



ADVENTURE LEADERSHIP PRACTICUM

The following provides a detailed description of the Adventure Leadership Practicum. Prior to applying, please review our website (helaventures.com) for background information on HeLa Ventures' goals, programs and staffing structure. For further information or questions, contact HeLa Ventures at info@helaventures.com.

Introduction

The Adventure Leadership Practicum is a 3.5-month program, designed for anyone interested in expanding their skill, knowledge and experience in a professional, outdoor environment.

Developed under the premise that a professional background in the outdoor field requires a combination of theoretical knowledge, practical skills, certifications, and experience, the ALP program offers a unique opportunity for those considering a career in outdoor adventure, recreation, tourism, and more. The program includes multi-faceted training in various outdoor pursuits activities, many nationally recognized certifications, work experience in a professional guiding field, and leadership/teaching opportunities in a variety of areas (both outdoor and curriculum based). Upon completion of the course, participants of the ALP program will have gained a well-rounded and highly marketable professional outdoor background, allowing them the possibility of a career in the outdoor adventure field.

Goal:

The goal of the Adventure Leadership Practicum (ALP) is to provide a quality educational experience for students interested in future careers in adventure education and adventure tourism.

Specific Objectives:

Through a mix of formal training, certifications and work experience, the ALP program will provide students with the opportunity to:

1. obtain practical and rescue skills, safety knowledge, and certifications in adventure education or outdoor pursuits programming including lake and river (whitewater) canoeing, rafting, hiking, trail biking, outdoor climbing, wilderness/plant interpretation, wilderness living skills, wilderness first aid, swiftwater rescue and emergency response;
2. gain working knowledge and practical experience in planning, implementing, and evaluating environmental education, adventure education and outdoor pursuits programs;
3. assist in the administrative and operational duties required in the delivery of adventure education programs to individuals and groups of varying ages;
4. develop/enhance leadership skills in a variety of settings;
5. become acquainted with utilizing experiential education to meet components of junior and senior high school curricula;
6. work cooperatively as a team member in the delivery of quality environmental and adventure education programs;
7. collaborate with a team to deliver all aspects of facility and non-facility based programming.

Program Basics

Location:

The majority of the ALP program will occur at the HeLa Ventures facility just west of Rocky Mountain House. The camp will act as a home-base, where the participants will live, learn, eat and relax. Programs will occur both at the facility and in the surrounding area (up to 1.5 hours away). For off-site programs, transportation will be provided.

Participants can bring their own vehicles and are free to come and go as they please on days off, or in evenings once programming and operations are completed.

Dates: April 30 - August 15th, 2022 (with the possibility of paid work from August 15th into the fall, dependent on bookings).

Living expenses

Participants will be provided with accommodation and food at no cost. Staff housing varies, but all accommodations have beds and mattresses, are well kept and comfortable. Staff will have their own bedroom; bathrooms and common areas are shared.

Certifications Awarded

Upon successful completion of the ALP program, participants will receive 7 nationally recognized certifications, 6 skills certificates from nationally recognized organizations, and numerous training courses in various outdoor pursuits activities.

Overview

The ALP program has 2 main components: training and work experience. Both components will be completed simultaneously throughout the season, with a larger emphasis on formal training during the spring season, and more focus on work experience in the summer season. Training and work experience will both be ongoing, with the possibility for employment in the final part of the season, upon completion of the ALP program.

Training component:

The initial focus of the program will be the development of fundamental skills, knowledge and certifications that will provide the foundation for the work experience component. ALP students will participate in a combination of formal training and mentorships as they work with senior staff in program delivery to clients. Participants will begin to acquire leadership skills during this component of the program.

Work experience component:

As training progresses, participants will apply their foundational knowledge to the delivery of client programs (mainly school groups, and private programs). Once all training has been completed, ALP students will be able to lead a variety of high-quality outdoor programs with the support of other staff. Participants will rotate between programs (summer school groups, extended out-trips, private/public groups) and facility operations.

Certification and Skills Courses

The ALP program provides the opportunity to achieve many nationally recognized certifications, as well as HeLa specific program skills courses. All courses will occur at, or close to HeLa, and will be provided by certified Instructors and Instructor Trainers. Most training will be delivered in a hands-on, practical format, however, there will be a few theoretical classroom sessions. Below is a list of both skills and certification courses provided through the program.

Skills courses:

These programs are designed to increase skill and knowledge in the areas outlined below for future outdoor leadership and employment. A certificate outlining the skills achieved in each of these areas will be awarded.

- Top Rope Climb Site Set-up and Management
- Bike Leader
- Raft Leader

- Wilderness Living Skills Leader
- Hike Leader
- Orienteering Skills and Program Delivery

Certificate courses:

The certificate programs are Skills Courses from nationally recognized organizations, and include:

- Paddle Canada Lake Intro Skills Tandem
- Paddle Canada Lake Intermediate Skills Tandem
- Paddle Canada Moving Water Intro Skills Tandem
- Paddle Canada Moving Water Intermediate Skills Tandem
- Paddle Canada Camping Basic Skills
- Paddle Canada Wilderness Camping Skills

Certification courses:

The certification courses are nationally recognized certifications. These are recognized anywhere in Canada. These certifications include:

- Wilderness First Aid (40 hr)
- Wilderness First Responder Bridge (40 hrs)
- Swiftwater Rescue Technician I
- Paddle Canada Waterfront Instructor
- Paddle Canada Lake Intro Instructor Tandem
- Paddle Canada Moving Water Intro Instructor Tandem
- Paddle Canada Camping Basics Instructor

For a detailed breakdown of each certificate and certification course, click [here](#).

Please note that there is no guarantee that students will achieve the certifications. They will be provided with an opportunity to participate in the course, but must meet standards outlined by the certifying body in order to obtain each certification.

Costs

COSTS

1. Personal time and commitment
2. Certifications (see below)

BENEFITS Included (no charge)

1. Staff Training (outside of certifications)
2. Skill Development in a range of outdoor disciplines (outside of certifications)
3. Food

4. Accommodation
5. Equipment use
6. Transportation during program
7. Workers Compensation Board

DESCRIPTION	VALUE	COST
WAFA	525.00	525.00
WFR – bridge	525.00	525.00
Paddle Canada Waterfront Instructor Paddle Canada Lake Skills Intermediate Tandem AND Paddle Canada Lake Instructor Tandem	750.00	0.00
Paddle Canada Wilderness Camping Skills	250.00	0.00
Paddle Canada Camping Basics Instructor	375.00	0.00
Paddle Canada Moving Water Skills Tandem Intro	375.00	0.00
Paddle Canada Moving Water Intermediate Skills Tandem	375.00	0.00
Paddle Canada Moving Water Intro Instructor Tandem	395.00	0.00
SRT – Level 1 (includes a drysuit rental)	605.00	525.00
Top-Rope Site Management	450.00	0.00
Hike Leader	200.00	0.00
Raft Leader	400.00	0.00
Bike Leader	450.00	0.00
Wilderness Living Skills Leader	200.00	0.00
Orienteering Skills and Program Delivery	200.00	0.00
Food & Accommodation	1800.00	0.00
Insurance, administration, program management	500.00	425.00
Transportation	200.00	0.00
TOTAL	\$8575.00 + GST	\$2000.00 + GST

You are responsible for the cost of your Paddle Canada membership (\$100+GST) and Drivers abstract (between \$25-50).

We will also need a criminal record check completed. We will arrange these for you through backcheck, and HeLa will cover the cost of these background checks.

Application

Who can apply: The Adventure Leadership Practicum is designed for individuals interested in careers in outdoor education or adventure tourism. Applicants should be able to work long, physically demanding days, live in a remote area with limited cell reception, live in close proximity to others, be eager to learn, and of course, be an outdoor adventure enthusiast. Anyone over 18 can apply. We welcome international participants, however you must have a valid visa/permit to enter Canada (HeLa is not able to assist with this).

Application Process: A detailed application is needed to ensure the participant's goals and expectations are aligned with those of the ALP program. Candidates will be required to complete both a written application and an in-person interview. A resume and cover letter must be submitted (via email) with the application form, which may be found [here](#).

Applications are due by **February 15, 2022**. We will contact you by email once your application has been received.

There are other outdoor adventure leadership schools. If you wish to compare ALP with these other programs, we have outlined some for you [here](#).

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you.

The HeLa Ventures Team