

# University of Scouting 2025 Program Guide



February 1, 2025

**Rowan College, South Jersey**  
**Garden State Council BSA**

Please join us for an unforgettable Scouting experience at the 2025 Garden State Council University of Scouting!

Our Scouts are at the heart of everything we do, and they deserve nothing less than the best trained leaders guiding them on their Scouting journey. It is with this commitment in mind that that we introduce the 2025 Garden State Council University of Scouting. This in-person event is an invaluable opportunity for us to enhance our skills, share experiences, and collectively contribute to the rich tapestry of Scouting leadership.

This year's lineup of instructors promises a wealth of knowledge and insights that I am eagerly looking forward to. Whether you're a seasoned leader or just starting your Scouting adventure, we have classes tailored to every stage of your Scouting career. There's something for everyone, offering inspiration and practical knowledge to elevate your Scouting experience.

To make the most of this day of learning, I encourage you to invite your Scouter friends and Scouts' parent/adult to join us. The more, the merrier!

I also invite you to think about taking on a more active role in the University of Scouting next year. Whether as a Dean shaping the overall experience or an instructor sharing your expertise, your contribution can make a significant impact on our Scouting community.

I look forward to sharing the day with you!

Yours in Scouting,

Jeffrey Shaman  
Volunteer, University of Scouting  
Garden State Council BSA

## **What is the University of Scouting?**

University of Scouting is a fun-filled annual event of supplemental training for adults involved in the Scouting program. It is the only time during the year where you can find the widest variety of training opportunities in all program areas. The University of Scouting degrees provide Scouters with a structured program in which they can advance and be rewarded with degrees and titles for each level of achievement. Courses are led by experienced volunteers who will help you enhance your ability to deliver a fun and exciting program to the youth in your unit. There are a variety of courses for new and veteran Scouters. For new Scouters, this event will help you gain a stronger sense of self-worth and a better understanding of their increasing value to the Scouting community. For veteran Scouters, this event will recharge your spirit and inspire you to a renewed enthusiasm for Scouting and all that it delivers to our youth. Whether you are new to the program or a veteran of many years, the University provides interesting courses, leadership training, and elective courses applicable across many Scouting programs. There is something for every adult leader.

## **The Vision and Mission of University of Scouting**

The vision of the Garden State Council University of Scouting is to provide you with the best possible opportunity to improve your capability and skillset as a Scout leader and improve your productivity so that you may accomplish more in less time. The motivation is our desire to provide the highest possible quality scouting experience for our youth. To accomplish our vision, our mission is to provide Scouters a distinctive educational experience including a broad array of introductory, supplemental, and advanced training for all Boy Scouts of America (BSA) adult leader positions in support of every youth program. As such, we hope to provide the most comprehensive range of training courses of any BSA training venue in the region.

## **Participant Responsibilities**

Thank you for your dedication to Scouting. Your participation in this training event illustrates that you care about the quality of the Scouting program that you are able to deliver for the youth whom you serve. The ability of Scouting to make a difference for our youth depends on volunteers like you who participate in training programs to seek broader knowledge and continual improvement. This event provides the broadest variety of Scouting-related course offerings under one roof available for Scouters in Garden State Council.

Please enjoy your visit with us today. Absorb all that you can, and then relay what you have learned back to your units and districts. This is your primary responsibility as a University of Scouting participant. But please don't stop there. Scouting needs you to help our program be even more effective next year. There are three key ways that YOU can help. As a University of Scouting participant, we have the following requests to ask of you.

#1: Feedback is a gift. Your feedback for each course taken and for the University of Scouting as a whole helps to guide the staff to further improve the U for next year. Any and all constructive feedback is greatly appreciated. Please use the evaluation form to let us know what you liked and what you didn't. The gift of your feedback enables us to ensure that we continue to meet your needs as a Scouting leader.

#2: Get the word out. Did you know that it takes almost the same time for the staff to prepare this event whether we draw 100 or 2,000 participants? Or that it takes our instructors the same time to prepare whether 1 or 125 participants register for the course? Therefore, the effectiveness of this event to have a positive impact on the youth in Scouting is directly proportional to the number of seats filled in the classrooms. YOU are our best channel for promotion. We anticipate your experience with us today will be positive and rewarding. Please share that with your Scouting colleagues and encourage them to come with you this year and next year. Bring a friend with you!

#3: Share what you know. What's the difference between a faculty member and a course participant? NOTHING! We are all Scouting volunteers. All staff members have "real" Scouting jobs just like you. Okay, maybe there IS one difference - the faculty member stepped up to share their Scouting experiences or other talents to help the rest of us be more successful. YOU could be a part of this team. There are always positions open for instructors so please consider applying to be an instructor for next year's University of Scouting.

### **Code of Conduct**

All participants, staff and guests are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law.

### **Course Evaluations**

Every UoS participant will receive an evaluation form via email within 5 days of the event. Our goal is to provide a meaningful and useful training experience for all participants and your constructive feedback will help us ensure we do better next year. So please let us know your thoughts on the event. Your feedback is critical to us in order to make our University of Scouting the best experience it can possibly be. If you don't tell us, we can't change it!

### **Event Schedule**

The University of Scouting will run from 8:45am until 4:30pm. Courses begin at 9:10am; most are 50 minutes in duration with 10 minutes between courses. The lunch break is from 12pm – 1pm.

8:30	Doors Open
8:45	Opening
9:10 - 10:00	Course Period 1
10:10 - 11:00	Course Period 2
11:10 - 12:00	Course Period 3
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch
1:10 - 2:00	Course Period 4
2:10 - 3:00	Course Period 5
3:10 - 4:00	Course Period 6
4:00 - 4:30	Closing

### **The Degree Program**

The Garden State Council University of Scouting Degree Program is designed to provide you with the tools and knowledge that can be gained through supplemental training to help reinforce your Scouting

program. Participation in the Degree Program is voluntary and adherence to the degree requirements is totally the responsibility of the participant. The University's Degree Program provides a structured process in which participants can advance and be rewarded with degrees for each level of achievement. They may also gain a stronger sense of self-worth and a better understanding of their increasing value to the Scouting community. The atmosphere is one of fun and fellowship, but there's also an attitude of respect for the importance of the event. Remember, every youth deserves a trained Leader. Students are encouraged to return each year, not only to earn higher degrees, but also to share their experiences with fellow students. The atmosphere of camaraderie and school spirit invigorates the students, inspiring them to return to their units and share their enthusiasm with Scouts and other adult leaders. The University of Scouting degree program is designed to provide an incentive for continued training and as a method to recognize Scouters who participate in that training.

Garden State Council's University of Scouting offers degrees in the following three Colleges:

- Cub Scouting
- Scouts BSA
- Venturing

### **Credits**

A credit is designated as one instruction period out of the six instruction periods provided throughout the day.

### **Enrollment Procedures**

All participants are automatically enrolled in the Associate's Degree Program as applicable. Upon completion of the first 6 credits required for the Associate's Degree, a participant will be automatically qualified to work on the Bachelor's Degree, and so forth throughout the degree program.

### **ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Be a registered Scouter
2. Have current Youth Protection Training for your registered position
3. Complete six (6) GSC University of Scouting courses that include:
  - a. Attend a minimum of three (3) courses from your home college
  - b. Attend three (3) elective courses from General Studies

**\*\*Serving as instructor for a course may be substituted for one course credit for each unique course\*\***

### **BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Be a registered Scouter
2. Have current Youth Protection Training for your registered position
3. Hold an Associate's Degree from GSC University of Scouting
4. Complete basic BSA training for your registered position (Trained Patch)

5. Complete an **additional/different** six (6) GSC University of Scouting courses for a total of twelve (12) courses:
  - a. Attend a minimum of three (3) new courses from your home college
  - b. Attend three (3) elective courses from General Studies

**\*\*Serving as instructor for a course may be substituted for one course credit for each unique course\*\***

#### **MASTER'S DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Be a registered Scouter
2. Have current Youth Protection Training for your registered position
3. Hold a Bachelor's Degree from GSC University of Scouting
4. Complete six (6) **additional/different** GSC UoS courses for a total of eighteen (18) courses:
  - a. Attend a minimum of three (3) additional courses from your home college
  - b. Attend one (1) elective course from General Studies
  - c. Teach one (1) course in your home college
5. Complete two position-related supplemental training courses
  - a. Cub Scout
    - i. Safe Swim Defense
    - ii. Safety Afloat
    - iii. Hazardous Weather
    - iv. Trek Safely
    - v. Climb on Safely
    - vi. BALOO
    - vii. Leave No Trace Awareness/Outdoor Ethics
    - viii. Certified CPR/First Aid course
    - ix. Any American Red Cross health and safety course
  - b. Boy Scout/Venturing
    - i. Safe Swim Defense
    - ii. Safety Afloat
    - iii. Hazardous Weather
    - iv. Trek Safely
    - v. Climb on Safely
    - vi. Merit Badge Counselor Orientation
    - vii. Leave No Trace Awareness/Outdoor Ethics
    - viii. Certified CPR/First Aid course
    - ix. Any American Red Cross health and safety course.

**\*\*Serving as instructor for a course may be substituted for one course credit for each unique course\*\***

## DOCTORATE OF SCOUTING DEGREE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Be a registered Scouter
2. Have current Youth Protection Training for your registered position
3. Hold a Master's Degree from GSC University of Scouting
4. Complete six (6) **additional/different** University of Scouting courses for a total of twenty four (24) courses:
  - a. Attend at least two (2) additional courses from your home college
  - b. Teach two (2) courses from your home college
5. Earn an adult leader award for your registered position
  - a. Cub Scout
    - i. Den Leader Award
    - ii. Unit Leader Award of Merit
    - iii. Scout Leader's Training Award
    - iv. Scouter's Key Award
    - v. Silver Beaver Award
  - b. Scouts BSA
    - i. District Award of Merit
    - ii. Unit Leader Award of Merit
    - iii. Scout Leader's Training Award
    - iv. Scouter's Key Award
    - v. Silver Beaver Award
  - c. Venturing
    - i. Venturing Advisor's Key
    - ii. Venturing Training Award
    - iii. Venturing Leadership Award
    - iv. Unit Leader Award of Merit
    - v. Silver Beaver Award
6. Show you have completed one (1) of the following:
  - a. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Wood Badge
  - b. Lifeguard Certification (BSA or another professional agency)
  - c. Powder Horn
  - d. Trainer's EDGE course
  - e. Wilderness First Aid

**\*\*Serving as instructor for a course may be substituted for one course credit for each unique course\*\***



### **University of Scouting Fellow Requirements:**

1. Be a registered Scouter
2. Have current Youth Protection Training for your registered position
3. Hold a Doctorate Degree from GSC University of Scouting
4. Complete six (6) **additional/different** GSC UoS courses for a total of thirty (30) courses:
  - a. Attend a minimum of three (3) additional courses from your home college
  - b. Teach two (2) courses from your home college
  - c. Develop a syllabus for a new course and teach that course at a GSC University of Scouting
5. Show you have completed one (1) of the following:
  - a. Leave No Trace Trainer
  - b. Tread Lightly Trainer
  - c. Lifeguard Instructor
  - d. First Aid/CPR Instructor
  - e. Staff for Wood Badge
  - f. Staff for Powder Horn
  - g. Staff for The Kodiak Challenge
  - h. Staff for Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (ITOLS)
  - i. Staff for National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)
  - j. Staff for Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)

**\*\*Serving as instructor for a course may be substituted for one course credit for each unique course\*\***

### **University of Scouting Distinguished Fellow Requirements:**

1. Be a registered Scouter
2. Have current Youth Protection Training for your registered position
3. Hold a Fellowship from GSC University of Scouting
4. Complete six (6) **additional/different** GSC UoS courses for a total of thirty-six (36) courses:
  - a. Attend two (2) additional courses from your home college
  - b. Teach two (2) courses from your home college
  - c. Develop a syllabus for two (2) new courses and teach them at a GSC University of Scouting
5. Show you have completed one (1) of the following:
  - a. Leave No Trace Master Educator
  - b. Tread Lightly Master Tread Trainer
  - c. Lifeguard Instructor Trainer
  - d. First Aid/CPR Instructor Trainer
  - e. Course Director for Wood Badge
  - f. Course Director for Powder Horn
  - g. Course Director for The Kodiak Challenge
  - h. Course Director for Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (ITOLS)
  - i. Course Director for National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT)
  - j. Course Director for Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)

**\*\*Serving as instructor for a course may be substituted for one course credit for each unique course\*\***





## The College of Cub Scouting



Code	Course Name	Description
CUB-113 BSA-113	Breaking the code, Scouts America medical forms and general health and safety explained.	<p>Navigating Scouting America's Annual Health and Medical Record can be daunting, but this class will break it all down. Discover the purpose behind each section of the health forms and how they ensure the safety and well-being of every Scout and Scouter. Learn leader responsibilities regarding the forms, best practices for handling Scout medications during campouts and activities, and tips for organizing and collecting forms efficiently. This interactive session will also address health and safety questions from participants, providing practical insights for a safer and more prepared Scouting experience.</p> <p><i>This course counts as either BSA Scout College or College of Cub Scouting credit toward University of Scouting degrees.</i></p>
CUB-109 BSA-109	The Den Chief Role Model	<p>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.</p> <p><i>This course counts as either BSA Scout College or College of Cub Scouting credit toward University of Scouting degrees.</i></p>
CUB-111	Preparing AOL Scouts/Parents: Pack to Troop Transition	<p>The Cub Scout program is an adult-leader led, family-and community-centered program for youth in grades K through 5. The BSA Scout 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 young 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 Webelos/Arrow of Light program 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</p>

		recommendations to best prepare the graduating Arrow of Light Scout, and their parents, for the upcoming adventure of Scouts BSA.
GSC-202	Advanced Scoutbook: Using Scoutbook to Improve your Unit	This advanced class is intended to cover the details of the Scoutbook application. It will discuss how the Scoutbook application supports unit leaders in delivering the Scouting program as well as how it helps Scouts and their families participate more fully in their unit's program and keep track of advancement.
CUB-208	Planning and Leading Cub Scout Campfires	Campfires are a Scouting tradition as venerable Scouting itself. Campfires should create life-long memories for your Scouts as they reflect on the friendship of their fellow Scouts and become receptive to Scouting's deeper meanings. But fun and meaningful campfires should be planned. We will cover how to make the most of the campfire experience, including preparing an agenda to set the proper tone and tempo; campfire dos and don'ts; and sources for campfire songs, skits, and Cubmaster/Den Leader minutes.
CUB-405	Pack Power-Up: Goal Setting & Success Tracking for Leaders!	Unlock the power of goal-setting tools like the Balanced Scorecard and SMART goals to energize your pack's mission! In this class, you'll learn how to streamline objectives, keep goals visible and on track, and empower your leadership team to work in sync. Gain practical skills to help you and your fellow leaders stay focused and organized, track progress, and celebrate successes together.



## The College of Scouts BSA



Code	Course Name	Description
CAS-106	Aging Up, Not Aging Out: Retaining Older Scouts thru Venturing Partnerships	Having trouble retaining older scouts in your Scouts BSA unit? Come learn how Scouts BSA troops and Venturing Crews can work together to retain older scouts and build a vibrant scouting experience for all of our youth.
CAS-318	Scouts BSA High Adventure - Philmont, Northern Tier, Sea Base, Summit and MORE!!!	Get information on High Adventure opportunities available in Scouting near and far! National (New Mexico, Minnesota, West Virginia, Florida) and Local (Maine, New York State, Poconos, ... ). Rugged mountains, canoeing, high tech adventures. Even Glamping High Adventure! Learn about prepping and what you can do throughout the year with what you and your Scouts learned.
BSA-401	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).
BSA-223	Eagle Scout Coaching and Mentoring	A scout's advancement toward the rank of Eagle Scout can be challenging. Come learn about the Eagle Scout journey, the roles and responsibilities of adults in helping our youth successfully navigate the Life to Eagle process, and how to handle some of those special circumstances and tricky questions that arise along the way.
BSA-224	Building a Strong Troop	Come learn tips and tricks for creating a strong Scouts BSA Unit. This course will examine such important topics as the role of the Scoutmaster, running a youth-led troop, the Scoutmaster/Senior Patrol Leader relationship, and utilizing available training opportunities and resources.
BSA-411	Girl Troop Leader Roundtable	Join us for a moderated roundtable discussion for Girl Troop Leaders.



## The College of Venturing



Code	Course Name	Description
VEN-105	Goal Setting and Time Management	This course will provide a fun, interactive experience while learning time management skills. This course introduces established methods for improving a Venturer's ability to effectively manage a daily timeline in his or her life. Completing this course will fulfill the Venturing Discovery Award requirement for the goal setting/time management training course.
VEN-106	Project Management	The goal of this course is to provide you with an understanding of project management and the tools, techniques and templates that you can use to effectively work on a project successfully. Outlined are steps that will enable you and your team to plan and manage a project from conception to conclusion; in this process, you'll meet everyone's expectations. This course will in plain/everyday words explain how a project manager and team can effectively: define a project, organize the work, create a plan, and work the plan to a successful conclusion.



## The College of General Studies



Code	Course Name	Description
GSC-112	Scouting Aquatics - Beyond Safe Swim Defense	Covering the basics, do's and don'ts of aquatics activity across all scouting programs. We'll discuss where to find the rules, regulations, and policies - and where/how to get the training and any certifications needed. This course will cover swimming (including snorkeling & SCUBA), paddlecraft, floats, and boats!
GSC-101	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.
GSC-204	Fundraising! How to reduce the cost of scouting in your program!	Scouting America fundraising policy, organizing popcorn sales, camp cards, unit fundraising forms, and tricks and tips for success.
GSC-113	The Scouting Continuum	Taking a look at the program with a Birds Eye view, across age and stage of development. A look at how aspects of the programs weave threads of development throughout the depth and breadth of the scouting journey, yet accommodate entry at nearly any age and skill level.
GSC-203	Leader Training above and beyond YPT	A view of the training spectrum for Adult Leaders to support all the respective programs and commissioner levels. A guide through the realm of position-specific, extended, and advanced training opportunities that are online and in-person.
GSC-301	Awards Galore!	An overview of awards to keep scouts (and scouters!) interested and motivated. Covering some common and not-so-common awards and achievement programs offered by and/or recognized by Scouting America across the several programs.

## **Acknowledgements**

We would like to thank our University of Scouting Instructors for sharing their knowledge with us and for taking time out of their busy schedules to help further Lord Baden-Powell's famous quote, "Every [child] deserves a trained leader." The University would not have been possible without them. A special Thank You goes to Allison Eckel who tirelessly helped stitch the syllabus and registration together for this program.

If you have any questions, suggestions or comments please send them via email to [jshaman@gmail.com](mailto:jshaman@gmail.com) .



**Prepared. For Life.®**