



Scouting America

2026 - Spring University of Scouting presented by IU Class Catalog

Event Contacts

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Visit www.scoutingevent.com/162-100440 to register



Class Catalog

2026 - Spring University of Scouting presented by IU Health at IUK at IUK

26KU27 9-12 PM
116 - SM Hunt Hall
Kathy Smith



American Indian Culture

Far different from the stereotypes or common images that are portrayed on film, on television, and in many books and stories, American Indians have many different cultures, languages, religions, styles of dress, and ways of life. To learn about these different groups is to take an exciting journey of discovery in which you will meet some of America's most fascinating peoples.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 3(b), 3(c), 5. Please bring all of your prerequisite answers to class. We will complete 3a in class.

26KU27 1-4 PM
116 - SM Hunt Hall
Kathy Smith



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Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 3(b), 3(c), 5. Please bring all of your prerequisite answers to class. We will complete 3a in class.

26KU29 9-1 PM
Camp Buffalo Indoor
Archery Range
Abby Thatcher



Archery

Archery is a fun way for Scouts to exercise minds as well as bodies, developing a steady hand, a good eye, and a disciplined mind. This merit badge can provide a thorough introduction to those who are new to the bow and arrow - but even for the experienced archer, earning the badge can help to increase the understanding and appreciation of archery.

Maximum number of participants: 8

Prerequisites: No Prerequisites.

This class is taught offsite at Camp Buffalo, 9400 N Boy Scout Rd, Monticello, IN 47960 (Approximately 1 hour away from the Purdue campus)

Class times are: 9 AM-1 PM (Session 1) and 2-6 PM (Session 2)

NOTE: This class is taught offsite at Camp Buffalo, 9400 N Boy Scout Rd, Monticello, IN 47960

26KU29 2-6 PM
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Archery Range
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26KU5 1-4 PM
OY - Observatory
Patrick Motl



Astronomy

In learning about astronomy, Scouts study how activities in space affect our own planet and bear witness to the wonders of the night sky: the nebulae, or giant clouds of gas and dust where new stars are born; old stars dying and exploding; meteor showers and shooting stars; the moon, planets, and a dazzling array of stars.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 4. Do the following (if instruction is done in a planetarium, Scouts must still identify the required stars and constellations outside under the natural night sky):

(a) Identify in the sky 10 constellations, at least four of which are in the zodiac.

(b) Identify in the sky eight conspicuous stars, five of which are of magnitude 1 or brighter.

(c) Make two sketches of the Big Dipper or Cassiopeia from direct observation. In one sketch, show the Big Dipper's or Cassiopeia's orientation in the early evening sky. Make another sketch, showing its position several hours later. In both sketches, show the North Star and the horizon. Record the date and time each sketch was made.

(d) Explain what we see when we look at the Milky Way.

5(b) Using the Internet (with your parent or guardian's permission) and other resources, find out when each of the five most visible planets that you identified in requirement 5a will be observable in the evening sky during the next 12 months, then compile this information in the form of a chart or table.

6(b) Sketch the phase and position of the Moon, at the same hour and place, for four nights (or days) within a one-week period by direct observation. Include landmarks on the horizon such as hills, trees, and buildings. Explain the changes you observe.

9. Do ONE of the following:

(a) Identify three career opportunities that would use skills and knowledge in astronomy. Pick one and research the training, education, certification requirements, experience, and expenses associated with entering the field. Research the prospects for employment, starting salary, advancement opportunities and career goals associated with this career. Discuss what you learned with your counselor and whether you might be interested in this career.

(b) Identify how you might use the skills and knowledge in astronomy to pursue a personal hobby. Research the additional training required, expenses, and affiliation with organizations that would help you maximize the enjoyment and benefit you might gain from it. Discuss what you learned with your counselor and share what short-term and long-term goals you might have if you pursued this."

26KU37 1-4 PM
175 - KO Main Building
Lori Shull



Citizenship in the Community with Lori Shull

A nation is a patchwork of communities that differ from each other and may be governed differently. But regardless of how local communities differ, they all have one point in common: In the United States, local government means self-government. Good citizens help to make decisions about their community through their elected local officials.

Maximum number of participants: 10

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 2A, 2B, 3A, 4, 7 and 8 (present in class)

26KU24 9-12 PM
175 - KO Main Building
Melissa Dotson



Citizenship in the Community with Melissa Dotson

A nation is a patchwork of communities that differ from each other and may be governed differently. But regardless of how local communities differ, they all have one point in common: In the United States, local government means self-government. Good citizens help to make decisions about their community through their elected local officials.

Maximum number of participants: 10

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26KU18 9-12 PM
100 - KO Main Building
Michael Budd



Citizenship in the Community with Michael Budd

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Maximum number of participants: 10

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 2A, 2B, 3A, 4, 7 and 8 (present in class)

26KU15 9-12 PM
102 - KO Main Building
Paul Amaya



Citizenship in the Nation

As Scouts fulfill the requirements for this merit badge, they will learn how to become active citizens are aware of and grateful for their liberties and rights, to participate in their governments and protect their freedom, helping to defend their country and standing up for individual rights on behalf of all its citizens.

Maximum number of participants: 10

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 5, 7 and 8 require additional time outside of our class to be completed. The scout will need to show proof of these.

5-watch national news for 5 days and report on it.

7-Visit 2 places. Only 1 if they report on a national monument.

8-Write a letter to your representative.

26KU15 1-4 PM
102 - KO Main Building
Paul Amaya



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7-Visit 2 places. Only 1 if they report on a national monument.

8-Write a letter to your representative.

26KU19 9-4 PM
108 - KO Main Building
Richard McClurg



Citizenship in the World

Scouts who earn the Citizenship in the World merit badge will discover that they are already citizens of the world. How good a world citizen each person is depends on his willingness to understand and appreciate the values, traditions, and concerns of people in other countries.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 4b, 7a, 7b

Scout must be 13 years old and/or First Class

*Please read the Citizenship in the World document located in the attachments on the event home page.

26KU25 9-12 PM
082 - KO Main Building
Dave Motl



Coin Collecting

Coin collecting is one of the oldest of all hobbies. Hoards of ancient coins found in excavations indicate that coins were one of the first collectibles. From earliest times, people valued coins not only as a means of trading and storing wealth, but also as miniature works of art.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 4a-f (collect all the coins listed) and 7a-c (collect the coins and/or money listed) and 7d 1-4. Bring coins/monies collected to class.

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26KU35 9-12 PM
112 - KO Main Building
Michael Schramm



Collections

Collecting can be an educational and financially rewarding pastime: a collector must educate himself about a specific subject, be able to tell which items are worth preserving, how to catalog and organize his collection, and how to evaluate the value of items.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 1, 5(b) and 7

26KU17 9-4 PM
111 - KO Main Building
Sarah Babcock



Communication

This clear and concise definition comes from the U.S. Department of Education: Communication focuses on how people use messages to generate meanings within and across various contexts, cultures, channels, and media. The field of communication promotes the effective and ethical practice of human communication.

Maximum number of participants: 10

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 2(a) or (b). Requirements 5 and 8 must be done in advance. For Requirement 3 please have your speech written. For Requirement 4, please interview an individual and write the introduction. Must have Cyber Chip Review Personal Safety Awareness Video:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth/scouts-bsa/>

26KU4 9-12 PM
179 - KO Main Building
Tom Hoffer



Disabilities Awareness

Look around at the Scouts in your unit, the members of your sports teams, and the kids in your class - you will see that each person has their own personalities, distinct interests and ideas, different physical features, and different strengths and needs.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: No Prerequisites

NOTE: This class is instructed by both Tom Hoffer and Shawn Hoffer

26KU4 1-4 PM
179 - KO Main Building
Tom Hoffer



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26AC2 10-12 PM
Outdoors
Dwight Cline



Dutch Oven Cooking

For the eater in all of us (lunch included).

26KU32 9-12 PM
204 - KO Main Building
Mike Dwyer



Engineering

Engineers use both science and technology to turn ideas into reality, devising all sorts of things, ranging from a tiny, low-cost battery for your cell phone to a gigantic dam across the mighty Yangtze River in China.

Maximum number of participants: 10

Prerequisites: Prerequisites:

1 - Scout should bring in the object they choose to investigate to discuss the principles in the req.

2 - Be prepared for a short 5-10 min presentation for your achievement

5 - Watch the Video in the online resource (merit badge link) and design your object.

Bring this in to show and discuss the design process.

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26KU20 9-12 PM
110 - KO Main Building
Nim Vorbroker



Family Life

The family is the basic unit of society and is important to both individuals and communities. The world is rapidly changing, making today's society much more complex than ever before. As Scouts earn this merit badge, they will realize why it is important to know more about family life and how to strengthen their families.

Maximum number of participants: 10

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 1, 3-5, 6(b) 1-7

26KU20 1-4 PM
110 - KO Main Building
Nim Vorbroker



Family Life

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Maximum number of participants: 10

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 1, 3-5, 6(b) 1-7

26AC6 1-3 PM
Mark Bradford



Fireside Chit Chat: A Volunteer Lead Discussion On Best Methods For Troop Operations and Problem Solving Through Volunteers

Fire Side Chit Chat is designed by volunteers for volunteers. During this time the room is available "open house" style with 4-6 scouters on the panel and ready to share their experiences. Come and go as you wish, ask questions or help answer a few questions that other volunteers ask! This is a time for scouters from all areas to talk, ask questions and learn from each other. No topic is off limits and deep discussions can happen if the group desires. Topics like youth lead, high adventure, PLC/ILST programs, patrol cooking and so much more can be discussed. Have you ever wondered how other troops handle "xyz"? If so this Fireside Chat is for you!

26KU16 9-12 PM
200 - KO Main Building
Ashley Robertson



Genealogy

Exploring your roots - where your family name came from, why your family lives where it does, what your parents and grandparents did for fun when they were your age - can be fascinating. Discovering your ancestors back through history is what genealogy is all about.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Perquisites: 2(a), 3

Review Personal Safety Awareness Video:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth/scouts-bsa/>

26KU16 1-4 PM
200 - KO Main Building
Ashley Robertson



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Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Perquisites: 2(a), 3

Review Personal Safety Awareness Video:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth/scouts-bsa/>

26KU23 9-12 PM
109 - SM Hunt Hall
Patrick Motl



Physics - Test Lab

Physics is the science of how things move, interact, and exist-from the tiniest particles inside atoms to the vast galaxies stretching across space. It's the foundation of modern technology, the reason rockets fly, and the explanation behind everyday phenomena like why your phone works or how a soccer ball curves through the air.

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By working on these requirements, you'll explore the mysteries of motion, energy, and forces. You'll learn how the laws of nature govern everything around us-from the moment you wake up to the time you go to sleep. Whether you're fascinated by space, curious about electricity, or just love asking "why?", physics will help you see the world in a whole new way.

Get ready to experiment, discover, and be amazed. Physics isn't just a subject-it's a journey into how the universe works. And it starts right here.

So, welcome to the world of Physics-your gateway to understanding the incredible forces that shape our universe!

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: What is the Test Lab?

The Scouts BSA Test Lab is an exciting way to help in the development of fun and interesting new topics unique to the Scouts BSA program. The requirements for each badge have the look and feel of merit badges, but instead of a printed pamphlet, you will find links to digital resources to help you complete the requirements.

What to do:

You must work with a registered adult volunteer of your choosing. After completion of all requirements, you must take a short survey which will lead you to a certificate of completion.

If enough surveys show Scouts enjoyed these potential new badges, we hope to introduce them as official merit badges in the future. If you complete a Test Lab badge and it becomes an official merit badge, you will be credited with having earned that badge!

Keep logging in to this page to see what new topics are added as each badge will have a test lab expiration date.

Test Lab Rules:

1. Any registered adult can work with Scouts on these potential new badges.
2. Badges will have a clearly stated time period by which all requirements must be completed.
3. After the expiration date, the badge will be removed from the Test Lab and the National Council will evaluate if the subject should be added as a new merit badge.
4. When all requirements are finished successfully, a survey will be available to gather opinions on the badge. Scouts will then be able to access the certificate of completion which must be signed and dated by the registered adult they have worked with.
5. Should the badge be approved as a new merit badge, Scouts can be credited as having earned that badge if they present their signed and dated certificate to their unit.
6. Scouts completing the requirements after the expired time period will not be recognized as having earned the badge.

26KU11 1-4 PM
201 - Computer Lab
Awnya Alnusair



Programming

Programming merit badge will take you "behind the screen" for a look at the complex codes that make digital devices useful and fun.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 1a; Cyber Chip

Review Personal Safety Awareness Video:

<https://www.scouting.org/training/youth/scouts-bsa/>

26KU34 1-4 PM
175 - KO Main Building
Melissa Dotson



Psychology - Test Lab

This badge takes you on an exciting journey to understand how psychology impacts everyday life and leadership. You'll learn about famous psychologists and their contributions, create and perform a skit showing psychology in action, explore mental health and resilience, and track your own activities and emotions to see how they

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shape your well-being. Along the way, you'll practice empathy, reflect on the Scout Oath and Law, and even design your own pledge to inspire hope and support in your community. Finally, dive into career paths in psychology and discover what it takes to succeed in this fascinating field. Expand your mind, build resilience, and make a difference-start your Psychology Badge adventure today!

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 4a

These test lab requirements are available for Scouts until December 31, 2026. At that time, these requirements will disappear and the surveys will be closed.

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Please send any questions regarding the Scouts BSA Test Lab to testlab@scouting.org email icon.

26KU8 9-12 PM
130 - SM Hunt Hall
Ashley Duffitt



Public Health

The field of public health deals with maintaining and monitoring the health of communities, and with the detection, cure, and prevention of health risks and diseases. Although public health is generally seen as a community-oriented service, it actually starts with the individual. From a single individual to the family unit to the smallest isolated rural town to the worldwide global community, one person can influence the health of many.

Maximum number of participants: 12

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 5

26AC3 9-4 PM
106 - KO Main Building
Glen Luersman



Scouting America Angling Educator Course

Everything you need to know to take your Scouts Fishing! The program is designed to give a student who has never fished the skills and knowledge, both practical and ethical, to go to a pond and be immediately successful.

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26KU7 9-12 PM
125 - SM Hunt Hall
Jessica Hatt



Soil and Water Conservation

Conservation isn't just the responsibility of soil and plant scientists, hydrologists, wildlife managers, landowners, and the forest or mine owner alone. It is the duty of every person to learn more about the natural resources on which our lives depend so that we can help make sure that these resources are used intelligently and cared for properly.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 7(e)

26KU7 1-4 PM
125 - SM Hunt Hall
Jessica Hatt



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Conservation isn't just the responsibility of soil and plant scientists, hydrologists, wildlife managers, landowners, and the forest or mine owner alone. It is the duty of every person to learn more about the natural resources on which our lives depend so that we can help make sure that these resources are used intelligently and cared for properly.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 7(e)

26KU33 9-12 PM
203 - KO Main Building
Kevin Bump



Sustainability

Sustainability Merit Badge.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 8 (a) and (c)

26KU33 1-4 PM
203 - KO Main Building
Kevin Bump



Sustainability

Sustainability Merit Badge.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 8 (a) and (c)

26KU13 9-12 PM
150 - KO Main Building
Amelia Bault



Theater

While earning the Theater merit badge, Scouts will learn to appreciate live performances as members of the audience as well as go behind the footlights to see the view from the other side. Much more goes on in theater than ever meets the audience's eye.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 1 & 2

26KU13 1-4 PM
150 - KO Main Building
Amelia Bault



Theater

While earning the Theater merit badge, Scouts will learn to appreciate live performances as members of the audience as well as go behind the footlights to see the view from the other side. Much more goes on in theater than ever meets the audience's eye.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: Prerequisites: 1 & 2

26KU26 1-4 PM
072 - KO Main Building
Chad Evans



Weather

Meteorology is the study of Earth's atmosphere and its weather and the ways in which temperature, wind, and moisture act together in the environment. In addition to learning how everyday weather is predicted, Scouts can learn about extreme weather such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes, and how to stay safe.

Maximum number of participants: 15

Prerequisites: No Prerequisites

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