

Position Description  
Director of Outdoor Studies  
AND THE ADIRONDACK SEMESTER

The Director of Outdoor Studies supervises and directs three programs: 1) the Outdoor Program; 2) the Outdoor Studies Minor; and 3) the Adirondack Semester. A half-time secretary is assigned to these three programs and aids the director.

The Outdoor Program serves approximately 40% of the entire on-campus student body each year. The Director of Outdoor Studies provides support to enable the three full-time Outdoor Program staff and numerous student guides in fulfilling their mission of providing credit bearing academic courses and non-credit recreation courses and opportunities. Overall budget oversight, long-term program planning, and personnel supervision are part of this responsibility.

The Outdoor Studies Minor is like many other area studies minors having faculty from across the campus contributing courses and direction of the minor. Administrative duties and student advising are required as well as the responsibility to teach or team teach the Outdoor Studies Core Course each spring semester, as well as one additional course.

The Adirondack Semester is modeled after other SLU programs off-campus, having residential, academic, and cultural immersion components. The Director of Outdoor Studies directs this program and the staff who assist with it, including two assistant directors, three other faculty members, and two woodworking adjunct instructors. Responsibilities include oversight of the remote yurt village where the program is located, food, transportation, safety, excursions, recreation, entertainment, courses, faculty, staff selection, student recruitment and selection, and budget. It is expected that the Director of Outdoor Studies will teach one of the four courses of the Adirondack Semester (fall only). It is also expected that the Director of Outdoor Studies will spend at least 48 hours each week in residence at the remote campus in the Adirondacks.

The Director of Outdoor Studies serves on the Outdoor Council and has liaison responsibilities with the University Communications and Development offices. It is hoped that the director will also continue an active personal scholarship or research program. Additionally, the Director will work with others to consider alternatives for an additional off-campus program, will continue the work of redesigning the Outdoor Studies Minor, and will set priorities for funding these various programs. As a result of this work, it may be necessary to redefine the terms of the appointment. This is three-year appointment, renewable once.