

**PRT 5960-71: Special Topics: Leadership in Wilderness Ethics****Curriculum and Syllabus**  
NOLS with the University of Utah

**Course Curriculum Description:** The NOLS Expedition Core Curriculum is composed of four themes: leadership, wilderness skills, risk management, and environmental studies. Wildland ethics and management are central to the environmental studies theme. Preserving our classrooms for the future is essential. Understanding the complexity, diversity, and fragility of these wildlands guides how and where we teach, eat, sleep, travel and learn skills. Students gain a scientific and empirical understand of ecosystems and learn the guiding principles behind land managers' decisions and regulations, and they apply these same principles to our group's behavior during the expedition. They take from these courses the knowledge, skills, and ability to lead others in wild places in an ethical way.

A Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Course is typically a backcountry expedition of five days during which participants gain a comprehensive understanding of Leave No Trace skills and ethics through practical application in the field. These courses are designed for people who actively teach others outdoor skills or provide recreation information to the public, and emphasize three components, low-impact camping skills, wildland ethics, and outdoor teaching techniques. Each participant will present a short (15-20 minute) class on one of the Leave No Trace principles. Core components for a Level 2 Instructor course include:

- The seven Leave No Trace principles (plan ahead and prepare, travel and camp on durable surfaces, dispose of waste properly, leave what you find, minimize campfire impacts, respect wildlife, be considerate of other visitors)
- An historical perspective of environmental thought and Leave No Trace
- A wildland ethic based on ecology and applied to outdoor recreation
- The scientific basis for Leave No Trace
- Global perspectives: widening the circle of awareness to other environments and cultures
- United States federal land management (US Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Wilderness Preservation System, the Wilderness Act of 1964)
- Citizen involvement: beyond the backcountry
- Leave No Trace action plans
- Teaching techniques

**Student Outcomes**

The following learning objectives detail what students learn during their Leave No Trace Level 2 Instructor Course. All curriculum emphasizes transfer of learning and prepares students to act as environmental leaders by assessing themselves, working towards sustainable changes in their own lives, and leading others toward a more sustainable future. By the end of the course each student will be able to:

- Understand and apply the Leave No Trace principles to camping and travel in varied environments.
- Role model and teach others responsible environmental behaviors.
- Articulate an environmental ethic.
- Understand public land management and the federal agencies charged with it in the United States.

**This course is offered on a credit/no credit basis only. No letter grades are available.**

**Text Resources:**

- Brame, R. & Cole, D. (2011). *Soft Paths*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Hunt, J. (1994). *Ethical Issues in Experiential Education*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.  
Lamb, J. & Goodrich, G. (2006). *Wilderness Ethics: valuing and managing wild places Leave No Trace Skills and Ethics*, V1-16  
Nash, R. (2001). *Wilderness and the American Mind*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Gookin, J. & Swisher, A. (2015). *NOLS Wilderness Educator Notebook*  
O'Donnell, J. (2014). *NOLS Environmental Educator Notebook*  
Tilton, B. (2003). *Leave No Trace Master Educator Handbook*

**Contacts**

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## University of Utah College Credit Registration LNT Level 2 Instructor Course

*Please sign Statement of Understanding, complete registration box, and return form to NOLS Registrar, 284 Lincoln St, Lander, WY 82520 with payment. Registration and payment are required before LNT course begins.*

U of UT Course Code: 5960-071  
 Credit hours: 2 semester credits  
 Cost: \$212.00

This course is graded "Credit/ No Credit" rather than with a letter grade.

### STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING: UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

I hereby acknowledge that I am registering for college credit to be granted by the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah. I understand that the only function of the University of Utah in this program is that of a credit granting institution and that the University does not participate in the supervision, management, or execution of LNT courses, its employees, agents and/or participants. In consideration of the credit granted to me by the University of Utah, I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the University of Utah for any and all damage, injury or other loss to me or my property or to others and their property resulting from my participation in this course. I understand that my participation in this course does not entitle me to regular student benefits and privileges at the University of Utah.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature / Date

**PLEASE PRINT, COMPLETE THE LEFT SIDE AND SIGN THE TOP RIGHT SIDE, AND SCAN. ETO REGISTRAR@NOLS.EDU**

Last Name	First	MI	Signature and date:			
Address	City / State	Zip Code	<b>Registration Form</b>		<b>Semester/ Year</b>	
Date of Birth	SS #	Home Phone #	<b>List Credit and/or Noncredit Classes</b>			
MC/Visa # _____			Department	Course No.	Credit Hours	
Expiration Date _____ Signature _____			PRT	5960.071	2	
* Have you ever attended the U of U? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO						
* Are you a resident of the State of Utah? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO						
* If yes, how long have you lived in Utah? Years _____ Months _____						
* If no, list residence (state or country) _____						
			Total Hours		2	\$212.00