

USS Outdoor Education 11/12 & Kayak 11/12 Program 2022

In 2022 our Outdoor Ed and Kayaking 11/12 Program at USS will be offered as a full-time program in Quarter 4. This will be a unique outdoor education opportunity for our students.

What will the program look like? Here's a brief overview...

- A group of diverse grade 11 and 12 students all working with one teacher, as a cohort, five days a week for an entire quarter in both a classroom and outdoor setting.
- Each student will earn **16 credits** throughout Quarter 4: Outdoor Education 11 and Outdoor Education 12, Kayaking 11, and Kayaking 12. This is 8 more credits (two extra courses) than most students receive in a quarter.
- The beginning of the course will focus on safety, team-building, leadership, and basic outdoor skills that will be used throughout the entire course; such as basic wilderness first aid, VHF radio use, weather, navigation/orienteering and effective communication, etc.
- As the students progress through the course, they will begin with day trips before moving on to overnight and multi-day trips. They will learn camping, leadership, and survival skills. They will receive instruction in stand-up paddle boarding, surfing, kayaking, and canoeing, with a potential for other opportunities.
- The majority of any activity specific equipment and clothing will be provided by the school. Students may also have appropriate and suitable gear that they may wish to use, too. Students will gain knowledge about clothing layering for the weather conditions as well as practice gear maintenance throughout the course.
- Knowledge about the local flora, fauna and marine sciences will be incorporated.
- Whenever possible Nuu-chah-nulth culture will be woven throughout the course.
- Students will learn about planning and funding outdoor trips. They will build to develop a student led expedition to conclude their course. This may require some fundraising on the students' part.

Application Process:

Step 1

- Fill out three-page application form and return it to the school's office **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

Step 2

- Attend an interview upon review of the applications

Step 3

- If accepted into the program, a \$200 deposit is due before the start of Quarter 4 (April 19, 2022). There will be an opportunity through 95% attendance, not damaging any equipment, and completing all portions of the course successfully to earn this fee back.

*** If this fee is a barrier, please let Ms. Thompson know as a bursary may be available.

Step 4

- Attend an orientation meeting with a parent or guardian before the course begins to learn more about the program, ask questions, and fill out medical forms and Assumption of Risk and Waivers.

An ideal candidate for this type of program should:

1. Have a keen interest in outdoor pursuits
2. Have a desire to learn new skills
3. Be willing to work as a part of a team
4. Be happy to be outside rain or shine
5. Have athletic ability (enough to complete the program)
6. Be responsible, mature, and respectful
7. Be in good standing in all classes this year and throughout Quarters 1, 2 & 3 of 2021/2022 at USS

USS 2020-2021 Outdoor Education Application Form:

Name: _____ Grade: _____

I support my child's participation in the 2022 USS Outdoor Ed & Kayaking Program

Parent or guardian signature: _____

Answer the following questions on the form provided. Thoughtful and honest responses are encouraged, where appropriate.

Why do you want to take the Outdoor Ed Program?

What activities do you like to do outside and why? (ex. Hiking, biking, fishing, birdwatching, etc)

What experience do you have on and in the water? Talk about length of time, confidence, competence, etc. (Kayaking? Surfing? Paddle Boarding? Canoeing? Swimming?)

What leadership experience or community involvement do you have?
