

# Outdoor Studies

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM



[www.uas.alaska.edu](http://www.uas.alaska.edu)



“The most impressive thing to me was seeing how prepared technically we were for the climb (for the capstone course on Mt. Denali) and how well our group worked together. I think this really says a lot about our program and our excellent instructors.”

— Acacia Edmiston ODS '10

## Engage in academic work and four-season adventure.

Outdoor Studies at the University of Alaska Southeast combines outdoor skills and academic coursework in order to provide a liberal arts approach to studying human interaction with the natural world. Through this approach, we offer students the opportunity to develop skills and characteristics that are essential to success as an individual, a group member, and a leader in outdoor and adventure settings. Topics of

study include outdoor risk management, leadership, specific outdoor skills, and academic work in philosophy, geography, environmental science and literature. The combination of outdoor and academic courses is designed to develop not only knowledge but also personal traits such as self-reliance and good judgment. Students interested in becoming outdoor professionals, achieving more general goals related to personal development

and leadership, or better understanding themselves and the natural world will benefit from our courses and programs.

“In this program students not only learn to paddle and climb, they also have the opportunity to consider such activities from historical, philosophical, and literary perspectives. This is the perfect program for intellectually curious students who love the outdoors.” —Dr. Kevin Krein, Academic Director of Outdoor Studies

### Pathways to a successful career with the UAS Outdoor Studies programs

Recommended High School Preparation	UAS Degrees	Potential Careers	Potential Salaries
English, 4 years Math, 4 years Science, 4 years History, 2-3 years Foreign Language, 2-4 years As well as courses in: Physical Education Public Speaking Geography Biology	Certificate in Outdoor Skills and Leadership B.A. in Geography/ Environmental Studies with an emphasis in Outdoor Studies B.L.A. Self Designed with an emphasis in Outdoor Studies	Recreational Therapist Tourism Industry Outdoor/Wilderness Guide Park Service Forest Service Land Use Manager Outdoor Educator Academia	\$32,000 and up

# Outdoors Studies



Take 15 credits  
a semester,  
finish in  
four years!

## Sample Courses

Perspectives on the Natural World	PHIL 371
Sport Leisure and Culture	HUM 271
Literature and the Environment	ENG 303
Intro to Environmental Science	ENVR 101
Outdoor Leadership	ODS 243
Ice Climbing	ODS 117
Mountaineering	ODS 222
Swiftwater Rescue	ODS 112

There are three degrees associated with the ODS program.

### Outdoor Skills and Leadership Certificate

During this intensive ten-month certificate program, students split their time between academic studies and fieldwork in outdoor skills. The program is academically demanding and is appropriate for students in at least their second year of university study. Many students complete the program while on academic exchange and others come to the program after completing bachelor's level degrees.

### B.A. in Geography/Environmental Studies with an emphasis in Outdoor Studies

The Geography and Environmental Studies BA provides broad cultural background in the liberal arts with an emphasis on Alaska and the Arctic and develops a strong foundation for advanced studies in a wide range of academic disciplines. The emphasis in Outdoor

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**Fax: (907) 796-6365**

**E-mail: [admissions@uas.alaska.edu](mailto:admissions@uas.alaska.edu)**

**[www.uas.alaska.edu](http://www.uas.alaska.edu)**

Studies adds a focus on outdoor sport and recreation and field experience in outdoor and adventure settings.

### Self-Designed Bachelor of Liberal Arts (B.L.A.)

Students in the UAS Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree may design their own academic program in consultation with ODS faculty. This option allows students to focus on Outdoor Studies in combination with other academic areas in a degree program specifically designed to fit their needs.

*All students interested in entering an ODS certificate or degree program should consult the admissions requirements listed on the ODS Web site at:*

*[www.uas.alaska.edu/arts\\_sciences/humanities/programs/ods/program/admissions.html](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/arts_sciences/humanities/programs/ods/program/admissions.html)*

## Faculty

The ODS faculty includes academics working and teaching in areas relating to the study of human interaction with the natural world and instructors coming from a background in guiding or working in the outdoors. Many of our faculty have interests in both areas and most work as guides in the outdoor industry in addition to teaching for the university. A detailed list of our faculty is available on the ODS program Web site.

*"Watching students develop in the Outdoor Studies Program remains one of the most satisfying aspects of my work. As a fellow adventurer and individual who loves being outside, I recommend this program to anyone who wants to be engaged in both critical academic work and outdoor skills and four-season adventure." —Forest Wagner, Program Director of Outdoor Studies*

**For more information about this program, please contact:  
UAS School of Arts and Sciences  
(907) 796-6090  
[www.uas.alaska.edu/arts\\_sciences/humanities/programs/ods](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/arts_sciences/humanities/programs/ods)**

Program information is subject to change. Please visit our Web site at [www.uas.alaska.edu](http://www.uas.alaska.edu) for the most current program information.

Information including graduation rates and program costs: [uas.alaska.edu/gainfulemployment](http://uas.alaska.edu/gainfulemployment)



## Important Dates

### Application Deadlines:

**Spring Semester  
December 1st**

**Summer Semester  
April 1st**

**Fall Semester  
August 1st**

### Scholarship Deadlines:

**February 15th**

**UAS**  
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA  
SOUTHEAST

*learn • engage • change*

*UAS is an AA/EQ employer  
and educational institution*