



UNIVERSITY OF THE ARCTIC

- To establish the interrelationships between the visitor, the community, and the environment within tourism and recreation in the circumpolar north.

Many courses within the University of Northern British Columbia's (UNBC) Outdoor Recreation and Management (ORTM) program have a fieldtrip component. Additionally, the ORTM program also operates a tourism and recreation focused field experience (ORTM 333), which runs in the spring/summer semester to locations throughout Northern BC, and, it is hoped, to various overseas locations in the future. As an 'other' course for this program of advanced emphasis, the field experience could be tailored as an extended field work component throughout the Yukon and Northwest Territories of Canada, and even extend into Alaska, depending on numbers enrolled and the desire of participants.

This program of advanced emphasis:

- Promotes an integrated view of tourism and recreation in the circumpolar region; linking both the social (visitor and community) and environmental facets, and how these both connect within the region and link to a globalized world;
- Builds on the core courses of the BCS, but does not attempt to duplicate what a BCS student may have already learned about the region. Specifically this program focuses on furthering students' understanding of tourism and recreation as already introduced by module 7 of the core *BCS 331: Contemporary Issues I* course
- Incorporates interdisciplinarity, as courses cover topics from both the natural (biological, physical geography, environmental) and social sciences (anthropology, human geography, history);
- Focuses on critical issues, problems and opportunities that may be present in the North, but also across the tourism and recreation sectors globally;
- Promotes the understanding of ideas such as sustainable development, cultural diversity, and community viability from a perspective of tourism and recreation, and in relation to resource management.

Courses:

Within this program of advanced emphasis, there are three required courses, and students are also required to take an additional two courses to be chosen from a list of 9 courses. **The three required courses are offered in the same semester (winter), with at least two of the other courses also offered in that semester.** Thus, it would be **possible to complete the program of advanced emphasis in a single semester**; however, if an individual desired certain course options s/he might need to spend 2 or even 3 semesters at UNBC.

Required courses:

- ORTM 414-3 Polar Tourism and Recreation (**online/distance availability**)
- ORTM 407-3 Recreation, Tourism and Communities
- ORTM 306-3 Indigenous Tourism and Recreation (**online/distance availability**)

Other courses (two from the following list):

- ORTM 202-3 Ecotourism and Adventure Tourism
- ORTM 300-3 Recreation and Tourism Impacts
- ORTM 305-3 Protected Area Planning and Management
- ORTM 333-3 Field Experience
- ORTM 400-3 Recreation and Tourism Ecology, Management and Design



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ORTM 408-3 Social and Behavioural Dimensions of Recreation and Tourism
ORTM 412-3 Issues and Trends in Recreation and Tourism
ORTM 440-(2-6) Internship
ORTM 499-(1-6) Independent Study

Each course number at UNBC is followed by a dash and then another number (i.e. -3). This number following the dash indicates the number of North American credit units to be earned. The minimum course credits required to complete the program of advanced emphasis is 15 North American credit units (30 ECTS) which is normally five courses. However, the ORTM 440 and ORTM 499 courses can vary in North American credit units dependant on the specific project attempted. As well, ORTM 440 and ORTM 499 are not 'automatic' options for this program, but depend on faculty availability and availability of suitable projects. Presently, some courses are offered only bi-annually, and none are more than once per year.

While some of the courses have no prerequisites (ORTM 202, 333, 440, and 499), others require permission of the instructor (ORTM 305) or senior level standing/90 credit hours, 3rd or 4th year based on the North American standard (ORTM 414, 408, 412), which assuming students have completed the required core of the BCS degree prior to entry to this program should pose very little problem. The final grouping of courses (ORTM 407, 306, 300, 400) all have a number of prerequisites, however, given that RRT 407 and 306 would be required courses, the current instructors are prepared to waive the prerequisites for students within this program of advanced emphasis. As permission of the instructor is always the final line, should students be interested in taking ORTM 300 and 400 without appropriate prerequisites they should make contact with the appropriate faculty member well before they plan to enroll in those courses, and be prepared to justify their standing and interest in that particular area of tourism and recreation in the North.

As per the general North American semester, the courses may be offered in fall (September-December), winter (January-April), or spring/summer (May through August – dependent on course length). As explained earlier, the three required courses will always be offered in the winter, while others may be offered in any of the three semesters, with at least two being offered in the winter. The likely semesters of offering are as follows:

Required courses:

ORTM 414-3 Polar Tourism and Recreation (winter) **(online/distance availability)**
ORTM 407-3 Recreation, Tourism and Communities (winter)
ORTM 306-3 Indigenous Tourism and Recreation (winter) **(online/distance availability)**

Other courses (required to take at least 2 of):

ORTM 202-3 Ecotourism and Adventure Tourism (winter)
ORTM 300-3 Recreation and Tourism Impacts (fall)
ORTM 305-3 Protected Area Planning and Management (fall)
ORTM 333-3 Field Experience (spring or summer)
ORTM 400-3 Recreation and Tourism Ecology, Management and Design (winter)
ORTM 408-3 Social and Behavioural Dimensions of Recreation and Tourism (winter)
ORTM 412-3 Issues and Trends in Recreation and Tourism (winter)
ORTM 440-(2-6) Internship (fall, winter, spring or summer)
ORTM 499-(1-6) Independent Study (fall, winter, spring or summer)



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As all of these courses are currently only offered onsite at UNBC, this program of advanced emphasis is currently reliant on students' ability to be in Prince George. In the future it is hoped that at least the three required courses can be offered online, improving access and northern capacity, yet still requiring that all students physically study at UNBC for at least one other course. The mode of delivery for all of the courses may vary from year to year, but in general, the following list indicates the norm:

Required courses:

ORTM 414-3 Polar Tourism and Recreation (lecture/seminar)

(online/distance availability)

ORTM 407-3 Recreation, Tourism and Communities (lecture/seminar)

ORTM 306-3 Indigenous Tourism and Recreation (lecture/seminar)

(online/distance availability)

Other courses (required to take at least 2 of):

ORTM 202-3 Ecotourism and Adventure Tourism (lecture)

ORTM 300-3 Recreation and Tourism Impacts (lecture/lab)

ORTM 305-3 Protected Area Planning and Management (lecture/seminar)

ORTM 333-3 Field Experience (intensive field-based course)

ORTM 400-3 Recreation and Tourism Ecology, Management and Design (seminar/lab)

ORTM 408-3 Social and Behavioural Dimensions of Recreation and Tourism
(lecture/seminar)

ORTM 412-3 Issues and Trends in Recreation and Tourism (lecture/seminar)

ORTM 440-(2-6) Internship (directed learning/project specific)

ORTM 499-(1-6) Independent Study (directed learning/project specific)