Spring Break Southwest Adventure Backpacking
Grand Canyon National Park, AZ March 9th – 16th, 2019 $750

TRIP DESCRIPTION: Come spend your spring break on an adventure backpacking, camping and hiking in Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona! The Grand Canyon offers some of the most spectacular and dynamic landscapes in the American West. We will be flying into Phoenix, then driving north to the Park. First we will camp above the Southern Rim of the Grand Canyon, then drop down and have 4 nights below the rim. Starting from the high desert plains, we will be going down and spending 2 nights next to the mighty Colorado river! Our last day we will visit one final vista point camping on the plateau. Be prepared for an awesome adventure!

The Enriching Essential Learning Outcomes (E2LO) Initiative helps you build connections between the core outcomes that you achieve in the classroom and events and experiences that take place beyond it. The program you are attending is designed to enrich your student experience related to Social Responsibility and Ethics by exposing you to the concepts of Leave No Trace Outdoor Ethics. By attending programs like this your student experience may be enriched in a variety of ways! For information on E2LO events, experiences, rewards and scholarship opportunities please visit the UMass Lowell E2LO website.

REGISTRATION:
- Register and pay deposit Online
- Fill out an online waiver

INCLUDED IN TRIP COST:
- Transportation— (2) 8 passenger vans, airfare
- Equipment—with the exception of some clothing and personal items listed on the packing list.
- Camping, Logistics, Activity Fees
- Meals from Saturday – Saturday with the exception of discretionary road food
- Leadership & Instruction for Backpacking, Camping and Hiking

PHYSICAL EXERTION LEVEL & PREREQUISITES:
- Physical Exertion Strenuous: Participants will hike 7+mi/ 11+km with the weight each participant carries ranging from 30-60lb/ 14-27kg. Trails are rugged and may include scrambling and steep inclines and downhills. Destinations may be a considerable distance from the nearest road. Previous backpacking experience and good physical fitness is highly recommended. Participants can expect elevation change up to 2000ft/600m or more over 5-8h hours a day for 3-5 days. Participants will also be expected to start at up to 6500ft in elevation and drop down to 2500ft in elevation.
- No previous experience required. Must have appropriate footwear, clothing, cold weather and rain gear.

COST AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE: $750 for UML student/faculty/staff. Deposit of $275 holds your spot. $550 due by Jan 16. Full Balance $750 due Feb 6. Due to financial commitments such as airline tickets, vehicle rentals etc..., participants not adhering to this payment structure may be dropped from the trip.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellation must occur before January 16th, 2019 to receive a refund. Cancellations after January 16th will receive no refund unless another person can be found to claim the unfilled spot on the trip.
PRETRIP MEETINGS:

**Wednesday, December 5th at 7pm Trip informational meeting /Pre-trip Meeting 1:** we will hold an informational meeting on in the Bike Shop/ Outdoor Center. Thinking about joining us on this trip? You should be there! We will review itinerary, equipment needed, participant questions, etc… You do not need to be registered for the trip to attend. If you miss this meeting, contact us for details.

**February 6th, 7-8:30pm** at the Bike Shop/ Outdoor Center. We will review itinerary, equipment needed and process 3rd payment. If you are unable to attend the pre-trip meetings please contact the trip leaders as soon as possible.

**February 27th, 7-8:30pm** at the Bike Shop/ Outdoor Center. We will review the final plan, discuss trip logistics, meal planning and final details.

**March 08, 7-8:30pm** at the Bike Shop/ Outdoor center. We will examine participants equipment, discuss final logistics, and prep to leave early on the 9th.

**TRIP LEADERS:** Kevin Soleil: kevin_soleil@uml.edu Wilson Obenhaus: Robert_Obenhaus@uml.edu

**TENTATIVE ITINERARY:** Due to the nature of outdoor trips, all itineraries are subject to change.

- Mar 08 - 6:00 pm. Final meeting, check packs, prep to leave in the morning!
- Mar 09 – Depart Boston Logan Airport at 10:00 am. Arrive in Phoenix at 1:45 pm. Drive to Grand Canyon National Park. Camp at Mather Campground.
- Mar 10 – Shuttle to Hermits Rest Trailhead. Drop over rim and hike to Monument Creek Campsite (BL7) 9.1mi/14.6km
- Mar 11 – Hike down to Colorado River. Camp at Granite Rapids Campsite (BL8) 1.5mi/2.4km. Optional Day hike and exploration.
- Mar 12 – Hike around Cope Butte. Camp at Hermit Rapids Campsite (BM8), 5.9mi/9.5km.
- Mar 13 – Hike to Hermit Creek Campsite (BM7), 1.5mi/2.4km. Optional Day Hike/Exploration.
- Mar 14 - Hike out of the canyon to Hermits Rest Trailhead 8.2 mi/13.2km, Shuttle back to welcome center. Camp at Mather Campground. Shower and relax.
- Mar 15 - Early day hike. Rest & Relax. Drive to Phoenix, depart airport at 10:05 pm.
- Mar 16 - Arrive in Boston Logan Airport at 6:00 am. Return to Lowell.

See the [Grand Canyon Use Area](#) map for better understanding of the itinerary.

For further questions or information, please contact us:
978-934-1932 | outdooradventure@uml.edu
PACKING LIST: The items on this list are required for your trip. Current temperatures and personal preference should be considered when packing. Wearing the same piece of clothing multiple times is OK on an outdoor trip, so do not over-pack…but at the same time, do not skimp on needed items. Please contact us if you have any questions or have trouble acquiring any of the items on the list, we may be able to help you out. A (*) denotes items that can be provided for you at no additional charge.

☐ Medical Questionnaire (Printed, Don’t Email), Complete online waiver.
☐ Day Pack for carrying personal items and food in the van.
☐ Baseball cap or full-brim hat (for sun protection)
☐ Beanie Hat (quick fix for chilly conditions, wool or fleece is best)
☐ Insulating jacket (fleece is ideal, should be compact and synthetic)
☐ Long underwear tops and bottoms (quick-drying material such as nylon or polyester required)
☐ Shirts (quick-dry material such as nylon or polyester is preferred)
☐ Synthetic Shorts and/or pants (dress for the cool temps…avoid cotton, quick-dry material is preferred)
☐ Underwear
☐ Hiking Boots or Athletic shoes (good tread and ankle support is a must for those rocky trails, no sandals of any kind while hiking)
☐ Hiking Socks (2 pair wool mid-weight hiking style are required, especially for wet conditions and blister prevention)
☐ Camp Shoes (to be worn around camp or in the van…athletic shoes or sport sandals are ideal—no flip flops!)
☐ Camp Socks (1 pair to wear around camp and while sleeping, separate from your hiking socks)
☐ Sunglasses
☐ Sunscreen & lip balm (15 SPF minimum)
☐ Camera (protective case is highly recommended)
☐ Personal medications (inhaler, epinephrine, etc.)
☐ Personal medical insurance card
☐ Toiletries and pack towel (if you wear contacts bring an extra set)
☐ Feminine hygiene products (bring a Ziploc for disposal)
☐ Money (food on the road and/or possible souvenirs)
☐ Book or journal (great for the van or down time on the trip)
☐ Hand sanitizer (keeping clean is a good thing)
☐ *Rain suit (jacket is a must, pants as well, as weather in the mountains can change drastically and suddenly)
☐ *Mess kit (plate, cup, eating utensils – a small plastic Tupperware bowl and mug work great)
☐ *3 water bottles (quart size) or the ability to carry 3 qts. of water
☐ *Sleeping bag (with proper temperature rating for the season, we use 0 or 20 degree bags)
☐ *Sleeping pad (provides warmth and comfort while snoozing)
☐ *Headlamp (you must provide 2AAA batteries if borrowing one of ours)
☐ *Backpack (5000 cu inches or more size preferred)

Note: We will distribute other equipment specific to the activity at the pre-trip meeting or on trip departure day. If you have any personal equipment (backpack, sleeping bag, etc.) that you would like to bring on this trip, please bring it to the pre-trip meeting so trip leaders can make sure it is appropriate for the needs of this trip

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