always downwind from me and other students. And collect your butts. Please do not smoke on campus except in the parking lots. Thanks.