Advanced Field Practicum: Wilderness First Responder & Expedition Leadership Training

Richmond, Indiana and Killarney Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada

May Term 2017: May 8 – May 30

Course Description:
Advanced Field Practicum (AFP – EDUC-311, 0-3 credits) is an intensive experiential program designed for those seeking to work or recreate in remote field locations. AFP comprises two independent components that are scheduled consecutively to make a full May Term:

Wilderness First Responder (EDUC-311-1, 0 or 2 credits) – WFR is an industry-standard, internationally recognized 80-hour First Aid certification course. The immersive 9 day course is perfect for anyone working in a position of leadership in an outdoor setting, or for individuals who want a high level of wilderness medical training for extended personal backcountry trips or expeditions. Participants will learn systems for patient assessment, extended care (including CPR), and rescue/evacuation in remote settings.

Expedition Leadership Training (EDUC-311-2, 0 or 1 credit) – This is a 12 day expedition to a world-class backcountry canoe destination in Killarney Provincial Park, Ontario, Canada. The curriculum emphasis is on applied leadership and technical skills for developing outdoor educators. Students will have an integral role in the planning and day to day leadership of the expedition. Participants will learn and teach topics including advanced canoe skills, campcraft, navigation, environmental issues, group facilitation, and risk management.

Course Outcomes and Pre-requisites:
Students completing WFR will receive certification from SOLO, valid for 3 years. The WFR course requires no previous wilderness medicine experience. Completion of WFR and/or Expedition Leadership Training counts towards the requirements of Earlham’s Designation in Outdoor Education. Completion of AFP is favored for staffing of student instructors on Earlham’s Outdoor Education Programs, including AWPE, Outdoor Trip Leadership and August Wilderness. Applicants for Expedition Leadership Training are expected to have completed AWPE-220/EDUC-211 Outdoor Trip Leadership (or faculty exemption based on experience).

Faculty:
Andy Clifford, Director of Outdoor & Environmental Education. Andy joined the Earlham faculty in June 2016, having most recently worked as an instructor and program supervisor for NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School) in the U.S. and New Zealand. In offering this May Term, Andy is excited to share his outdoor industry experience and earth sciences background to continue Earlham’s trend of developing strong, environmentally-aware student leaders.

Other Partners:
WFR will be run on campus at Earlham by instructors from SOLO, a leading provider of wilderness medicine courses. Based out of Conway, NH, SOLO offers courses across the country and around the world. See http://soloschools.com for more details.
Living arrangements:
WFR will be hosted on-campus at Earlham. Students may choose to live in college accommodation, subject to availability and payment of an additional fee. For the duration of the Killarney expedition we will be tent camping in groups of 3-4. Camping fees are included in the course cost.

Provisional Itinerary:

May 8   WFR (and WFR recertification) begins at 8 am, Earlham campus (location TBA)
May 8-16  WFR meets every day 8 am – 4 pm
May 10   WFR recertification course concludes
May 16   WFR course concludes
May 17   Day Off
May 18   Expedition preparation and packing
May 19   Start drive to Ontario
May 20   Arrive at Killarney Provincial Park and begin expedition
May 21-29  Canoe expedition
May 29   Complete expedition and begin return drive to Earlham
May 30   Arrive at Earlham, de-issue gear and clean up

Cost:
The breakdown of course fees is as follows:

WFR: $550 (WFR recertification: $170) – course and course materials only – students are responsible for accommodation and food costs 8-18 May.

Expedition Leadership Training: $750 – includes van transport, camp-sites, permits, field food, and use of group expedition gear (canoe equipment, packs, stoves, tents, sleeping bags, etc) from 19-30 May.

Advanced Field Practicum (WFR + Expedition Leadership Training combined): $1300

Students will need to provide their own basic field clothing (gear lists will be supplied closer to the date) and are responsible for any additional expenses, e.g. passports (required), visas (required for some international students), personal items. Earlham tuition fees may also apply.

Information Sessions & Orientation:

Sep 29 at 4 pm in Dennis 209

There will be 2-3 pre-course orientation sessions during Spring Semester 2017.

Applications & Further Information:

Apply by 5 pm on October 15, 2017

Please read May Term Policies before applying

Submit applications through the Center for Global Education, LBC 131

Further information is available from Andy Clifford in Dennis 212 (cliffan@earlham.edu or 765-983-1790)

PROGRAM PLANS SUBJECT TO CHANGE