Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Outdoor Adventures Leader Training Program (OALTP) which will take place during the Fall 2015 semester and January term 2016. Below are some important details and information about the program. **PLEASE READ THIS.** After reading, if you are interested in pursuing this opportunity, please follow the steps outlined. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us!

Participating in OA leader training is a great experience and a ton of fun! Our leaders create strong bonds during the training and often adventure together after it’s over! We realize that the program is a large investment of time, but the skills you develop and the opportunities you’ll have are very rewarding. Also, if you’re asked to lead for OA after the training, it’s a paid position!

**Application Materials are due by 9/3/15.**

**Important Dates**
We will meet regularly throughout the fall semester on Tuesday (and one Wednesday) evenings. Each meeting will have a different focus to help guide your leadership development. You will also plan and participate in 2 training trips during the fall semester and a trip during January term.

- Tues. 9/8, 7PM – Introduction and overview
- Tues. 9/15, 7PM – Trip Planning and Logistics, Gear Check
- Fri. (evening) 9/18 – Sun. 9/20 – Land-Based training
- Tues. 9/22, 7PM – Trip Planning and Logistics
- Tues. 9/29, 7PM – Trip Proposals and Selection & Teaching 101
- Tues. 10/6, 7PM – Conducting a pre-trip meeting and gear check
- Weds. 10/7, 9PM – Water Based Rescues in indoor pool
- Fri. 10/10 – Sun. 10/12 – Water-Based Training
- Tues. 10/20, 7PM – Risk Management, Policies and Procedures
- Tues. 11/10, 7PM – Leadership and Decision Making
- Sat. 11/14 and Sun. 11/15, 8AM-5PM – Wilderness First Aid
- Tues. 11/17, 7PM – Field Repair, odds and ends
- Tues. 1/12 – Sun. 1/17 – Winter Training (cross country skiing and snowshoe backpacking)

Additionally, you will be asked to shadow one or two trips during the fall semester.

During the field based trainings, we will be hiking and camping together as a group. We will expect all group members to contribute to camp chores and to help create a supportive environment for everyone. Everyone is coming into this training with different experiences and we have the opportunity to learn from and teach each other.

**Required Readings**
Readings to help prep you for different sessions may be assigned.
Leader of the day
During the backpacking and winter trainings, you will be paired with another leader and responsible for leading a portion or entire day. You will be responsible for managing the group and risk during this time. You will be responsible for planning for your day(s) to ensure that it runs smoothly.

Teaching Opportunities
You will also be expected to teach a topic that will be assigned. Topics are related to the trip. A few examples: pack packing, map and compass, tarp setup, stove use, river crossing, etc. You will have time to prepare for your topic and can do research or ask other leaders/myself for ideas!

Food
All food during trainings will be provided.

Clothing and Gear
If you do not own your own gear such as a backpack, sleeping bag or sleeping pad, you can borrow them from OA. It is highly suggested that you begin to acquire these items on your own so when you’re ready to lead you do not have to borrow gear. All group gear and technical gear will always be provided when you’re leading (stoves, xc skis, tents, etc). You will need to have sturdy hiking boots and non-cotton layers (nylon, fleece, polypro, under armour) to wear during the trips.

Working for OA after the program
Participating in this training does not guarantee work with OA. Employment offers will be based on need, your experience and your performance on the training. You may be offered zero, one trip or 5 trips! There is a possibility that you’ll go right into a leader role, or we may suggest that you shadow some OA trips to gain some more experience. It’s also a possibility (slight, but could happen) that we’ll decide that the program and your skills do not match up.

Certifications
All of our trip leaders are expected to be certified in CPR and Wilderness First Aid or higher. CPR courses are offered regularly through the Rec. Center. Outdoor Adventures will be offering a Wilderness First Aid course in November which will be no cost to trainees.

Are you going to be a senior this coming fall?
If so, we are not able to accommodate you in the training program. Because we will not be finished training until January 2016, the investment is too high to only have you lead for one semester.

Would you like to apply?
□ Please send a cover letter and resume to cary.rhodes@unh.edu by 9/3/15. If you have current certifications, please include a copy of them. You can also drop your materials off at the Rec. Center front desk and have the staff put them in my mailbox. Acceptance to the program is rolling so send in your application materials early to have a better chance. Incoming freshman (starting in Fall 2015) are welcome to apply (even before you arrive on campus).

Please let us know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

Cary Rhodes
Outdoor Programs Coordinator