

ACES : A JOURNEY FOR BODY AND MIND

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

ACES is about personal growth found through challenging experiences. ACES provides opportunities in which self discovery and group relationships are enhanced through individual action and reflection. ACES requires students to make a significant personal commitment since many of the program experiences take place in remote settings. Expect to be actively involved in a minimum of twenty five days in outdoor expedition settings. During these outings, you support and are supported by your fellow travellers in learning about yourself and about the natural and cultural environments.

ACES selects outdoor activities and settings that are characterized as low impact and reflect curriculum content. Trips provide significant opportunity for personal growth and development and personal connections to geography and history. ACES encourages each student to become a responsible citizen with the self confidence and skills needed to meet the many challenges of a rapidly changing society.

THE OBJECTIVES OF ACES are to have students develop:

- A responsible attitude about learning, about themselves, and about their role in society.
- Thinking and problem solving skills through an integrated approach to academic subjects and outdoor activities.
- A knowledge and appreciation of the Yukon's natural environment and cultural history.
- A sense of stewardship for our natural and cultural environments
- A better understanding of history in Canada through study and first hand experiences.
- Self confidence and self-discipline.
- A heightened awareness and dedication to health and fitness.
- Communication, teaching and observation skills.
- Friendships and positive peer relationships.
- Skill and knowledge in a range of low impact outdoor pursuits.
- Co-operative attitudes and habits through group interaction.



THE ACES YEAR:

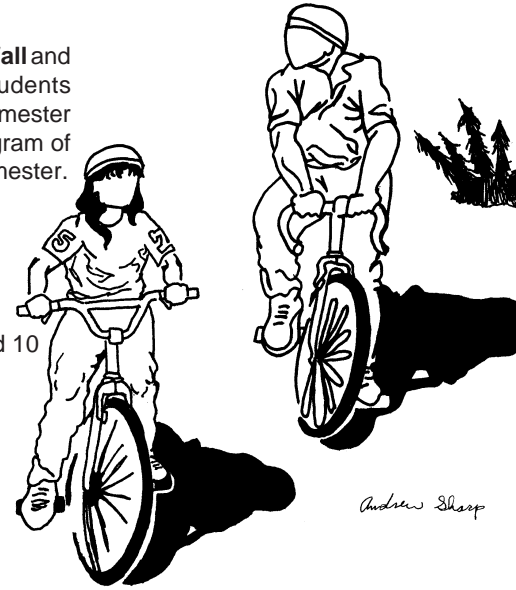
ACES is offered in both **fall** and **spring** semesters. Students take ACES in one semester and a conventional program of courses in the other semester.

ACES Semester

- Social Studies 10
- Yukon Studies 10
- Physical Education 10
- CAPP 10/ Business Ed 10
- Fine Art 10
- Applied Skills 10

Alternate Semester

- English 10
- Math 10
- Science 10
- Option 10



ALL SKETCHES BY ANDREW SHARP



MAJOR EXPEDITIONS: There will be a number of major expeditions (more than a week in length) planned for each semester. These expeditions integrate the students' academic studies with the other program objectives.

PROGRAM COSTS: Students are to pay a program fee of \$125. at the beginning of the ACES semester. Students are not expected to buy a lot of equipment. Those who already have suitable gear will be expected to use it. All students are expected to provide their own food (expect approximately the same costs as eating at home). All specialized equipment will be provided.

PROGRAM CONTENT: FALL AND WINTER:

The six subjects offered within ACES, both FALL and WINTER semesters, include the content of regular grade ten courses. However, this course content is integrated with extensive personal experience out-of-doors.

SOCIAL STUDIES 10 (4 credits) addresses three main themes: Current Affairs with a focus on Canada's and Yukon's role in the world includes studies in national issues, international issues and provides supporting historical background information. Economics: Industrialization focus includes the study of the industrial revolution in Europe, North America, and Yukon with analysis of the social effects of the industrial revolution and examination of modern-day technologies. Geography: This theme focuses on geomorphology, human habitation and an analysis of political and economic geography.

CAPP 10/ Business Education 10 (4 credits) will integrate 2 units of Business Education 10 and 2 units of Career and Personal Planning 11/12. The program provides personal planning and entrepreneurial education and requires students develop a product (prototype) and develop business plans and marketing strategies for their project. Project work will also involve managing in-house equipment. Such projects will encourage student involvement and participation in the management of ACES programming.

YUKON STUDIES 10 (4 credits) includes the study and exploration of Yukon geography and cultural history, (First and non-first nations) and the examination of crelevant territorial topics. (e.g. Yukon anthropology, natural history, archeology and cross-cultural experiences). First Nations history and cultural context is woven through this course content.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10 (4 credits) integrates fitness and team activities with outdoor pursuits, such as backpacking, cycling, canoeing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and camping. Indoor activities may include weight training, top roped wall climbing and team sports like volleyball. PE 10 will provide students with a wide range of exciting, challenging, and rewarding experiences. As well, students will learn the skills necessary to become better leaders of outdoor pursuits.

FINE ARTS 10 (2 credits) examines illustration and landscape sketching. Students will work in a variety of mediums and will be expected to integrate sketches and art projects throughout their studies.

Applied Skills 10 (2 credits) provides practical experiences before and during extended field activities. Skills such as meal selection and preparation, trip preparation, and community service activities are included. This program integrates principles outlined in class with field activities. Only available to outdoor activity completion participants.

No outdoor experience is necessary, but the willingness to work hard is essential.

STUDENT INFORMATION: This co-educational program is open to all Yukon Grade 10 students. Rural students are able to gain access to the program by arranging either one or both semesters in Whitehorse by boarding at Gadsoozda to attend Wood Street Center and a parent secondary school. Students must be able to meet the physical demands of the program and the academic portion at grade ten level. Selection for participation in ACES will include an interview, either in person or by phone.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES: Students will be expected to take part in all program activities. They will participate in self evaluation and group analysis. They will be asked to keep a journal, both written and pictorial, prepare four major presentations during the term, regularly write in-term tests and take final exams. Students will also be expected to participate in volunteer fund raising and community service.

*** Inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour that puts others at risk, whether in the classroom or outdoors, may result in not being invited on a specific expedition or dismissal from the program.**

PROGRAM TEACHERS/INSTRUCTORS: This program will be taught and directed by a teacher and assistants who are highly qualified and certified in both academic studies and outdoor activities.

WEBSITE: www.yesnet.yk.ca/schools/woodst/aces

Home Educators are welcome to the ACES program or to specific expeditions

STUDENT APPLICATION

Name: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Reasons for applying for this program

Describe your experiences in outdoor pursuits.

I support my son's/daughter's application to take part in ACES.

Parent/ Guardian signature _____ Date _____

I am aware that this student has applied to take part in ACES.

Principal's signature _____ Date _____

Send this application to: ACES
 Wood Street School
 411 Wood Street
 Whitehorse, Yukon
 Y1A 2E9

For more information call Wood Street School, 667-8413

**Achievement
 Challenge
 Environment
 Service**



Andrew Sharp

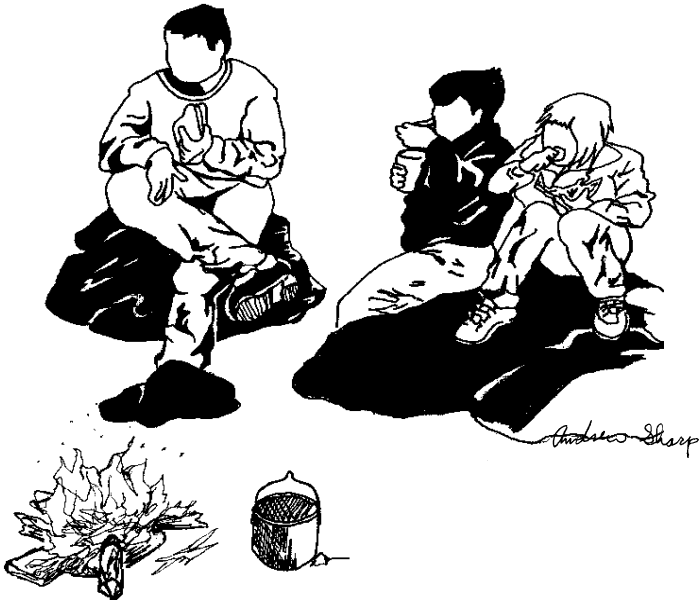
PUT YOURSELF IN THE PICTURE

TAKE PART IN "ACES"



Rise to the Challenge

Education



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