



NCAC University of Scouting

February 22, 2025

7:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Hayfield Secondary School
7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA



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PLEASE WEAR YOUR UNIFORM.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose of the University of Scouting (UoS) – The “*University of Scouting*” is a supplemental training opportunity for all adult Scout leaders. It is the only time during the year where you can find, all in one place, the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas. Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses in Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA and adventure and leadership training for Venturing, and Sea Scouting, and courses applicable across all Scouting programs.

- The *College of Cub Scouting* provides a wide variety of courses from working with Cub Scout-aged boys and girls to pack administration to planning for an outdoor program, all focused on meeting Scouting goals while having fun as a pack or den.
- The *College of Scouts BSA* provides an exciting variety of troop, patrol and outdoor planning supplemental courses to help manage the challenges of a great troop experience.
- The *College of Adventure Scouting* provides classes in Venturing and Sea Scout topics and a variety of classes in Adventure Scouting / High Adventure subjects and resources for Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, and Scout Troops.
- The *College of General Studies* offers many courses” that cut across all the programs. Just about everything from diversity and special needs to STEM to using technology can be found in the College of General Studies.
- *Standalone Courses are BSA national syllabus courses such as Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC) that provide training for leadership positions in Scouting. Note that standalone courses do not count toward any degree requirements in any College.*

All these opportunities are available at the University for learning how to better serve our young people and better work with our fellow leaders!

Online Registration – Online registration is available after January 10th at NCACScouting.org/training/universityofscouting and will close at midnight Sunday, February 16, 2025. Mail-in (paper) registrations will not be accepted. There are the following registration categories at the UoS.

- Students and others taking classes. Fee \$50.00.
- Instructors and Staff taking classes. Fee \$50.00.
- Instructors and Staff *not* taking classes. Fee 35.00.
- Virtual access (see below). Fee \$50.00.
- Late and On-site Registration. Fee \$75.00

Pre-Registration is important – The anticipated large attendance requires advance scheduling. To ensure the best possibility of attending your desired courses, early registration is essential. Classes do sell out. Additional details on registration are provided on pages 39-40.

Virtual Instruction – Twelve courses in the College of Cub Scouting will be offered online using Zoom the day of UoS. The links for the courses will be emailed to those registered for online instruction at least a week before the UoS begins. We will also include the Meeting ID number, which

you can use from the Zoom application or the Zoom website. Virtual courses are identified below by period and in the course catalog by the # symbol following a class number as in CUB101# **Through the Eyes of Youth – the Perspective of a Growing Cub Scout**.

Virtual Classes

Period 1 – 9:10 AM

CUB101 – Through the Eyes of Youth – the Perspective of a Growing Cub Scout

CUB315 – Making Cub Scout Day Camp Count

Period 2 – 10:10 AM

CUB325 – Beyond Basics – A Cub Leader’s Guide to Advanced Training

CUB121 – Mistakes Packs Make and How to Avoid Them

Period 3 – 11:10 AM

CUB231 – Planning and Leading Cub Scout Campfires

CUB337 – The Power of Cub Scout Leader Pizzazz

Period 4 – 1:10 PM

CUB288 – Adventure Awaits! The Cub Scout Camping Spectrum

CUB377 – Using Information Technology to Make the Pack Grow

Period 5 – 2:10 PM

CUB401 – What the Great Leaders Don’t Learn in Training

CUB480 – Strategies for Pack Diversity and Growth

Period 6 – 3:10 PM

CUB212 – A Cub Scout’s Duty to God

CUB417 – Do We Deliver on the Promise

Handouts will be available online for viewing and printing where instructors have prepared and provided them. Instructions on how to view/print handouts are on the registration page as an attachment. Certificates of attendance and/or other forms of recognition as appropriate will be mailed after the event.

Late Registration – Late online registrations will be accepted at NCACScouting.org/training/universityofscouting after midnight, 12:01 am, Monday, February 17, 2025 after regular registration closes at midnight Sunday, February 16, 2025. The late registration fee will be \$75.00. Course selections will be based on availability of space in the classes. Classes will be assigned on a first come, first served, basis until classes are full. Those who select this option will be required to print their own class schedule in advance or print their class schedules at the Onsite Registration desk at the UoS. They will receive onsite generic packets with a patch lunch ticket. Save \$ 25.00 by pre-registering by midnight, February 16, 2025. Instructions on how to print your schedule are on the registration page as an attachment.

Onsite Registration (Walk-ins) – Onsite registration will open at 7:30 am at Hayfield High School. The onsite registration fee will be \$75.00. Course selections will be based on availability of space in the classes. Classes will be assigned on a first come, first served, basis until classes are full. Due to time constraints, those registering onsite may be unable to complete registration in time to attend a course scheduled for the first period. For these reasons, *ONSITE REGISTRATION THE MORNING OF THE UNIVERSITY IS HIGHLY DISCOURAGED!* Save \$25.00 by pre-registering by midnight, February 16, 2025.

Two Period Courses – Courses designated with “(requires 2 periods)” count as two course credits.

Included with Registration – The per person registration fee includes attendance at six University of Scouting courses, a patch, morning refreshments, lunch, certificate of attendance and/or other forms of recognition as appropriate, liability insurance recovery, and administrative costs.

Opening and Closing Assemblies – Assemblies, open to all participants, will be conducted in the morning and afternoon. Short welcoming and inspirational messages, pertinent information, and other last-minute details will be available in the morning assembly. We urge everyone to stay for the closing assembly and to help us celebrate the dedication of your peers receiving doctoral degrees for each college. We will also present the Triple Crown Award recognizing those dedicated scouters who have earned PhDs in the College of Cub Scouting, the College of Scouts BSA, and the College of Adventure Scouting, and we will present a deserving scouter with the 2024 Grafton Award for outstanding service in training scout leaders.

Class Schedules, Patches, Diplomas, and Certificates – An information packet for pre-registered participants must be picked up at the Registration Area when you arrive. In this information packet you will find a personalized class schedule (including room assignments), a school map, your lunch ticket, and the 2025 University of Scouting patch. Also enclosed will be your attendance certificates and/or Bachelor of Scouting or Master of Scouting degree diplomas. Registration staff will be available in the Registration Area to resolve and print incorrect or missing diplomas and certificates.

College Deans and University Staff/Instructors – Pick up registration materials in the Registration Area as above. Then proceed to your college office to sign-in and pick up handouts for your class.

Certifications and Credit for BSA Classes – Certifications and credit for standalone and official BSA training courses will be handled by the instructors of those courses.

Event Cancellation/Refund Policy – In case of inclement weather, a decision to cancel the University of Scouting will be made prior to 8:00pm Friday, February 21st. This information will be available on the NCAC website (<http://www.ncacbsa.org>) or by phoning (301) 214-9195 after 8:00pm Friday. If the University is canceled, you may choose to obtain a partial refund by submitting a written request to NCAC prior to March 16, 2025. The amount of the refund will be determined after administrative costs and encumbered expenses are paid. Refunds will be mailed by the end of March.

Scouting Museum – A scouting museum will be set up in the lobby near the registration area and in front of the auditorium. We expect to have a large volume and variety of scouting memorabilia of interest displayed by dedicated collectors of scouting artifacts. Please stop by!

Lunch is included – Lunch will be available in the school cafeteria during the Lunch Period (12:00 noon – 1:00 pm) for all participants and staff.

Carpool – Parking at Hayfield Secondary School can be a problem for those arriving after 8:30 am. Carpooling is encouraged to conserve resources and save those late arriving a long walk from where they park to the school. A Scout is Thrifty!

Basic Schedule – A personal schedule specific to each participant will be provided at check-in for pre-registered attendees and after onsite registration for those registering onsite.

- 7:30 am - 8:15 am
 - Check-in/Onsite Registration – Main Lobby
 - Morning Refreshments - Cafeteria
- **8:15 am - 9:00 am Opening Ceremony – Auditorium**
- 9:10 am – 12:00 noon UoS Courses (*Check personal schedule for specific course times*)
- 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm Lunch – School Cafeteria
- 1:10 pm – 4:00 pm UoS Courses (*Check personal schedule for specific course times*)
- 4:10 pm - 5:00 pm Closing Ceremony – School Cafeteria

The Museum and Midway will be open until 3:10 pm

Print Your Personal Schedule – Instructions on how to print your personal class schedule are on the registration site under Attachments.



THE DEGREE PROCESS

General Degree Guidelines

- A scouter who attends the University of Scouting is strongly encouraged to pursue a degree. You may take courses from any College at any level and from the list of Elective courses. To attain a degree in one of the Colleges, however, the requirements outlined below must be met. Note: no degrees are conferred by the College of General Studies.
- The course levels (*Level 100, Level 200, etc.*) of all Colleges are shown to identify the complexity of the course. Generally, we recommend that students take Level 100 courses before Level 200 courses and Level 300 courses before Level 400 courses, etc. because courses are logically more sophisticated, progressive and/or specialized as the level increases. However, we leave it to each scouter to determine what courses to take at any level. Coursework may not be credited towards more than one degree at the same time.
- The College Dean is the approving authority for conferring degrees. Please contact the Dean if there are any questions on degree requirements.

Bachelor's Degree: To earn a Bachelor's degree in a College, do all the following:

- Complete six courses at any course level
- At least three of these courses *must* be in the College from which the degree is sought (Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Adventure Scouting). The remaining three courses may be from any College (including the College of General Studies).

Master's Degree: To earn a Master's degree in a College, do all the following:

- Hold a Bachelor's degree in that same College.
- Complete six additional courses (*for a total of 12 courses*) at any course level.
- All six of these additional courses must be different from those completed for the Bachelor's Degree.
- At least three of these additional courses *must* be in the same College as the Bachelor's degree. The remaining three courses may be from any College (including the College of General Studies).

Doctorate Coursework Completed: To complete the Doctorate coursework in a College, do all the following:

- Hold a Master's degree in that same College.
- Complete six additional courses (*for a total of 18 courses*) at any course level.
- All six of these additional courses must be different from those completed for the Bachelors and Masters degrees.
- At least three of these additional courses *must* be in the same College as the Bachelors and Masters degrees. The remaining three courses may be from any College (including the College of General Studies).

Doctorate Degree (PhD): To earn a Doctorate (PhD) degree in a College, do all the following:

- Complete the required Doctorate coursework as above.
 - Return to the UoS a fourth year to serve in a teaching role in the College at the discretion of the Dean of that College. *NOTE: It is the responsibility of a Doctoral candidate to contact their Dean personally immediately following the completion of the coursework and no later than September 30, 2025 to be added into the teaching plans for the next University of Scouting. No exceptions.* Those seeking a Doctorate in the College of Cub Scouting should attend Cub College's doctoral candidate orientation course CUB901 the year prior to serving in a teaching role.

Deans:

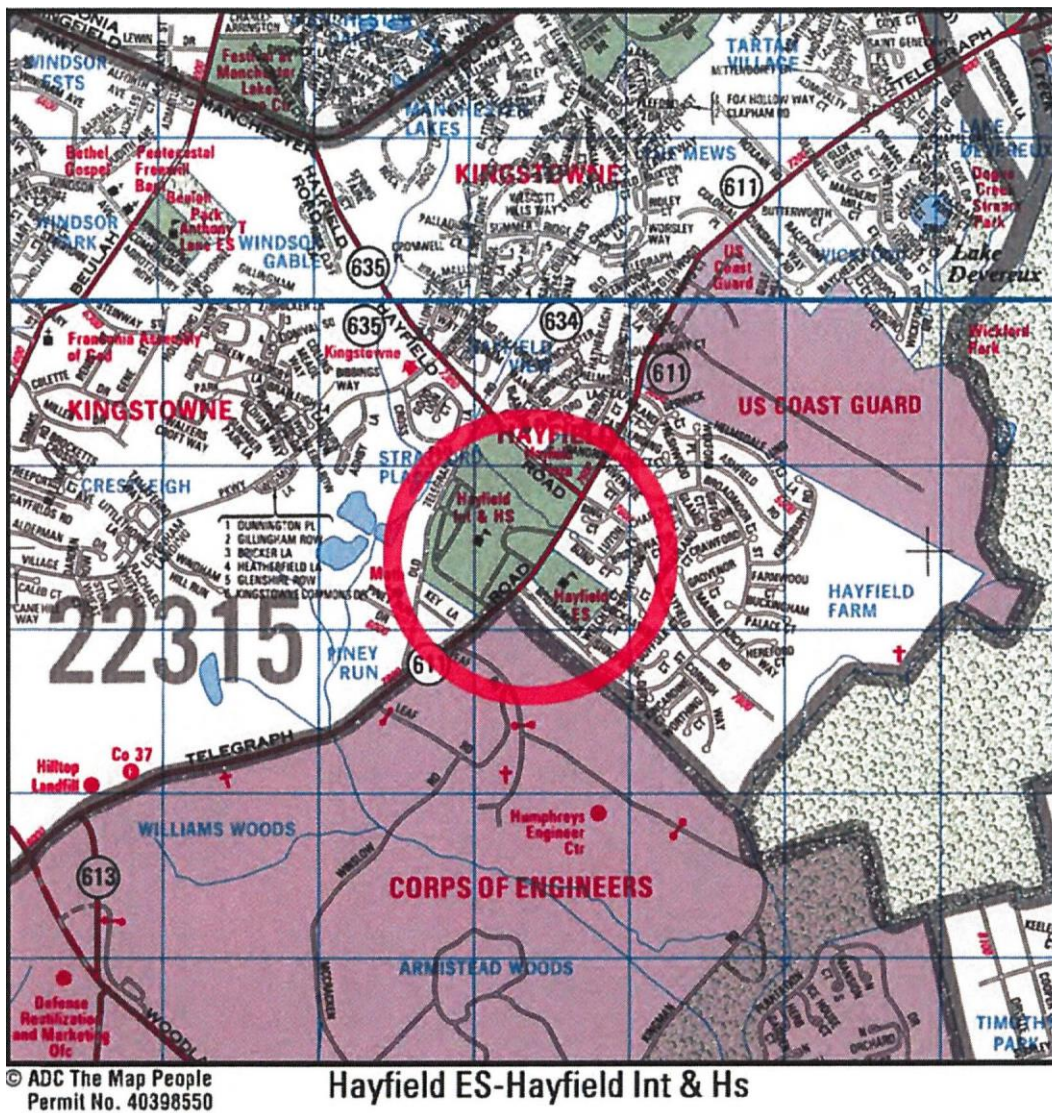
- *Provost, 2025 NCAC University of Scouting:* Jon Baake – jbaake@outlook.com
- *College of Cub Scouting:* Roger Claff – reclaff@aol.com
- *College of Scouts BSA:* Melanie Anthony – melaroonie24@comcast.net
- *College of Adventure Scouting:* Adair Petty – ppetty1@cox.net
- *College of General Studies:* Joseph Grant – joseph_grant@msn.com

LOCATION

Hayfield Secondary School
7630 Telegraph Road
Alexandria, VA 22315

<http://www.fcps.edu/HayfieldSS/>

*Parking will be a problem for those arriving late. Carpooling is highly encouraged to conserve resources!
(A Scout is Thrifty)*



HAVE EACH LEADER IN YOUR UNIT ATTEND SEPARATE COURSES!



COLLEGE OF CUB SCOUTING

2025 NCAC University of Scouting

Before you read the Cub College course listings, we'd like to explain a little bit about the nature and perspective of Cub College courses, because they are a little different than the supplemental training classes you might have taken at other training venues. Most such classes are presented from a mechanical perspective, in that its focus is to give you the immediate "how-to" practical knowledge necessary for running meaningful, successful, fun, and exciting den and pack meetings and outings, while making the best and most efficient use of your time, talents, and energies. The University of Scouting Cub College differs in that it has not a mechanical, but a philosophical perspective. To appreciate this philosophical perspective, think of the Cub College as akin to an experienced hiker taking periodic compass bearings in the woods. He might have all of the right gear in his pack, he might have acquired all of the knowledge needed to hike and camp in the woods, his walking techniques might be optimized to conserve energy, but none of that really matters if he is walking in the wrong direction. In Cub College classes, we offer insight into the direction of your "travels" through the Cub Scout program. What are you as a Den Leader, a Cubmaster, or a Committee Member, trying to achieve in the Cub Scouts in your charge? How can you understand your growing Cub Scouts as they advance in rank, so you can meet their needs? How have others tailored their Cub programs to meet Scouting's overall goals and objectives? How do you know when your program is succeeding, or when you need to adjust to make the Cub Scouting experience better and more meaningful? Answers to these questions – and many more – can be found here in the Cub College!

In addition to Council-wide events, Districts offer monthly Cub Scout leader Roundtables as well as more specific, targeted training sessions such as BALOO, in addition to Cub Scout Leader-Specific Training. You, the Cub Scout leader, should take advantage of all training options available to you – they offer you immediate help, answers to questions, ideas, additional capabilities, and a broadening perspective.

So again, welcome! Please read over the course descriptions, select those classes of most value and interest to you, and we look forward to seeing you at the University!

Roger Claff, Dean
Bill Mayo, Associate Dean
Dave Rockwell, Associate Dean

COLLEGE OF CUB SCOUTING

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COURSE LISTINGS

100-level courses in the Cub College are fundamental courses addressing the nature of the Cub Scout and den and pack program planning and operation. These courses provide information useful to all Cub Scout leaders regardless of experience.

200-level courses address more specialized topics, including topics concerned with committee operations as well as den and pack activities, providing guidance and context for Cubmasters, Den Leaders, and Committee Members, as well as expounding further on topics initially addressed in 100-level courses.

300-level courses concern management of the pack program to meet Cub Scout objectives, evolution of Cub Scouting principles, further considerations regarding the nature of Cub Scouts and Cub Scout needs, and specialized topics illuminating the purpose and direction of the Cub Scout program.

400-level courses focus on quality trained leadership, program delivery, and program evaluation to provide the best possible Cub Scout experience.

The levels are not intended to correspond to a registrant's year of attendance in the Cub College, but rather to provide general guidance as to likely interest based on a Cub Scouter's current position and level of experience. For all Cub Scouters new to the Cub College, we strongly recommend you consider taking the courses CUB100 and CUB101 in your first year. These courses will give you excellent practical working knowledge of the Cub Scout program and how to work with Cub Scout-age youth.

LEVEL 100 COURSES

- CUB100 **The Cub Scout Within You**: Come rediscover the Cub Scout in you and allow yourself to have fun as a leader. Learn why you should become a Scouting evangelist and how to summon the creative powers within you – all to make a difference in the life of a Cub Scout – and yourself. Please be prepared to check your adult self at the door!
- CUB101 **Through the Eyes of Youth – the Perspective of a Growing Cub Scout**: This course takes an in-depth look at youth, including their ages-and-stages, with the aim of building a better program through an increased awareness of characteristics, motivators, interests, and needs of the growing Cub Scout. We will talk about their sense of exploration and discovery, their love of adventure and excitement, and their desire for recognition. This course is for all leaders who work directly with youth.
- CUB102 **Lions and Tigers, Oh My! – An Orientation for Den Leaders and Adult Partners**: Without incoming Lions and Tigers, along with their adult partners, packs will not grow. The Lion and Tiger programs serve as a fun and easy introduction to Scouting and as a motivating tool for long-term Cub Scouting participation. Come find out how to best use Lions and Tigers as an exciting start along the Scouting trail for young Cub Scouts and their parent partners.
- CUB104 **Recruiting and Retaining Cub Scout Leaders**: Recruiting and retaining Cub Scout leaders is vital to improving the quality and diversity of the program and growing the pack. Yet recruiting new leaders and retaining good leaders from year to year are more challenging than ever. This course will offer useful recruiting ideas and techniques for finding potential leadership talent within your pack, and for approaching and cultivating prospective volunteers. The course will discuss retention of quality adult leadership, including the importance of communicating, recognizing, and rewarding successful adult leaders as the pack's most vital program implementation resource.
- CUB121 **Mistakes Packs Make and How to Avoid Them**: Learning from mistakes is the only way to grow as a leader and as a pack. Gain from the experiences of others to help you build and improve upon

your program at the pack or den level. We will talk through commonly encountered dilemmas and missteps and explore strategies for avoiding and correcting them.

- CUB125 **Den Leadership and Program Planning Principles:** Planning in advance is the key to success in any venture, including Cub Scouting. We'll discuss scheduling, organizing, planning, and budgeting den activities that support and build character, citizenship, and fitness; help your Cub Scouts make progress toward rank advancement; and ensure everyone is having fun! We'll address the importance of working in concert with pack and committee leadership and working as a team with parents and families, effectively sharing leadership to improve the quality of the den program. We will also cover effective planning and execution of den meetings, including the importance of a well-planned agenda, engaging Cub Scouts in creating den rules, assigning leadership roles to Cub Scouts, managing Cub Scout behavior, finding creative projects consistent with ages-and-stages, preparing Cub Scouts for participation in the monthly pack meeting, using Den Chiefs, the importance of the Den Leader minute, engaging parents to help, and more.
- CUB133 **Family Involvement in Cub Scouting:** Cub Scouting is a family-centered program, but what does that really mean? At all ranks, Cub adventures include requirements met not in the den or pack but at home. Active and engaged parent participation boosts delivery of an effective Cub Scout program, promotes Cub Scout retention and advancement, and reinforces Scouting goals and ideals. We will cover the nature and extent of family participation and how to best encourage families to become involved in dens and packs, while recognizing limitations and constraints.
- CUB185 **The Den Chief Role Model:** The very best role model for Cub Scouts is a Den Chief, because Cub Scouts want to become Scouts just like them! Learn why and how the Den Chief is a vital resource to the Den Leader, while at the same time becoming a strong leader and the very best recruiter for their troop. We will discuss Den Chief roles and responsibilities, the role of the Den Leader as a mentor to the Den Chief, the responsibility of the troop to work as a partner with the pack in selecting Scouts for Den Chief service, and the importance of communication and training. *This course counts as either College of Cub Scouting or College of Scouts BSA credit toward University of Scouting degrees.*
- CUB192 **Worthy of Note – Cub Scout Songs and Singing:** Cub Scouts and singing have always gone together! Singing builds pack and den spirit, makes everyone feel welcome, allows Cub Scouts to have fun expressing themselves, and drives home Scouting virtues and camaraderie in a meaningful way. This course will explore both the fun and importance of singing in Cub Scouts, how to select the right song for the occasion, and how to lead a song with confidence even if your singing voice is not exactly pitch-perfect!
- CUB195 **The Transition to Scouts BSA:** The Cub Scout program is an adult-leader led, family-and community-centered program for youth in grades K through 5. The Scouts BSA program is a Scout-led, outdoor-centered program for youth in grades 5 through 12. The transition between these two programs is rarely seamless, as Arrow of Light Scouts graduating into troops often face difficulty adjusting to the Scouts BSA program, the outdoor camping experience, the imperfections of youth leadership, and the self-reliance and initiative now expected of them. In the Cub Scout program, there is much for a Cub Scout to learn about character and virtue: friendliness, helpfulness, and cooperation. But Scouts BSA offers a new challenge and a changing emphasis on character development: an outdoor-centered leadership program that instills additional virtues such as self-reliance, perseverance, obedience, and cheerfulness under pressure. This course will examine the differences between the adult-led Cub Scout program, with emphasis on the Arrow of Light transition year, and the youth-led Scouts BSA program, from a conceptual standpoint and in terms of program choices and leader practices. The course will provide ideas and recommendations to best prepare the graduating Arrow of Light Scout, and their parents, for the upcoming adventure of Scouts BSA. *This is a two-session course, counts as two course credits.*

LEVEL 200 COURSES

- CUB201 **Cub Scout Environmental Science and Conservation**: A commitment to environmental stewardship is part of a Cub Scout's duty to country and promise to help others. Learn how to teach your Cub Scouts about conservation through proper management of natural resources. Also, find out about conservation and environmental recognitions, including the Champions for Nature Adventure at each rank, the Conservation Good Turn, the Scout Ranger, and the Messenger of Peace, and how Cub Scouts can earn them.
- CUB206 **Cub Scouting with Special Needs**: This course will address how to deliver a safe, fun, meaningful, and exciting den and pack program to the Cub Scout with special needs and his fellow Cub Scouts. Communication, understanding, and patience are the keys to interactions and developing relationships.
- CUB211 **Character Development Through Cub Scouting**: One of the main objectives of Cub Scouting is character development. We will examine the nature and quality of good character and emphasize the importance of practicing the virtues embedded in Scout Oath and Scout Law as Cub Scouts grow and learn. We will offer practical programs and activity suggestions to help Cub Scouts improve their character.
- CUB212 **A Cub Scout's Duty to God**: A Cub Scout's duty to God is the motivation and guide for his or her character development. We will consider why duty to God is a cornerstone of Scouting and discuss ways to encourage duty to God through Scouting, including use of the Religious Emblems Program.
- CUB218 **Pack Committee Member Position-Specific Training**: Many packs do not have, or may not understand the importance of, an active pack committee to fully support the unit's Cub Scout program. Others may not clearly understand the distinction or linkage between pack committee and pack program functions. We will delve into the duties of the committee and the roles committee members play in supporting the delivery of the Cub Scout program. Along the way, we'll cover the distinctions among den, pack-wide and committee service; the pack's relationship to the chartered organization, the district, the Council, and National Scouting America; the methods of Cub Scouting and the ideals; youth protection and safety policies; pack finances and budgeting; advancement; involving families; service to the community; the uniform; youth development; camping opportunities; and self-evaluation. *A training card for Scouting America course C60 will be issued for completion of this course. This is a two-session course, counts as two course credits.*
- CUB220 **Outdoor Ethics for Cub Scouts**: From the very beginning, Scouting America has pledged conservation and respect for the environment as an essential component of good citizenship. Today, as more and more people enjoy the benefits of our nation's natural resources, additional pressure and urgency is brought to bear on outdoor ethics to ensure our beautiful natural spaces remain unspoiled for current and future generations. This course will cover Cub Scout outdoor ethics centered on the Outdoor Code. Front-country guidelines including conservation expectations, outdoor manners, and minimizing campsite waste and trash, will be emphasized.
- CUB231 **Planning and Leading Cub Scout Campfires**: Campfires are a Scouting tradition as venerable as Scouting itself. Campfires should create life-long memories for your Cub Scouts as they reflect on the friendship of their fellow Cub Scouts and become receptive to Scouting's deeper meanings. But fun and meaningful campfires require planning. We will cover how to make the most of the campfire experience, including preparing an agenda to set the proper tone and tempo; campfire do's and don'ts; and sources for campfire songs, skits, and Cubmaster/Den Leader minutes.
- CUB247 **Recruiting and Retaining Cub Scouts**: A successful pack is known for its ability to recruit new Cub Scouts every year, and by its ability to retain its Cub Scouts from year to year. This course will examine how successful packs are able to consistently recruit and gain new Cub Scouts, through successful recruiting drives such as Join Scouting Night, and by recruiting on an on-going basis. The course will also examine how the successful pack is able to retain and advance its Cub Scouts each

year, by ensuring Cub Scout growth and achievement through its fun and exciting pack and den programs. The course will establish the relationship between successful Cub Scout recruiting and retention and meeting the character, citizenship, and fitness goals of the Cub Scout program.

- CUB252 **Keep it Simple, Make it Fun:** The Cub Scout games and activities that are the most fun and impactful can also be the simplest! Learn about The Watermelon Project, KISMIF (keep it simple and make it fun) in action! Simple, quickly arranged games and activities using readily available items help Cub Scouts grow while having all kinds of fun. Hey, it's also leading by example – no Cub Scout should ever sit and sigh, "I'm bored," when the stuff of fun is all around us. PS: FUN recruits Cub Scouts! It's a fact!
- CUB259 **Cub Scout Campsite Cooking:** A Scout is Hungry! What would a pack overnighter be without cooking? There is a direct connection between outdoor experiences with cooking and the goals of Scouting. Through cooking, we find fun, fellowship, cooperation, sharing, cheerfulness, inclusiveness, self-reliance, and lasting memories. But there is more to Cub Scout campsite cooking than just putting a foil meal packet on a bed of coals. Our expert in outdoor cooking will give you lots of helpful information on menu development, meal preparation, basic gear, food sanitation, cooking methods, and clean-up, as well as inspirational thoughts on how to make mealtime a memorable and rewarding experience in living by the Scout Oath and Scout Law. We may even throw in a few recipes to help you feed hungry Cub Scouts while outdoors.
- CUB273 **Planning and Leading Cub Scout Ceremonies:** Cub Scout ceremonies need to be more than a plastic bag with pins and belt loops, a quick handshake, and a "Good job, Tommy!" Great ceremonies can create memories that will last for years and inspire Cub Scouts to pursue new challenges and achievements. We will address the importance of ceremonies in meeting Cub Scout goals, and the fact that Cub Scouts will only attach as much significance to an award as their adult leaders do. We will explore the elements of a great ceremony, the types of Cub Scout ceremonies that are available, and how to incorporate virtues into dynamic ceremonies that become powerful incentives to Cub Scouts to continue the Scouting journey.
- CUB283 **Cub Scout Safety and First Aid Considerations:** Safety is our top consideration as Cub Scout leaders. Above all we do not want to see anyone hurt from the program and activities we run. This course will cover accident prevention and safe practices in the den, in the pack, on outings, in the outdoors, and at camp. An emphasis will be placed on planning for safety. We will cover medical forms and consent forms, medications, Scouting America's body mass index restrictions, and other Scouting America safety-related policies. We will also cover first aid, proper response in the event of an accident or injury; and recommended first aid certifications for Cub Scouters. Safety requirements and considerations for aquatics and shooting sports will also be covered.
- CUB288 **Adventure Awaits! The Cub Scout Camping Spectrum:** Cub Scouts want to go camping! Baden-Powell said, "Camp is what the [youth] looks forward to in Scouting." And, at every age and rank in Cub Scouts, there are camping opportunities. In this course we will walk through the camping opportunities that comprise the spectrum, from lock-ins, day camps, pack overnighters, resident camps, Council-sponsored family camping, Webelos-Rees, Webelos den camping, and joint Arrow of Light den-troop camping. We will cover the importance of camping in meeting Scouting goals of character development, citizenship, personal fitness, and leadership development. We'll discuss where each type of camping fits within Cub Scout ages-and-stages. We'll talk about planning and preparation, Scouting America policies, BALOO training, campsite selection within our Council's approved list of camping venues (and how to add a site to the list), parent participation, planning a program of activities, opportunities for exploration (including historical sites, the wonders of nature, etc.), and camping as preparation for transition to Scouts BSA. We'll also talk about difficulties Cub Scouts (and parents!) frequently encounter adjusting to camping for the first time, and how to help them overcome them.

LEVEL 300 COURSES

- CUB300 **Pack Leadership and Program Planning Principles**: In the successful Cub Scout pack, the pack's leadership plans and provides a program of fun and exciting pack meetings and activities that create lasting memories for its Cub Scouts and families, and that encourage others to join the pack. We'll discuss scheduling, organizing, planning, and budgeting year-round pack activities and pack meetings that complement den programs and support the aims of Cub Scouting – building character, learning the responsibilities of citizenship, and developing personal fitness. The Cubmaster cannot design, plan, and execute the entire pack program alone; we will discuss delegation of duties and working as a team to provide the best possible pack program for your Cub Scouts.
- CUB304 **Cub Scouting in the Outdoors**: Everybody knows that most of “Scouting” is “outing”! Your pack and den programs should include many activities to discover and explore our natural world and our American heritage. We will discuss why the outdoor program is critical to Scouting, and how an outdoor camp provides the ideal setting in which to learn how to live by the moral principles of the Scout Oath and Law. We will also cover the various types of exciting outdoor adventures that should be available to your Cub Scouts: camping, campfires, day hikes, historic landmarks and trails, exploration of nature and the night sky, even outdoor service projects. Pack and den meetings should outside as well as inside!
- CUB312 **Acclimating New Cub Scouts and Parents to Your Pack**: Often, newly registered Cub Scouts and their parents are excited to join a pack but know little about how Cub Scouting works. This course will discuss the roles of the New Member Coordinator, Cubmaster, and Committee Chair in welcoming new families to the pack and acclimating them to Scouting goals and pack activities and operations as soon as possible, so they can start having fun while fully realizing the benefits of the Cub Scout program.
- CUB315 **Making Cub Scout Day Camp Count**: As a leader attending Day Camp with your Cub Scouts, your task is to “make the experience count.” Many Cub Scouts look forward to the fun of Day Camp all year long; Day Camp offers them an outdoor experience geared to their ages-and-stages and a springboard to further camping participation, in pack overnights, Cub Scout resident camp, and Webelos den camping. But for the magic to happen there are forms to fill-out, gear to bring, transportation arrangements to be made, walkers to schedule... as well as Cubs to manage, adventure requirement completions to record, and camp achievements to celebrate. In this course we will discuss everything they don't tell you about attending Day Camp, from coping with the weather to maximizing Cub Scout participation to ensuring health and safety, all while having fun! We will address how you can use the activities at Day Camp to bring the goals of Scouting (character development, citizenship training and personal fitness) to life for your Cub Scouts.
- CUB318 **Planning a Successful Pack Overnighter**: How do you plan a great, fun-filled Cub Scout pack overnighter? A pack overnighter is an essential moment in the life of any pack. A successful pack overnighter will not only give your Cub Scouts a sense of accomplishment and their families a sense of belonging; it will motivate them to stay in the pack and continue to be engaged for years to come. Come join us as we talk about Scouting America's policies and guidelines for Pack overnights, important considerations to remember when planning an overnighter, and how to keep the event fun and safe for scouts and parents.
- CUB325 **Beyond Basics – A Cub Leader's Guide to Advanced Training**: Every Cub Scout leader seeks to make the best use of the time, talent, and effort they devote to their den or pack. They want to “do it right” from the start, while making the most of the limited time available to them to learn how. The secret behind every successful Cub Scout leader is going beyond the basics. Training is there for YOU! Join us for a discussion about the purpose and value of advanced and supplemental Cub Scout leader training; about how Roundtable, University of Scouting, BALOO, Outdoor Ethics, STEM Counselor Training, Trainer's EDGE, Wood Badge, and more can help you provide the best possible program for your Cub Scouts while saving you time, effort, and anguish along the way.

- CUB327 **Range and Target Activities for Cub Scouts**: Learn about authorized equipment, training, and safety in range and target activities for Cub Scouts at the District and Council level.
- CUB337 **The Power of Cub Scout Leader Pizzazz**: Public speaking is the #1 fear reported by adults. Does putting on a pack or den meeting with pizzazz scare you? Cub Scout meetings are a show that allows you 1 or 2 minutes at the end to sell the real point of the meeting. This class will give you practical skills to get silly, lead the fun, and get creative with your Cub Scouts. Come prepared to get out from behind a desk and learn to lead the fun with pizzazz. You will learn how to use the power of improvisation as one way to unlock your inner pizzazz, and why you need to add pizzazz to your planning.
- CUB366 **What Every Cub Scout Leader Should Know About the District**: This course covers the function and operations of a District Committee. The sole purpose for your local District Committee is to support you, your pack, and your den. The District Committee is a Scouting partner to help you understand all aspects of Cub Scouting, implement the best possible Cub Scout program, and take full advantage of resources, programs, and activities offered to the wider Scouting community through the National Capital Area Council and Scouting America nationally.
- CUB367 **A History of the Cub Scouts, with Lessons Learned – Part II**: Part II covers the evolution of Cub Scouting in America from its origins as a fledgling Cubbing program designed to address “the younger-boy problem” to its modern incarnation as a multi-faceted family Scouting program for both boys and girls in grades K-5. The course will follow American Cubbing through the war years; the expansion of the Cub ranks from “Wolf-Bear-Lion” to the six ranks of today’s program; the evolution of the Promise, Law, salute, and handshake; the invention of the Blue and Gold Banquet and Pinewood Derby; and much more. *This course, for history buffs, is lecture only, with minimal class interaction and discussion.*
- CUB373 **Communications in Cub Scouting**: Implementation of the Cub Scout program is an exercise in communications. Effective communications among all pack leaders, Den Leaders, Committee Members, and even parents and Cub Scouts are vital to the realization of a fun and exciting program that meets Scouting’s overall goals. We will explore the nature of effective communication in packs and dens, and how effective communication can make all the difference between success and failure.
- CUB377 **Using Information Technology to Make the Pack Grow**: We live in the information age! Operation of a Cub Scout pack today is difficult without a computer and a cell phone. Program planning help, unit renewal, advancement, training, membership rosters, even service-hour reporting are all on-line. In addition, pack, Council/District, and community electronic newsletters, internet blogs, web sites, e-mail lists, on-line videos and social media are available options for a Cub Scout pack to communicate with families and amongst its leaders, to promote its programs, and to highlight its achievements. But how can we best use this bewildering array of electronic resources to help the pack and its Cub Scouts to grow, while complying with Scouting America policies to ensure safety, security, and privacy? This course will explore the safe, Scouting America-approved use of the common forms of electronic resources for information exchange, record-keeping, training, publicity, and promotion, and how such tools help your pack meet the character, citizenship and fitness goals of the Cub Scout program.

LEVEL 400+ COURSES

- CUB401 **What the Great Leaders Don’t Learn in Training**: Be more than a leader who only takes training and goes through the motions! Training is essential for every Cub Scout leader, but there is much more to a great leader than simply completing training. Experience really is the best teacher. In this course we explore those experiences beyond training that are vital to a great Cub Scout leader, embracing the Cub Scout program and investing your whole heart in it.

- CUB402 **How the Commissioner Corps Supports the Pack:** The dictionary tells us a commissioner is someone charged with performing specific duties. So, what are Scouting commissioners, what duties are they charged with, and how do they help your pack? A Unit Commissioner is an experienced Scouter assigned to visit your pack to offer any assistance needed. A Unit Commissioner is a “friend in need.” A Roundtable Commissioner provides a monthly discussion and network forum for Cub Scout leaders. Here, great ideas are shared, and advice is offered to help with problems. The Commissioner Corps can help your pack be more successful, but you have to understand Commissioner roles, and you have to contact commissioners to take advantage of the incredible knowledge base and the resources they can marshal. We will unravel the mystery of the Commissioner Corps and what they bring to make you and your pack successful.
- CUB411 **How to Start a New Pack in Your Neighborhood:** As Scouting grows back strongly, have you ever wondered what YOU - as a unit Scouter, district Scouter, or Scouting professional devoted to Scouting, could do to expand Scouting in your community by creating a neighborhood Cub Scout pack? You have seen the immense value of Scouting to the youth you have served and are currently serving. Why not bring the adventure of Cub Scouting to more youth? It's easier than you think, and the rewards are tremendous! We have a tried-and-true plan, detailed guidance, and testimonies from Scouters who've previously created or restarted Packs. Come join us and learn how they did it and how YOU can do it too!
- CUB417 **Do We Deliver on the Promise:** Do we deliver on the promise of Cub Scouting, or are we kidding ourselves? Do we truly develop our Cub Scouts' characters, mold our Cub Scouts to be participatory citizens, and promote their mental, physical, and moral fitness? Or are we simply biding time? This course will examine how the pack succeeds in meeting the goals of Cub Scouting, will consider the ways in which the typical pack falls short, and will detail what the typical pack can do to improve.
- CUB468 **Conducting a Pack Self-Evaluation:** Is your pack delivering a program that meets Scouting goals? In what areas do the pack, the committee, or the dens need to improve? We will discuss how to make an objective assessment of your program; how to rate den, pack, and committee performance; how to use and supplement the Journey to Excellence guidelines; and how to make best use of the resources available to you to make improvements.
- CUB480 **Strategies for Pack Diversity and Growth:** Encouraging and celebrating diversity in Cub Scout packs and dens is a significant challenge Scouters face. How best to invite and include all of today's Cub Scout-aged youth in the life-changing opportunities your pack and den have to offer? We will explore strategies to encourage families, and Cub Scouts across all demographics, to join packs; to celebrate cultural heritage; to break down cultural, economic, and language barriers; and to recruit parents to not just volunteer as adult leaders but to be stakeholders in the pack's success. Encouraging diversity and removing cultural barriers is at the heart of Scouting.
- CUB901 **The Teaching Requirement for Your PhD – A Primer for Next Year's Cub College Instructor:** *This session is required, and exclusively for, 2026 PhD Candidates in the College of Cub Scouting ONLY. We cover the topics you need to know as an instructor at the 2026 University, so you can have a successful and rewarding teaching experience and be awarded your PhD from the College of Cub Scouting Science.*

COLLEGE OF SCOUTS BSA

2025 NCAC University of Scouting

Welcome to the College of Scouts BSA!

If you are a first-time student or would like some guidance on what courses to take, please see the suggested course tracks based on position/area of interest at the end of this section.



COURSE LISTINGS

LEVEL 100 COURSES

- BSA104 **The Troop Committee**: The committee may not seem to be as exciting as being in front with the Scouts but without an effective committee, Scouting is no fun for the Scouts, leaders, and parents. Beyond logistics, administration, and working boards, committee members mentor Scouts in their leadership roles. The committee has a key role in keeping the fun and outing in Scouting.
- BSA105 **Scout Gear**: From the conventional to the extravagant, all kinds of gear used in outings is discussed. Come learn some tricks of the trade as a new leader, or learn some fun hidden gems as an experienced scout leader. Topics of discussion include everything from first aid kits to backpacks, from sleeping bags to tents, and lots in between!
- BSA107 **Scoutmaster Minute**: Learn what a Scoutmaster's minute is, what it is not, and how to develop or find inspiration to give one. We will discuss lessons learned and personal experiences. You should feel comfortable developing and giving a Scoutmaster's minute when this session is done.
- BSA108 **Troop Equipment**: This session will outline the needs and basic requirements for a new unit, with suggestions for additional equipment as the troop grows. A system for a troop quartermaster to care for, repair, and keep track of the troop camping equipment will be discussed as well.
- BSA109 **Unconscious Competence**: This class will explore how a Scout climbs the ladder of learning from Unconscious Incompetence to Unconscious Competence. It will help leaders understand the learning process all individuals go through, so they can better enable Scouts in the EDGE process. Your understanding of what the Scouts are going through will better enable them to reach competence in their skill development.
- BSA110 **Troop and Eagle Scout Courts of Honor**: Recognition and praise are key motivators for Scouts as ranks, merit badges and special awards are earned. Special recognition must be given to Eagles in a special Eagle Scout Court of Honor. This session will show the need for quality Courts of Honor and why they are such important events in the life of a Troop.
- BSA111 **Recruiting from the Troop Perspective**: Recruiting is the lifeblood of a Scout Troop. Without new members joining, your Troop cannot survive! Where will we find these Scouts? How do we reach them? How do we convince them (and their parents) to join? How do we keep them once they join? This course will explore answers to these questions; steps to take; the tools, resources, and planning needed; and help that may be available.
- BSA116 **A Hitch in Time**: Knots have been at the center of Scouting since Scouting began. Learn the essential knots for Scouting and the mnemonics to help you remember how to use them and how to teach them to your scouts. This is a basic that every Scout Leader should have.

- BSA120 **So You are the New Scoutmaster:** Thinking of becoming the next Scoutmaster for your Troop, or had to take on the role and would like a forum to discuss what success could look like? Join a longtime Scoutmaster as we discuss training, tools, and techniques that will help you as a new Scoutmaster. Topics will include working with SPL's, effective use of tools (websites, guides, the PLC, and ILST), efficient communication skills, and other tips that will help you have a successful youth-led troop.
- BSA122 **Wipit Wischixin:** How would you like to learn some tips to spice up your Chapter meetings? Come learn about interesting activities, games and cooperatives designed to boost your meeting fun factor! If you enjoy a hands-on, interactive training experience, then this is definitely the class for you.
- BSA128 **Implementing Outdoor Ethics in the Scouts BSA Program:** From the very beginning, Scouting America has pledged conservation and respect for the environment as an essential component of good citizenship. Today, as more and more people enjoy the benefits of natural resources, additional pressure and urgency is needed to ensure our beautiful natural spaces remain unspoiled not just for the current generation, but also future generations to enjoy. This course will cover outdoor ethics for Scouts centered on the Outdoor Code, Leave No Trace, and their relationship to Scouting's goals. Backcountry guidelines will be detailed, including conservation expectations, outdoor manners, the 7 principles of Leave No Trace, and practical examples of how to incorporate them into your troop program. Tread Lightly! and the Land Ethic will be introduced. Scouting America's outdoor ethics awards will also be discussed.
- BSA130 **Creating Inclusive and Welcoming Environments in Scouting:** Join us for a structured discussion on how we can use the core principles of Scouting to help us create a more open, welcoming, and inclusive program for all.
- BSA139 **Order of the Arrow 101:** What is the Order of the Arrow and why should I care? This course will provide an introduction to the OA for new unit leaders. Come learn what the OA can do for you and what the OA needs from the units.
- BSA140 **"Aim High" – A Discussion of Recent Changes to the Order of the Arrow:** Join us for a discussion of the new schedule for the Ordeal. We will also review the new policy changes that have been handed down from the National Office.
- BSA143 *****NEW*** So You Want to Start a Scouts BSA Troop for Girls:** Do you see a demand for greater Scouting opportunities for girls in your area? Is your current boys' troop thinking about establishing a sister unit? This class will prepare you for the challenges, changes, and benefits you will encounter in starting a new troop for girls.
- BSA185 **The Den Chief Role Model:** The very best role model for Cub Scouts is a Den Chief, because Cub Scouts want to become a BSA Scouts just like them! Learn why and how the Den Chief is a vital resource to the Den Leader, while at the same time becoming a strong leader and the very best recruiter for their troop. We will discuss Den Chief roles and responsibilities, the role of the Den Leader as a mentor to the Den Chief, the responsibility of the troop to work as a partner with the pack in selecting Scouts for Den Chief service, and the importance of communication and training. *This course counts as either College of Scouts BSA or College of Cub Scouting credit toward University of Scouting degrees.*

LEVEL 200 COURSES

- BSA201 **The Patrol Method:** Join us in an interactive discussion on what is really meant by "Scout-led" and how to achieve it using the Patrol Method. We will discuss the theory behind it as envisioned by

Baden Powell and explore how Scouters can create an environment where Scouts can begin to take ownership of their own scouting journey. We will present practical approaches and tools to help you implement or improve the Patrol Method in your troop.

- BSA202 *****NEW*** Growing & Retaining OA Youth Membership**: This course focusses on strategies for keeping youth members engaged and involved in the program. What are the factors that make them want to be active, and how do we utilize these to improve our program.
- BSA203 **Advancement Overview (requires 2 periods)**: The class will be based on the latest Guide to Advancement and recent updates from National. The focus will be the nuts and bolts of the Advancement process. It starts when a youth joins a troop through when the Scout earns Eagle Palms. Participant will leave as experts!!
- BSA205 **Troop Boards of Review**: There will be a discussion on the troop's advancement committee responsibility in conducting quality rank advancement boards of review for all ranks, including the Eagle rank. Examples of the kinds of questions that might be asked will be included.
- BSA206 **Merit Badge Counseling**: This course is the nationally approved in-person course to train you as a merit badge counselor. It covers Section 7 of the Guide to Advancement, "The Merit Badge Program." The presentation addresses the merit badge program, its benefits to Scouting, the procedures for earning merit badges, merit badge counselor qualifications, the process of counseling, necessary additional counselor certifications, counselor limitations, and administration of the merit badge counselor program. Completion of this course will be entered into your training profile.
- BSA208 **The Scoutmaster Conference - "Let's Talk Success!"**: This course reviews the requirements and purpose of Scoutmaster's conferences and explores ways to make the conferences valuable to both the Scout and the Scoutmaster. Ideas for and approaches to Scoutmaster's conferences for Scouts all the way through Eagle will be presented.
- BSA210 **Judgement Calls**: Have you had to make a tough decision in the past or do you anticipate making one in the future? This just might be the course for you! From an advancement perspective we are going to cover the "active", position of responsibility, and Scout spirit requirements, and also "reasonable expectations", plus more.
- BSA212 **FUN District Camporees/Outdoor Events**: Start planning NOW for your district's most exciting outdoor events. In this seminar we will share ideas and resources, so we can all learn how to make them FUN across units having different cultures/priorities. Camporee newbies and old hands alike are welcome! Logistics & fee structures will also be addressed. Too much fun is never enough!
- BSA213 **Exciting Campfires**: Scouts look forward to the time around the campfire as much as almost anything in Scouting, yet we often pay little attention to making the time memorable. Learn how to make your unit campfires ones the Scouts will be telling their grandchildren about. Learn what special things need to be done when you have Webelos or new Scouts or new Scouters at your campfire, and what needs to happen at a Camporee campfire. When do you have a relaxed singing time, and when do you have a formal program? What is the difference between a campfire that is intimate and one that is exciting, and why are both important? What do you do, if no one wants to (or admits they can) sing? How big should the fire be, and should you prepare it ahead of time? Who should be the MC, and do you need an MC? Does it really matter whether campfire programs are led by Scouts or adults? Make your next campfire one your Scouts will remember forever.
- BSA215 **Congratulations you are a Patrol Leader...now what?** This class will provide the adult Scout leader simple concepts, tools and rules that they can share with their new Patrol Leaders (PL) in a single mentoring session. Not intended to replace Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) which

usually takes 3-5 hours, this class is designed to give the adult leader teaching points that can be passed on to their new PL in roughly 45 minutes. Concepts discussed are: The leadership, management and time equation; delegate authority but never responsibility; one third / two third rule; do all you can as soon as you can; be prepared is not just a motto, it is a way of leadership. Sharing these concepts will help the new PL get a running start to the best job a Scout can have.

BSA222 Fit and Fitting: Integrating the New Assistant Scoutmaster: New Assistant Scoutmasters are as diverse in experience, skill, and gifts as troops are in size, strengths, and unmet needs. We work hard to recognize the needs and gifts of the Scouts and we need to do so with our adult leaders as well! Successful programs recognize and manage this diversity to the benefit of the ASM and the troop. This course will consider the concept of the Good Fit between ASM and troop and offer suggestions and discussion on how to enable a Good Fit and position new ASMs for success. This course is for everyone that wants to see a new ASM or adult leader have a great Scouting experience.

BSA225 Nuts and Bolts of a Weekend Camping Trip: A successful troop depends on having a successful outdoor program. From your Scout's annual planning meeting to the Scoutmaster's final reimbursement request, this course will explore all those pesky details that can make or break a weekend camping trip. We will find the right balance between Scout-led tasks, and Scouter tasks. Using real examples, Scout-friendly forms, and online tools, we show little tricks to align your troop's trip planning and execution with Scouting America standards to help you BE PREPARED for your next adventure!

BSA226 Make Merit Badges Memorable: You've completed Youth Protection Training, registered as a Merit Badge Counselor, and reviewed the "Essentials of Merit Badge Counseling." Now, what? Come learn how we keep Scouts excited about Merit Badges using props, games, and unconventional aids. Find out other ways to surprise your Scouts, spice up interactive sessions, and make sure every Scout fulfills every requirement. A perfect example is how we use a baby doll to teach logic during our Programming Merit Badge session! In addition, discover the concept of Merit Badge Month and convert troop meetings into multiple merit badge sessions for every interest. We'll discuss all the secrets our troop uses to Make Merit Badges Memorable!

BSA231 Fulfilling the Vision: Messengers of Peace: Scouts and Scout's actions are inspired in values related to unity, peace and friendship. This means Scouts already work to build peace in many ways. Messengers of Peace aims for you to become a messenger of this same message by sharing your actions with others. Discover ways to inspire Scouts in your unit to do the same and how we can work together to bring about Baden-Powell's Vision of World Peace through Scouting.

BSA242 A Walk in the Woods – Helping First Years Enjoy Backpacking: First year scouts often have smaller frames, lighter body weights, little knowledge, and bursting excitement about overnight backpacking. We will take a look at how to properly outfit a smaller scout, factors that make a trip fun and engaging (such as mph, trip distance, eating schedules), and how to ensure that they will have such a good time backpacking that they can't wait for the next trip! Leaders, you will learn skills to be more comfortable backpacking too.

BSA243 Introducing Female Youth and Leaders to the Thrill of Backpacking: Backpacking with female youth, presents a unique set of challenges that leaders of female units need to know *before* they go hit the woods. We will discuss how to help female hikers, especially those who are new to backpacking, have a safe and enjoyable time on the trail by coming prepared. We will cover the female frame, physiological changes during hiking, tips for using a cathole, hygiene, Leave No Trace considerations, equipment selection and more.

BSA245 The Commissioner and Scouts BSA – A Partnership that Works: Attend this course to remove the mystery of Unit Commissioner Service. Learn to leverage your unit commissioner who is

dedicated and experienced Scouter who wants to help Scouts BSA leaders succeed and to help Troops go and grow.

BSA246 **Camping on a Shoestring Budget:** Is monthly camping putting a strain on your troop budget? Do you have limited funds to use for camping outside of Scout Camp and High Adventure camps? Come learn about some inexpensive (or even free) places to go camping in Maryland (and a few in Virginia). Share your favorite budget-friendly camping spots with your fellow scouters and help troops stretch their budget just a little further.

LEVEL 300 COURSES

BSA300 **Camping:** The need for regular varied camping trips and the requirements for Scout planning and evaluation of the event is the topic. Equipment, clothing, food, transportation, health requirements and places to try will be discussed.

BSA302 **Service Projects:** Service to others and project suggestions! Rank advancement and helping other Scouts, parents, unit, sponsor and the community. Discussion includes Eagle Rank service project requirements; also shows how helping others improves self-esteem and results in respect of others.

BSA305 **Retaining Older Scouts:** Once Scouts reach mid-teens many lose interest, miss meetings and outings, and too often drop out. This class will explore why this is the case and ways to keep the older Scouts engaged and wanting to continue to come to meetings and attend troop activities.

BSA314 **Little Known Scouting Awards:** Scouting BSA is more than just rank advancement and merit badges. It is the time to try new things, provide service to others, build self-confidence and reinforce ethical standards. While the advancement trail is designed to provide a base range of skills to develop a scout into a model young adult, there are other programs and awards that a scout may work on and earn that will keep the youth interested in the scouting programs and explore more than the basic set of skills. We will cover some awards that not all scout leaders are aware of and how to use these awards to create a scouting experience that is tailored to scouts interests.

BSA315 **Scout Conservation Projects – How to Maximize Service and Earn Awards for Doing Them:** Every Scout needs conservation service hours to advance, but many units don't know how to put together a strong conservation project. This course will provide unit leaders with a roadmap for project planning as well as for finding experts who can help them execute meaningful conservation projects. The class will also cover how to earn awards such as the Distinguished Conservation Service Award, Conservation Good Turn, World Conservation Award and the Messenger of Peace.

BSA320 **Bring the World into Your Unit's Programs:** Build your Scouts into better citizens by integrating the DC area's amazing international and intercultural resources into your unit's programs. Do you have Scouts working on Citizenship in the World Merit Badge? They can talk to a diplomat or visit an embassy. Looking to bring new variety to the menus on your next campout? Make it a patrol competition with a "golden spoon" award for the best dish from another culture. We'll also look at a variety of Scouts BSA programs that can put your Scouts in touch with international Scouting and world cultures – without leaving home.

BSA323 **Using social media for Recruitment and Engagement:** Learn how your unit can make use of the most popular platforms to recruit scouts and parents; raise awareness of scouting in your community; communicate your unit's schedules and activities; and share your unit's successes. We'll help you pick the platform(s) to be on, show you how to manage your social media pages using your phone, and share secrets for writing effective posts and increasing your reach. This course will also teach you how to use social media and comply with YPT guidelines.

- BSA327 *****NEW*** Range and Target Activities for Scout Troops and Older Scout Programs:** Learn about the updated rules for authorized equipment, training and safety in range and target activities for Scout Troops, Venturing Crews, and Sea Scout Ships at Unit, District and Council levels.
- BSA328 *****NEW*** Scouting on the Water** Join us for a review of the Scouting America guidelines for safe and successful water trips with your unit. We'll review the training that all leaders should complete to conduct water-based programs such as swimming, canoeing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, and sailing. We'll also explore known and recommended locations for weekend water adventures within a drive of the NCAC council area and share ideas on what has made your water programs successful.
- BSA332 *****NEW*** Pedal Power: Kicking Off Your Cycling Adventure:** Are your Scouts excited about biking long distances? Are you a new cycling merit badge counselor looking for guidance? This course is perfect for you! We'll guide you through every step to lead thrilling cycling adventures, from planning to the final ride. You'll learn how to keep the excitement high, build muscle, boost endurance, and foster teamwork and leadership. This isn't just a "how to ride a bike" class—it's about creating unforgettable cycling adventures with real-world examples and insider tips. Get ready to roll and make some memories!
- BSA335 **Vigil Nominations and Inductions:** Each year, Order of the Arrow Chapters nominate those who have gone above and beyond in service to others for the honor of Vigil membership. Come learn the process of nominations; from building a Chapter committee and working with deadlines to writing a great packet for a deserving nominee. New to the process or an experienced Adviser? Our Lodge Selections Committee has great information for everyone.
- BSA350 *****NEW*** Adventure in the OA:** This course describes the many exciting opportunities available to OA members. From Section Conclave to Goshen OA Trail Crew. From the National OA Conference to the exclusive OA High Adventure experiences offered at our National High Adventure bases. Learn about the world that is waiting for you.

LEVEL 400 COURSES

- BSA402 **How to Present Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops (ILST) to Youth:** Through hands-on exercises, interactive lecture, and other leadership learning tools, adult leaders in this session will participate in various ILST teaching and coaching methods. This session also discusses the Youth Leadership Training continuum and highlights connections to other quality youth courses (NYLT, NAYLE, and Kodiak Challenge).
- BSA403 **Troop Record Keeping:** This session will discuss the need for keeping timely and accurate records of the unit's finances and the attendance and advancement of each Scout. The different forms of records – paper/computer – will be reviewed. Council requirements for advancement reports, adult and Scout registration, and registration will be reviewed.
- BSA405 **NYLT Scoutmaster Orientation:** Are you looking to improve your Unit's youth leadership culture? Learn about NCAC's National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) program: an intense 6-day course for Scouts preparing to take on positions of leadership. This session will review eligibility requirements, give you an overview of what Scouts will learn, and provide tips for selecting who this training will most benefit. In addition, we will discuss the entire Youth Training Continuum so you can mentor your Scouts as they proceed along their journey towards Servant Leadership.
- BSA406 **Trail Cooking:** This session will explore the value of quality foods on the trail. Discussions will cover the selection of foods, the care and packaging for the trail, gear to be used in the preparation and the cleanup procedures.

- BSA408 **How to Recruit and Keep Volunteers:** All units depend on adult volunteers. Where do they come from? How can we recruit more? How can we keep them? This course will give tips on how to charm even the busiest parents into volunteering in their units.
- BSA412 **Eagle Project Coach/Eagle Advisor Training:** Interested in becoming an Eagle Project Coach or Eagle Advisor? Do you want to know more about the Life to Eagle process, but were afraid to ask? Come learn about the roles and responsibilities of adults that help Life Scouts successfully navigate the Life to Eagle process. Also, learn how to handle those special circumstances and answer those tricky questions that arise along the way!
- BSA418 **Appeals and Time Extensions:** Board Appeals and Requests for Time Extension may be rare, but that's no excuse for Districts or Units to be caught off guard if/when the situation arises. Drawing from sections 8.0.3.2, 8.0.4.0 and 9.0.4.0 of the Guide to Advancement, and a few years of experience, this session will shed light on the underlying processes associated with these time-critical and (occasionally) emotionally packed situations in Scouting.
- BSA425 **Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) - You are the Help until Help Arrives:** When disaster hits your neighborhood, how will you and your troop respond? Join members of the Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) for an interactive look at responding to disasters, both big and small. Learn how to develop plans and skills for yourself, your family, troop, and area. The class will cover locally available training and how to customize emergency preparedness and training for your own troop and their families
- BSA427 **Life to Eagle for Adults (requires two periods):** The Trail To Eagle brief provides unit adults with an overview of the Eagle Scout rank requirements, followed by a deep dive into the specific areas where youth and adults struggle. The class will address common errors made in developing the Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal as well as common admin errors made when preparing the Eagle Scout Rank Application. Recommendations regarding developing the Eagle Scout Service Project Proposal and preparing the Eagle Scout Rank Application will be provided. The class is recommended for Scoutmasters, Crew Advisors, Committee Chairs, Advancement Chairs, Eagle Coordinators/Mentors as well as Committee Members.
- BSA429 **Citizenship in Society (requires two periods):** Citizenship in Society is sufficiently different in the way it's presented to Scouts from other merit badges that National recommended counselors be trained in the differences before working with Scouts. This NCAC training reviews the Scouting America DEI vision and mission and goes over the requirements, discussing helpful tips and the best ways to teach each requirement. Completion of this course is required before having it added to a counselor's list of approved merit badges.
- BSA430 **National Outdoor Challenge Award:** The National Outdoor Challenge Award empowers unit leaders to incentivize and recognize their units as well as individual youth who embrace the "Outing" in Scouting. This course will provide an overview of the requirements for both the unit and individual awards. We will seek to dispel myths and common misconceptions regarding the award and use of the program. Finally, the course will explain and demonstrate how to plan and deliver an outdoor program which covers the five activity areas (adventure, aquatics, camping, hiking, and riding) while embracing the mindset of conservation.

NOTE: Courses designated with “(requires 2 periods)” count as two course credits.
STANDALONE COURSE (Does NOT qualify for a degree in any college)

BSA902 **ILSC/S/T – Introduction to Leadership Skills in the Crew (ILSC), Ship (ILSS), and Troop (ILST) (Periods 2-6)**: Scouts, Venturers, & Sea Scouts will learn how to take the next step in their Scouting journey and become the Leaders of their Troops, Crews, and Ships. Scouts will learn decision making, communication, planning, and delegation while working through patrol challenges. This is a 5-period interactive course and Scouts will be required to participate throughout in order to receive credit. Upon completion of the course, Scouts will be able to "hit the ground running" armed with meeting agendas, hike plans, and campout schedules to use within their units.

This course is required for all youth leadership positions, the Venturing Discovery Rank, and the Sea Scout Ordinary Rank.

Suggested Course Tracks Based on Scouting Position or Area of Interest:

Merit Badge Counselor Track:

Period 1: BSA226 - Make Merit Badges Memorable!
Period 2: BSA104 - The Troop Committee
Period 3: BSA206 - Merit Badge Counseling
Period 4: BSA203 - Advancement Overview
Period 5: BSA203 - Advancement Overview
Period 6: BSA320 - Bring the World into Your Unit's Program

Troop Committee Track

Period 1: BSA226 - Make Merit Badges Memorable!
Period 2: BSA205 - Troop Boards of Review
Period 3: BSA104 - The Troop Committee
Period 4: BSA203 - Advancement Overview
Period 5: BSA203 - Advancement Overview
Period 6: BSA110 - Troop and Eagle Scout Courts of Honor

Scoutmaster Track

Period 1: BSA107 - Scoutmaster Minute
Period 2: BSA205 - Troop Boards of Review
Period 3: BSA120 - So You are the New Scoutmaster?
Period 4: BSA201 - The Patrol Method
Period 5: BSA208 - The Scoutmaster Conference
Period 6: BSA108 - Troop Equipment

Camping Interest Track

Period 1: BSA300 - Camping
Period 2: BSA108 - Troop Equipment or BSA406 - Trail Cooking
Period 3: BSA315 - Scout Conservation Projects or BSA430 - National Outdoor Challenge Award
Period 4: BSA225 - Nuts & Bolts of a Weekend Camping Trip
Period 5: BSA246 - Camping on a Shoestring Budget
Period 6: BSA430 - National Outdoor Challenge Award or BSA108 - Troop Equipment

Order of the Arrow Track

Period 1: BSA139 - Order of the Arrow 101
Period 2: BSA350 - Adventure in the OA
Period 3: BSA202 - Growing and Retaining OA Youth Membership
Period 4: BSA122 - Wipit Wischixin
Period 5: BSA140 - "Aim High" - A Discussion of Recent Changes to the Order of the Arrow
Period 6: BSA335 - Vigil Nominations and Inductions



COLLEGE OF ADVENTURE SCOUTING (*Venturing Crews, Sea Scout Ships, Exploring Posts*) 2025 NCAC University of Scouting

COURSE LISTINGS

LEVEL 100 COURSES

- EAC101 **High Adventure Opportunities 101:** High adventure is one of the most successful ways to challenge your Scouts and keep older youth involved in Scouting. Learn how to start at NCAC's Lenhok'sin, then increase the challenges in successive years. There are the "big" national bases, including Summit, Philmont, Northern Tier, and Sea Base, but did you know that many councils offer high adventure programs as well, often at a lower cost? From the millions of acres of the Adirondacks to the remote wilderness of Maine to the new Scouting America Swamp Base in Louisiana, there's an adventure waiting for your unit. Learn the difference between unit-based treks and council provisional treks, too. Please let us share how to get enjoying the ultimate "Outing in Scouting" through high adventure!
- EAC102 **High Adventure 2.0:** Your Troop, Crew, or Ship has just returned from a high adventure base, and they had a great time. Whether it was backpacking at Philmont, canoeing at Northern Tier, or sailing or scuba at Sea Base, they're now demanding, "More!" Most units rotate around the Scouting America bases, rather than developing deeper expertise in any one of these activities. If your unit wants to stick with one activity and get better at it, how do you help them do that? This course tells you how to plan and prepare for that "next adventure" beyond a Scouting America base. This course will talk about backpacking (such as on the AT), canoeing (such as in Maine), and scuba (such as in OBX or the Bahamas). It covers planning and program ideas, and how to get your Scouts ready for that "next level."
- EAC103 **Wilderness First Aid Basics:** Basics of first aid for outdoor and high adventure. Review of first aid courses for qualification for outdoor activity first aid certification. Wilderness Risk Management concepts will be presented.
- EAC108 **Sea Scouts – Best Kept Secret:** Sea Scouting, a year-round adventure for youth ages 14-21 dives deep into Scouting with a Splash! Sea Scout programs on the water and beyond can include SCUBA, white water, paddle craft, sailing, power boating, marksmanship experiences, and more.... Sea Scouting prides itself on maritime traditions and training on and off the water. Join two times National Flag Ship 1942 for a presentation on how to successfully embrace a Sea Scout 12-month program to booster older youth engagement!
- EAC113 **Venturing Beyond the Council:** Learn how Venturing beyond the Council contributes to council Venturing units and unit programs. Learn what the Territory and National Committees do for your Venturing Crew.

- EAC133 **Introduction to Venturing – How Does it Work?** Overview of Venturing Advancement, Tiers of Adventure, Specialty Awards, and how a Crew functions compared to a Troop.
- EAC134 **Scouts BSA and Venturing: a Powerful Partnership:** Venturing for many is a natural progression the youth Scouting experience. For others with no prior Scouting, Venturing is an all-new experience. Venturing Crews and Scout Troops can both provide the other with useful resources, increased numbers of participants for fun events, mentoring between programs, and more. Join us for a session of Best Practices on how Troops and Crews can strengthen and complement each other, united in Scouting!
- EAC136 **The Do's and Don'ts of Venturing Recruitment:** Because of their unique special interests and sponsoring organizations, Venturing Crews are typically smaller groups of young adults who come together for activities they know they will enjoy and events where they know they will have fun. This session will explain some of the tried-and-true methods for bringing new members into your Crew and for partnering with other Scouting units to build upon your Crew's resources. We will discuss lessons learned from recruiting teenagers and best practices for the most successful recruitment methods used in this council.
- EAC151 **Mentoring Training (2 periods):** Required training for the Summit award to teach Venturers how to take on a role of mentoring a younger Venturer in leading an event. This is a 2-hour block and is capped at 15 youth participants.

LEVEL 200 COURSES

- EAC202 **Rails-to-Trails Adventures:** Learn about Rails-to-Trails adventures in National Capital Area Council area for biking, hiking, and even rollerblading. Learn how Rails-to-Trails has worked to preserve these great and historic trails for your adventures. Learn how you can get involved in preserving these trails.
- EAC203 **Orienteering:** Learn about equipment, training, safety, introduction to technique and methods, and opportunities to participate in this challenging adventure.
- EAC204 **GPS and Geocaching:** Learn about how to operate a GPS locator. Learn about the great sport of Geocaching.
- EAC210 **Appalachian Trail Cabins and Shelters:** Learn how your unit can use great historic cabins and trail shelters along the Appalachian Trail – some as close as 1 hour's drive from the DC area. Stay for a night, stay for a weekend. Great adventures.
- EAC221 **Ohiopyle Adventures:** Learn about possible adventure in Ohiopyle, PA to include White Water Rafting, white water canoeing, climbing and rappelling, rail trail biking, mountain biking, fly fishing, merit badges, and more. Learn about equipment, training, safety, introduction to technique and methods, and opportunities/locations to participate in these adventures. Learn where to camp.
- EAC222 **Canoeing/Kayaking:** Learn about equipment, training, safety, introduction to technique and methods, and opportunities/locations to participate in this adventure.
- EAC224 **SCUBA Diving:** Learn about equipment, training, safety, introduction to technique and methods, and opportunities for your units to participate in this underwater adventure.
- EAC225 **Aquatics Adventures:** Learn about aquatics adventures from the NCAC Aquatics Committee, including safe aquatics training, swimming and water rescue, snorkeling, SCUBA, kayaking, paddle craft, lifeguarding, and swimming.

- EAC230 **Backpacking Lite:** Learn how to lighten your load from experienced Appalachian Trail Thru-Hikers. An interactive discussion and demonstration on the merits of lightweight backpacking. Explore opportunities to reduce weight and discover inexpensive gear alternatives without sacrificing comfort during this session lead by a father son scouting team with vast high adventure background, complimented by further experience gained from thru-hiking the Appalachian trail.
- EAC260 **Harper's Ferry Area Adventures:** Learn about possible adventure in the Harper's Ferry, West Virginia area, to include guided whitewater rafting, tubing, kayaking, canoeing, climbing, cycling, and hiking trips. Learn about equipment, training, safety, introduction to technique and methods, and opportunities/locations to participate in these adventures. Learn where to camp.
- EAC266 **Nrocks Adventures:** Learn about adventures at Nrocks - rock climbing and rappelling with qualified guides, climb the Via Ferrata (Iron Way) with it really high swinging bridge, canopy zip lines, camping out or camping in cabins and lodge, hiking, and leads to the highest point in West Virginia and the caves nearby. Learn how to participate in these adventures.
- EAC281 **COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience):** Learn how COPE can be used to build confidence, teamwork, and communication skills in your youth. Learn how COPE can satisfy requirements for Venturing awards. Learn where you can take your unit to participate in COPE – there are more opportunities that you know of.
- EAC 282 **Follow the Leader and Leaders Will Follow****
- How are you doing in building effective youth leadership?
 - Do your youth avoid leadership roles?
 - Do they struggle to listen or follow their leaders?
 - Are your dens, patrols, or crews having trouble working as a team?
- This class provides simple, hands-on ways to help youth build teamwork, communicate better, and share leadership. Participants will leave with easy-to-use activities and practical tips they can implement right away. For those who want more support, guidance will also be available to help put these strategies into action.
- EAC292 **Improving Hike Planning w/Technology:** Using apps, digital maps, GPS, and altimeter to make your hikes better and more fun.
- EAC296 **Adventuring with Disabilities:** Have you ever wondered what life was like for your Scout who has a disability? In this class you will get the chance to experience what it is like to have a disability. Get a glimpse into what it's like for those Scouts in your units so that you can understand them a little better and help them a little more. You will be able to take what you have learned and the activities back home to run your own class with your scouts.
- EAC297 **Exploring in NCAC: How the Exploring Program Enhances the Experience for Older Scouts**
Overview of the Exploring Program and its history. Identification of the Exploring units presently in NCAC and some that are currently being organized. Discussion on how Exploring complements Scouting for older Scouts and also brings additional youth into the program.

LEVEL 300 COURSES

- EAC301 **Hiking and Backpacking:** This is an advanced session on the requirements for a successful hiking or backpacking trip based on Scouting America's Passport to High Adventure. Points to be covered will include: the need for regular hiking/backpacking trips; physical requirements; crew concept; aspects of planning, preparation, and promotion; personal and crew equipment; clothing and shoes; navigation; trail procedures; post-trip evaluation and additional resources.
- EAC310 **Canoe Treks:** Learn about how to plan and conduct a canoe trek and where you can go to float your boat.

- EAC311 **Sailing Basics and Resources**: Learn basics of sailing. Learn where you can learn to sail and where you can take your crew/team/ship sailing. Learn about Sea Scout sailing.
- EAC312 **Sea Base High Adventure**: Learn how to plan a long cruise or sailing high adventure for your Venturing Crew or Sea Scout Ship in the Florida Keys or the Caribbean. Find out about resources for planning.
- EAC313 **Fun and Challenging Hikes within 2 Hour Drive**: Learn about great hikes to fun and interesting places. Learn about hikes that can challenge your crew or team so they can learn if they have the right stuff to meet the challenge.
- EAC317 **Council Programs for Local Rock Climbing**: This course covers how you can learn to lead unit climbing adventures that meet national and council standards. It will introduce you to bouldering; slacklining; the mobile climbing tower; affordable, local natural rock climbing supported by council equipment and instructors; and NCAC climbing instructor training. The course will cover:
- Why climb?
 - Bouldering and slacklining
 - The Scouterhorn
 - Base and top-managed climbing
 - Top Rope program
 - Instructor training
 - Q & A
 - List of resources
- EAC318 **Adirondacks High Adventure and Other Budget Friendly High Adventures**: Learn about canoeing and hiking the lakes and mountains of the Adirondacks – unbelievable adventure, challenge, and wilderness beauty within 8 hours’ drive. Also learn about other two other budget friendly high adventure locations.
- EAC319 **Adventures at Summit Scout Reservation, West Virginia**: Learn about what high adventures are available at the new Summit Scout Reservation. Get first hand information. Q&A.
- EAC321 **Maine High Adventure**: Learn about the exciting outdoor Scouting opportunities available outside your local council through the High Adventure programs offered by other B.S.A. councils. Specifically, this course focuses on the Katahdin Area Council's Maine High Adventure program. Learn about this exceptionally flexible program for Venturing crews and older Scouts. Find out how a Maine High Adventure trek supports, reinforces, and goes beyond other outdoor Scouting experiences, how remote the location is, how easy it can be for your unit to attend, how to schedule your unit's trip to northern Maine, and how memorable the experience will be for every attendee.
- EAC322 **Northern Tier/Okpik**: Want true wilderness? Scouting America high adventure wilderness trekking began in 1923 at Northern Tier. Starting from bases at Ely, MN; Atikokan, ON; or Bissett, MB, trekkers can access roughly six million acres of wilderness while they paddle and portage into pristine back country. No roads, no resupply, just you and your Scouting skills in the wilderness for 10 nights. A trip to Northern Tier provides a true wilderness experience like none other. Like snow? Northern Tier's winter program at Ely, MN teaches how to survive and thrive while winter camping. Are you tough enough to be an Okpik trekker? All of these programs are extreme camping at its finest. Come learn more!
- EAC323 **Lenhok'sin**: “Plan your own adventure” at Lenhok’sin High Adventure! Located at the Goshen Scout Reservation, learn about Lenhok’sin’s Backpacking and James River Canoe treks and why your unit should “Hit the Trail.” Lenhok’sin is the perfect place to introduce your scouts to the world of high adventure and to prepare them for future adventures, such as Philmont and Northern Tier. Featuring customizable itineraries, curate your trek for your unit’s goals, needs, and experience level.

Participate in other programs while on the trail, including an 1830s Mountain Man encampment, 20th Century Appalachian blacksmithing forge, caving, water sports, and so much more!

EAC324 **Philmont:** Learn how to register for Philmont adventure, backpacking or horseback, in the forested mountains of New Mexico. Learn what the different adventures have to offer and what you need to do to prepare. Learn about tips and lessons learned secrets from those who have been there. There's a reason Philmont is known as "Scouting's Paradise" – it stands as the ultimate test of a crew's mastery of their outdoor skills, being the only national high adventure base where a crew is its own after the second day of a typical 11-day trek. Located on over 140,000 acres in the Rocky Mountains of northern New Mexico (plus half again as much on adjoining properties), the Ranch hosts over 23,000 Scouts every summer to take on the challenge of a 51 to 100+ mile backpacking trek. Treks also feature nearly daily programs of rock climbing and rappelling, rifle and shotgun shooting, blacksmithing, spar pole climbing, burro packing, horseback riding, challenge events, black powder rifle, and tomahawk throwing. Can't get a crew? Try one of the numerous programs for individuals.

BSA327 **Range and Target Activities for Scout Troops and Older Scout Programs:** Learn about the updated rules for authorized equipment, training and safety in shooting sports for Scout Troops, Venturing Crews, and Sea Scout Ships at Unit, District and Council levels.

**** This class is presented in the College of Scouts BSA. Please register for it there. ****

EAC335 **High Adventure Fishing:** This course will give you the knowledge and resources you need to plan and prepare for a high adventure fishing trek. In the class, we will discuss why fishing is important, different approaches to a fishing trek, where and when to go for success, how to figure out what fish are active and what they're eating, what equipment you need, and how to be prepared for potential health and safety issues.

EAC342 **National Park Adventures:** Learn about adventure opportunities in national parks.

EAC353 **The Scouting America Culture of Safety- What the Heck is That?** Explore the elements of the Scouting America Culture of Safety including the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. In addition, SAFE, incident reporting, and program hazard analysis and how they are essential for a fun and safe outdoor program will be discussed.

EAC354 **Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC).** Want to give your Scouts a truly unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime high adventure experience? Check out KISC, the Kandersteg International Scout Centre in Switzerland! This "permanent mini-jamboree", which has been operating for over 100 years, features an incredible array of activities and adventures, all surrounded by the breathtaking beauty of the Swiss Alps. Hiking, eco-challenges, whitewater rafting, Via Ferrata, canyoning, exploring Swiss culture, and international friendship are just some of the incredible opportunities waiting for your group at KISC.

EAC 355 **Bikepacking on the C&O Canal and the Greater Allegheny Passage Trail.** Do you love backpacking, but wish you could cover more ground in a day? Or are you a cyclist who would like to get more adventurous? Try bikepacking! A camping trip on a bike is the perfect self-supported, all-terrain discovery adventure that allows you to go further and explore more. In this class we'll talk about the skills, tools, and equipment needed for a safe & fun bikepacking trip. We'll also talk about planning & executing trips, from easy day rides to a multi-day excursion on a local favorite trail, the Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal Towpath.

COLLEGE OF ADVENTURE STAND ALONE COURSE
(Standalone courses DO NOT qualify for a degree in any college)

EAC902 **ILSC/S/T – Introduction to Leadership Skills in the Crew (ILSC), Ship (ILSS), and Troop (ILST) (Periods 2-6)**: Scouts, Venturers, & Sea Scouts will learn how to take the next step in their Scouting journey and become the Leaders of their Troops, Crews, and Ships. Scouts will learn decision making, communication, planning, and delegation while working through patrol challenges. This is a 5-period interactive course and Scouts will be required to participate throughout in order to receive credit. Upon completion of the course, Scouts will be able to "hit the ground running" armed with meeting agendas, hike plans, and campout schedules to use within their units.

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COLLEGE OF GENERAL STUDIES

2025 NCAC University of Scouting

COURSE LISTINGS

TRADITIONAL ELECTIVES – IN THE GSC 100 SERIES

- GSC101 **Food Allergies and Scouting:** Food allergies can be challenging because A Scout is Hungry, so we feed hungry Scouts. Doing this without endangering a Scout(er) with food allergies or isolating them with a different diet can be challenging. Short answer: thought, prep, and listening to them and their family.
- GSC102 **Supporting Scouts with Disabilities (includes ADD/ADHD):** This course will provide Scout leaders with suggestions for working with Scouts with disabilities. The course will focus on the specific needs of Scouts with attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity disorder, learning disabilities, physical disabilities, autism, Asperger's Syndrome, emotional disabilities, other mental impairments, hearing impairment and blindness. Leaders of special Scouting units will share first-hand knowledge. Activities, resources and alternative requirements for rank advancement will be discussed. Information will also be available on the greatly revised requirements for the Disabilities Awareness Merit Badge. *This is a TWO-HOUR course and requires two consecutive periods.*
- GSC104 **Tick Talk!** This class will share information and references on ticks and tickborne diseases in the MD/VA areas that you can share with your units as well as advice on Being Prepared for Tick Troubles, and counsel on managing anxious youth and parents with empathy and calm confidence.
- GSC105 **When Scouters are the Problem:** We've all heard "Scouting would be great if it wasn't for the parents." Parents are leaders, too. The focus will be on questions from participants, which can be texted anonymously. Previous issues include Scouters with incorrect or outdated information and who block other adults from volunteering.
- GSC107 **Scouting with Google: Build a Free Online Collaboration Hub with Google Tools:** As more of the work we do is digital or online, it is important to preserve the great work done by volunteers in a single place. We'll review a step-by-step guide on how to build a free (or low-cost) online collaboration and communication hub for your Scouting unit by using different Google tools like Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Photos, Calendar, and Sites. The class will also provide tips on how to use these tools to organize your unit's information, communicate with volunteers and Scouts, collaborate on projects, customize your unit's website and email addresses with a custom domain, and connect with Scouting America online tools.
- GSC108 *****NEW*** Aim Small, Miss Small: Becoming a Successful Smaller Unit:** Much of Scouting is the sharing of timeless values and it is not unusual for units to find themselves with fewer Scouts that they had in previous years. The tricks of the trade for unit growth are far more often shared among scouters than how to actively reduce the size of the unit. This class will discuss tools for managing contracting troops, although concepts may also be relevant to contracting Packs. We will emphasize the importance of escaping constant comparison of the current small troop to the past large troop, moving forward with fit for purpose unit organization and programs, and becoming a successful small unit focused on the bullseye of providing positive scouting experiences for youth and libraries of good memories for scouting families.
- GSC111 **Scenarios, Drills and Moulage – How to keep emergency skills fresh in a fun way:** First Aid Skills are in constant need of refreshing. This course will cover how to construct an appropriate scenario for the audience and time allotted. Learn how to work with victim actors and develop age-appropriate victim injury cards. The focus will be on how to keep actors and participants safe. Come learn about moulage, and how to create realistic-looking burns, bruises, cuts, impalements, amputations and other injuries on a small budget!

- GSC113 **Lantern and Stovemanship:** This is an introduction to a variety of fuels and types of lanterns and stoves. This is a very valuable course for every Scouter.
- GSC114 **International Scouting:** Expand your parameters, open your eyes. Scouting around the world invites your attention. There's a huge world of Scouting awaiting.
- GSC115 *****NEW***Neurodiversity and Scouting:** This course raises awareness of neurodiversity within Scouting and equips leaders with strategies to support neurodiverse Scouts. By understanding the strengths and needs of Scouts with conditions like ADHD, autism, and learning disabilities, we can work together to create an inclusive environment that promotes participation, leadership, and growth for all members of your Pack, Troop or Crew.
- GSC116 **Risk Management in Scouting:** This course includes a discussion of an adult leader's legal duty of care toward Scouts, also introducing outdoor risk management principles and their relationship to Scouting's outdoor program. In particular it covers how such principles relate to Scouting America's policies and procedures, with an emphasis on identifying the range of risks to be addressed, and how adult leaders can best prepare themselves to address risks in order to meet their duty of care. This course is particularly relevant to those participating in high adventure or backcountry activities, and will include interactive discussions regarding actual outdoor scenarios which raise risk management issues commonly confronted by adult leaders. This course is presented by the author of the book "Risk Management in Scouting-Essentials for Leaders." *This is a TWO-HOUR course and requires two consecutive periods.*
- GSC120 **Goshen Scout Reservation:** Meet your Reservation Director and learn what is new at the Goshen Scout Reservation this coming summer! This course is intended for new and returning units and will aim to give them the tools they need to have the most successful summer camp experience possible. Topics include Goshen Scout Reservation camps and programs, registration, unit summer camp preparation, and valuable tips and trips.
- GSC127 **Introduction to Wood Badge:** Experience WORLD-CLASS leadership training right here in NCAC. It's easily the equivalent of the best corporate management and leadership programs! In this class, learn how Wood Badge participants immerse themselves in engaging, interactive instruction and live the life of a Scout over two weekends. It is FUN and full of practical techniques to help your unit or district deliver the promise of Scouting to our youth. Appropriate for Scouters working at the unit, district and council level.
- GSC132 **Scoutbook - the Key to Organizing a Scout Unit:** Get introduced to Scoutbook, Scouting America's online application which provides access to valuable tools and resources that help with the day-to-day management of a unit from advancement to calendars to communication. We'll review how Scoutbook helps unit leaders deliver the Scouting program, help Scouts and their families participate more fully in their Scouting adventures, track advancement, keep up to date on unit activities, and discuss the latest releases and features.
- GSC144 **Acquire the Facilitator's Advantage:** An overview of four core competencies that successful facilitators need to master in order to be effective trainers and presenters within Scouting. Attendees will be introduced to the fundamentals of games and their role in the Scouting America's COPE & climbing program as well as discussing how these programs help build leadership skills in Scouts and Scouters.
- GSC146 *****NEW***Serving Scouts with Disabilities:** This course discusses disabilities, how to support scouts and scouters with different abilities, and resources available to enhance and be inclusive for scouters with visible and invisible disabilities. *This is a TWO-HOUR course and requires two consecutive periods.*

STEM IN SCOUTING CONCENTRATION COURSES – THE GSC500 SERIES

- GSC510 **Scouts BSA, Troops and STEM: Keys to Success:** This session will outline the Scouting America STEM Nova and Supernova Awards and provide a roadmap for a unit leader to guide successful implementation and a Scout's achievement of these awards. Emphasis will be on the Scout BSA programs to show how STEM can be integrated into troop activities and programs. Both "how-to" and "go-to" resources will be described to show how science, technology, engineering and mathematics can be utilized to provide a fun and engaging opportunity for our Scouts. (This class does not meet the requirements for a NOVA STEM Mentor/Counselor.)
- GSC511 **STEM Scouts Program – How to Add a Lab to Your Pack/Troop:** Using experiential activities and interaction with STEM professionals, the goal of the STEM Scouts program is to help young people grow in character and skills as they explore their curiosity about STEM fields. It is hoped that their growing knowledge will translate into the STEM-related careers that are so crucial to our country's future economy. While the program focuses on future careers in STEM, it is ultimately designed to be challenging, thought-provoking and, most importantly, fun. Learn about this new fun program now available in NCAC!
- GSC516 **STEM in the National Capital Area Council:** Where to go, what to do in the National Capital Area for great STEM activities. Learn about our DC STEM Trek! The NCAC STEM Committee will share their best ideas.
- GSC526 *****NEW*** Fun STEM Activities for the Cub Family Campout:** This training will include STEM ideas for the following Scout Skills: Cooking; Navigation; Fire Building; Boating; Swimming; Tool Use; Shelter Building; Knots; and Nature Conservation.
- GSC529 *****NEW***STEM Nova Counselor and Supernova Mentor Training:** It doesn't take a rocket scientist to be a Nova Counselor or Supernova Mentor! The STEM Nova program introduces Scouts to the basic principles of STEM and helps them to discover how fun and exciting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) can be. To achieve the award, scouts must work with an approved Nova Counselor or Supernova Mentor. The STEM Nova program is available for Cub Scout (Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light), Sea Scouts and Venturers. This course meets the requirements for Nova Counselor and Supernova Mentor.
- GSC530 *****NEW***High Tech STEM Electives: AOL: High Tech Outdoors, Webelos: Tech on the Trail, and Bear: Chef Tech:** The new AOL High Tech Outdoor, Webelos Tech on the Trail, and Bear Chef Tech are fun activities emphasizing the "T" in STEM. Join us for a fun time exploring these new electives!
- GSC531 *****NEW***STEM for Lion and Tiger Scouts:** Equip Cub Scout leaders with the knowledge and tools to integrate STEM activities into their Lions and Tigers programs effectively.
- GSC532 *****NEW***STEM Electives for Wolves and Bears:** Fun hands-on experiments for the new Wolf and Bear electives! We will practice the activities, and give you a 'how-to' manual and explanation for each experiment so you have the confidence to share the science!
- GSC533 *****NEW***STEM Electives for Webelos and AOL:** Fun hands-on experiments for the new Webelos and Arrow of Light electives! We will practice the activities, and give you a 'how-to' manual and explanation for each experiment so you have the confidence to share the science!

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CONCENTRATION COURSES – THE GSC600 SERIES

- GSC601 *****NEW*** Introduction to Youth Mental Health:** This course provides an overview of common YMHA issues a scout leader could expect to be exposed to and discusses appropriate responses. Focusing on suicide prevention, it provides interactive suicide prevention education, which inspires open conversations and strengthens meaningful connections

ONLINE/SOCIAL MEDIA CONCENTRATION COURSES – THE GSC700 SERIES

- GSC701 **Marketing & Communications Essentials for your District, Committee, or Program:** The marketing and communications lead for any district or council committee or program is a critical position that not only ensures the successful promotion of events and activities but also maintains good communication and relationships with volunteers, unit leaders, families, and the youth we serve. This course reviews and discusses key responsibilities, best practices, council and national policies, and free marketing and communications resources from NCAC and Scouting America. This course is designed for district committee chairs and leads (e.g., Marketing & Communications, Activities & Civic Service, Special Events, Training, etc.), webmasters, committee members, and anyone involved in marketing and communication efforts.
- GCS702 **Basecamp Success for your District or Council Committee:** Learn how to use Basecamp, NCAC's approved and official online collaboration and project management tool -- available to all district and council committees and programs -- to help you get the "business of Scouting" done. Basecamp is a commercial software application that helps teams stay in touch, create projects, track progress, and manage tasks. We will explore core Basecamp features, such as the Message Board, To-dos, Docs & Files (document storage and sharing), and Schedule, and how they can be used to support the successful operations of your district or council committees and events. We will also cover best practices, tips, and advanced techniques. This course is designed for existing users of Basecamp, district or committee chairs (e.g., Marketing & Communications, Activities & Civic Service, Special Events, Training, etc.), webmasters, committee members, and anyone interested in communications and project management best practices.
- GSC703 **Email Marketing and Outreach Essentials for your District or Council Committee:** Learn the best practices and policies for using NCAC's approved and official email marketing platform, iContact, for outreach and communications with volunteers, units, families, and others to promote all sorts of Scouting events. We'll review recommendations on content format and structure, length, titling, links, and more. Participants will be encouraged to share their experiences and participate in brainstorming sessions to work through real-life challenges and learn how to combat deliberate or inadvertent filtering and the lack of reader interest. This course is designed for district or committee chairs and leads (e.g., Marketing & Communications, Activities & Civic Service, Special Events, Training, etc.), webmasters, committee members, and other interested volunteers.
- GSC704 **Using Black Pug Calendar for your District or Council Committee:** Black Pug is NCAC's approved and official online calendar and event registration system, powering the online calendar on the NCAC website. Black Pug is required for all council and district events, and any event that requires registration or payments. This course will teach you how to schedule events, create detailed descriptions, set up registration options, and manage registration and payment options. This two-hour course (double session) is perfect for those who work with council and district events. This course is designed for district or committee chairs and leads (e.g., Marketing & Communications, Activities & Civic Service, Special Events, Training, etc.), webmasters, committee members, and other interested volunteers.
- GSC705 **Social Media Essentials for your District or Council Committee:** To keep Scouting going and growing, it is critical that people see the incredible things our Scouts are doing. It is especially important to spread the word through social media. This course offers practical advice on reaching broader audiences through engaging social media that can drive increased participation and recruitment, including Facebook geotargeted ads supported by NCAC. This course is designed for district or committee chairs and leads (e.g., Marketing & Communications, Activities & Civic Service, Special Events, Training, etc.), webmasters, committee members, and other interested volunteers.

2025 NCAC UNIVERSITY OF SCOUTING COURSE SCHEDULES

COLLEGE OF CUB SCOUTING								
Opening	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Lunch	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Closing
	CUB101*	CUB325*	CUB231*	X	CUB288*	CUB401*	CUB212*	
	CUB315*	CUB121*	CUB337*	X	CUB377*	CUB480*	CUB417*	
	CUB411	CUB300	CUB100	X	CUB300	CUB101	CUB100	
	CUB283	CUB366	CUB252	X	CUB252	CUB283	CUB366	
	CUB402	CUB206	CUB125	X	CUB125	CUB206	CUB402	
	CUB247	CUB312	CUB102	X	CUB102	CUB247	CUB312	
	CUB133	CUB304	CUB104	X	CUB104	CUB133	CUB304	
	CUB468	CUB192	CUB373	X	CUB337	CUB468	CUB192	
	CUB259	CUB201	CUB259	X	CUB231	(-----CUB195-----)		
	CUB185	(----- CUB367-----)		X	CUB211	CUB327	CUB377	
	CUB273	CUB318	CUB901	X	(-----CUB218-----)		CUB220	

COLLEGE OF SCOUTS BSA								
Opening	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Lunch	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Closing
	BSA226	BSA327	BSA430	X	BSA143	BSA242	BSA243	
	BSA130	BSA201	BSA315	X	BSA128	BSA215	BSA208	
	BSA105	BSA406	BSA206	X	BSA206	BSA208	BSA110	
	BSA222	BSA210	BSA109	X	(-----BSA203-----)		BSA430	
	BSA302	BSA205	BSA120	X	BSA116	BSA305	BSA205	
	BSA305	BSA245	BSA104	X	BSA225	BSA246	BSA231	
	BSA107	BSA328	BSA403	X	BSA314	BSA418	BSA412	
	BSA332	(-----BSA427-----)		X	(-----BSA427-----)		BSA108	
	BSA323	BSA108	BSA408	X	BSA201	(-----BSA429-----)		
	BSA402	BSA402	BSA405	X	BSA243	BSA425	BSA225	
	BSA139	BSA350	BSA202	X	BSA122	BSA140	BSA335	
	BSA300	BSA104	BSA111	X	BSA212	BSA213	BSA320	
	X	(-----BSA902-----)		X	(-----BSA902 continued-----)			
	BSA185 (Register for CUB185)							

COLLEGE OF ADVENTURE SCOUTING								
Opening	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Lunch	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Closing
	EAC204	EAC203	EAC202	X	EAC210	EAC313	EAC292	
	EAC260	EAC266	EAC331	X	EAC221	EAC318	EAC317	
	EAC102	EAC101	EAC324	X	EAC321	EAC323	EAC319	
	X	EAC335	EAC296	X	X	EAC353	X	
	EAC224	EAC310	EAC222	X	EAC108	EAC311	EAC312	
	EAC113	X	EAC134	X	EAC133	EAC136	X	
	(-----EAC151-----)		EAC225	X	X	X	X	
	X	EAC230	EAC103	X	EAC342	EAC322	EAC301	
	EAC281	EAC282	X	X	EAC355	EAC354	EAC297	
	X	(-----EAC902-----)		X	(-----EAC902 continued-----)			

COLLEGE OF GENERAL STUDIES								
Opening	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Lunch	Period 4	Period 5	Period 6	Closing
	GSC107	GSC601	GSC115	X	GSC101	GSC108	GSC104	
	(-----GSC116-----)		GSC132	X	GSC132	(-----GSC146-----)		
	(-----GSC102-----)		GSC105	X	GSC113	X	GSC114	
	GSC601	GSC144	GSC127	X	GSC120	X	GSC111	
	GSC530	GSC532	GSC533	X	GSC531	GSC601	GSC601	
	X	GSC510	GSC516	X	GSC526	GSC511	GSC529	
	GSC705	GSC702	GSC703	X	(-----GSC704-----)		GSC701	

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Registration for the 2025 NCAC University of Scouting can be done in one of two ways, online or onsite. Advance registration is done online with the Council website ncacbsa.org/uos. Paper registrations will not be accepted. Onsite or walk-in registrations are strongly discouraged. Registration cost by February 16, 2025 is \$50 for students and all others including instructors and staff taking classes. The registration fee for instructors and staff not taking classes is \$35. Registration for the virtual university is \$50.00. Midway and museum staff, not otherwise receiving lunch tickets should register as staff as above. Late Registration and Onsite registration cost is \$75. *Instructors registering only to teach classes may not register to attend other classes. Regardless of fee, Instructors should not register as attendees of the classes they teach, as doing so takes an available seat away from a prospective attendee.*
2. **Online registration with NCAC is highly encouraged.** The alternative is late registration or registration onsite the day of the University at \$75.00
3. All courses offered by the University of Scouting are suitable for all Scouters unless the course description specifically defines the target audience. College of Adventure courses are also open to Venturing age youth except for the adult leader training courses (VAPST and VCST). Read the entire catalog carefully.
4. Each College offers numerous courses. Read the descriptions carefully to evaluate course content considering your needs and desires.
5. Before going online to register, be sure you understand the degree requirements for the College you choose as your primary. If you choose to earn a degree, the University requires you to identify your primary College.
6. Participants may attend courses offered by any College; however, each College requires completion of a specific number of courses in that College to earn a degree. Courses are limited to the number of seats in a classroom (no standees) to facilitate learning and student participation. Walk ins at the University of Scouting will be placed into unfilled courses on the basis of availability.
7. Note that a specific course in the Course Schedule is linked to one or more Class Periods – for example CUB101 is offered in Periods 2 and 6; and CUB401 is offered only in Period 5. **Check your choices carefully to ensure you have selected one course for each of the six periods.**
8. Note that the length of some courses spans more than one period.
9. Standalone courses do not qualify for a degree in any College. A training card will be awarded for Scouting America training courses. University Standalone courses may be awarded a certificate of completion. Standalone courses will accommodate all who register; you do not need to choose backup courses.
10. Register securely online at www.ncacbsa.org/uos.
11. When registering online, select all your classes first. Then starting with the first period, register your classes in order by periods. The classes are locked in when you register.
12. Online registration is validated prior to the preparation of your course schedule – if issues surface the UoS Registrar may contact you. You may contact the UoS Registrar at dscscouting@aol.com.
13. When you arrive go to the Registration Area and check-in. You will receive a Student Information packet with the Provost's Welcome letter, University's Directory, schedule for the day, your class

schedule, map showing the school's rooms, evaluation form, a 2025 UoS patch and your lunch ticket.

14. **Student recognitions:** Your Attendance certificates and/or Bachelor of Scouting Science or Master of Scouting Science degree diplomas will be in your information packet. **Students receiving a PhD degree will have it presented at the special ceremony at the Closing. Those who have completed their PhD Degrees in the College of Cub Scouting, the College of Scouts BSA, and the College of Adventure Scouting (all three colleges) will receive special recognition.**
15. Instructors and Staff taking courses should register for the classes they want to take. Instructors should **NEVER** register for the classes they are teaching, whether or not they are also taking other classes.
16. Information packets for Instructors, College Deans and University Staff (with special instructions and a patch) will be available at the registration area "Staff Table" in the school lobby. Instructors are requested to check in with their College Dean in his/her assigned office (room). Information packets for non-instructional staff will be available in the Registration area "Staff" table.
17. The University reserves the right to cancel courses or make appropriate changes in order to accommodate the largest number of Scouters.
18. Late registrations or Walk-in registrations are NOT encouraged. The non-discounted registration fee is \$75.00 payable when you register for classes late or onsite Saturday morning. Onsite registration for classes is time consuming, you may not obtain the classes you want, and you may not be able to attend the first period. Please pre-register online by February 16, 2025.
19. Onsite registration students report to the Registrar's table in the Registration Area and follow the instructions provided to select your courses. Arrive with a list of classes and alternates for each period. Class schedules along with generic informational packets will be available at this station when onsite registration has been completed.
20. The doors open at 7:30. The University officially opens at 8:15 AM with an Opening Ceremony in the auditorium.

