

SUNY Plattsburgh M.S. in Expeditionary Studies (EXP) Degree Completion Plan (DCP)

The purpose of the Degree Completion Plan is multi-faceted. First of all, it identifies an individualized pathway to success for each EXP graduate student. Though like all plans, this one is open to change, the intention is for both student and department to have a holistic view of the way each individual will integrate course work with personal development in relation to academic and professional goals. For instance, a student whose primary goals are educational may want to maximize credits in the teaching practicum (EXP 576) and the educational expedition (EXP 537) while a student aspiring to work as a guide may want to maximize credits in the guiding practicum (EXP 577) and the professional expedition (EXP 538).

Second of all, since it is tied to acceptance into the master's degree in expeditionary studies, submission of and approval of the DCP by the department assures both students and faculty that appropriate levels of experience, knowledge, and performance will be part of the student's development during the program. Finally, the components of the DCP guarantee the appropriateness of the student's plan to meet the exit requirement for students to attain agreed upon certifications or their equivalent.

Complete the items on the checklist below and the attached forms (Schedule 1 & 2). Submit these to the Graduate Admissions Office.

1. Completion of the masters degree in expeditionary requires "international certifications or their equivalent in at least two adventure disciplines, by advisor approval. Identify these two adventure disciplines including the specific level of certification.

- a. _____ (discipline) _____ (certification)
- b. _____ (discipline) _____ (certification)

2. A projected calendar for completing course work, including consideration of scheduling classes to coincide with seasonal offerings (see Schedule 1). Though a full-time graduate student load at SUNY Plattsburgh is twelve credit hours, we encourage you to consider a maximum course load of 10 credit hours per semester. When planning to register for EXP 576 or 577, students must take these a semester in advance of the field time attached to the course. For example, anyone planning on teaching rock climbing in Fall, must complete the course work (EXP 576) during the previous Spring or Summer. Similarly, anyone planning on guiding sea kayaking in Spring needs to complete the course work (EXP 577) during Fall semester.

For planning purposes, here is the schedule of undergraduate courses to which EXP 576 & 577 are attached.

Field time for EXP 576 is attached to 100 level, introduction courses. This list identifies what courses are offered when. Plan to take EXP 576 the semester preceding the semester when the course is offered.

EXP 121: Outdoor Living Skills -Fall

EXP 122: Introduction to Paddlesports -Fall

EXP 180: Introduction to Climbing –Fall

EXP 183: Introduction to Ice Climbing -Spring

EXP 186: Introduction to Free-heel Skiing -Spring
EXP 195: Introduction to Whitewater Paddling -Spring

Field time for EXP 577 is attached to 300 level courses. This list identifies what courses are offered when. Plan to take EXP 577 the semester preceding the semester when the course is offered.

Paddling Courses: All 300 paddling courses are offered during Spring semester.

Climbing Courses: All 300 climbing courses are offered during Fall semester.

Skiing Courses: All 300 skiing courses are offered during Spring semester.

3. It is an expectation of the graduate degree in expeditionary studies that students will commit to and participate in regularly scheduled personal trips. Among other considerations, these should be experiences in support of individual student plans to attain certifications (or their equivalent) in two adventure disciplines. Complete a projected calendar of personal experiences which contribute to an ongoing path of professional development, including commitments to personal time outdoors, and formal trainings and assessments for specific certifications or awards, or their equivalent (see Schedule 2).

4. A discussion of personal and professional goals, including but not limited to both performance levels and vocational pursuits. Graduate students should give consideration to and make note of their attention to attending national and regional conferences and symposia, including but not limited to annual meetings such as the Wilderness Risk Management Conference, Association of Experiential Education Conference, Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education, as well as those sponsored by the AMGA and BCU. Include planned attendance in the DCP.

5. A logbook of past field experiences or a structure for developing one.

6.. A professional resume.

Your name: _____

Date: _____

For additional information, please contact:
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