

# Jack Mountain Bushcraft School

## Journeyman Certification Program

### Journeyman Bushcraft Instructor And Guide Certification Program

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#### What It Is And How It Works

The Journeyman Certification Program consists of specific requirements and documentation standards for those seeking professional certification and recognition.

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## Journeyman Certification Requirements

#### Required Field Course

The required field course is the [Wilderness Bushcraft Semester](#). There is also a distance learning component.

#### Length Of Course

The shortest amount of time the Journeyman Certification could be completed is 12 weeks. However, to complete all the requirements, it could take considerably longer.

#### Documentation

There are very specific and stringent documentation parameters for all of our certification programs. Students will assemble all of their work into a final portfolio. Documentation will include:

- Logbook - Complete and typed. Example in student handbook.
  - First Person Ecology Research - Complete and typed.
  - Handmade Map Of The Field School (to be discussed)
  - Trip Planning Paperwork - Completed and typed.
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## Specific Requirements

During the field courses students will learn a variety of skills and techniques. In order to received the Journeyman Certification, they'll have to demonstrate their

competence by completing the items below. The goal is verified skill, experience and research.

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## **Skill**

### **Axe Benchmarks**

Must demonstrate the following axe skills and verbalize safety precautions:

- Felling
- Limbing
- Sectioning
- Splitting: Vertical and horizontal block, contact splitting

### **Knife Benchmarks**

Must demonstrate carving a netting needle in 10 minutes.

### **Saw Benchmarks**

Demonstrate their knowledge of building a bucksaw out of natural materials (will be given a blade) in 30 minutes using only a knife. Candidate will then use the saw to section a log.

- Identify different saw characteristics
- Types of teeth
- Set
- Sharpened faces
- Build a working saw frame in 30 minutes

### **Fire Benchmarks**

Must complete the following number of each types of fire ignitions:

- Bow Drill Fires - 50
- Hand Drill Fires - 20
- Traditional Flint & Steel Fires - 20
- Refraction Fires - 20
- Must demonstrate 1 match, wet weather fire

### **Shelter Benchmarks**

Must construct and overnight in the following shelters:

- Hoop House (4 consecutive nights)
- Quad Pod (4 consecutive nights)
- Natural Insulative Shelter With No Fire (2 consecutive nights)
- Shelter, No Blanket, Open Fire (1 nights)

### **Knots And Their Applications**

Must be able to demonstrate the following knots and explain the problems they solve.

- Non-Inverting Slippy Bowline
- Bowline
- Sheet Bend
- Slippy Sheet Bend
- Clove Hitch
- Constrictor
- Jam Knot
- Parbuckle
- Prussik
- Taut-Line Hitch
- Rigging Z Tarp
- Snowshoe Binding Hitch
- Flip Flop Winch
- Canoe Tump Knot
- Wannigan Tump Knot
- Lining Bridle
- Whipping
- Double Surgeon's Knot
- Clinch Knot
- Canoe Onto Trailer

### **Cooking Benchmarks**

Must have successfully prepared the following dishes over an open fire. Items are representative of boiling, baking, frying, deep frying and roasting.

- Reflector Oven: Sourdough biscuits
- Dutch Oven Sourdough Biscuits
- Dutch Oven Roast of Meat or Fowl
- Fried Eggs
- Fried Doughnuts

- Guide's Coffee
- Broiled Meat in a homemade raquette
- Dutch Oven Aroostook Custard
- Dutch Oven Pie
- Loaf Of Sourdough Bread
- Sourdough Pancakes
- Bread on a stick
- Rock Boil meal in burned bowl

## **Navigation**

- Map and compass
  - Plot course
  - Take bearing
  - Explain declination
  
- Barehand
  - Sun compass
  - Find cardinal points

## **Map Making**

Using information gathered in the field, student must create a detailed map of an area specified by instructor.

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## **Journey**

- Trip Planning Paperwork
  - Pre-Trip Briefing
  - Trip Safety Paperwork
  - Meal Planning - 6 people, 7 days
  - Trip Planning (including fees, shuttles, costs, etc.)

## **Canoe Skills**

- One And Two Person Lifts And Carries
- Loading the canoe trimmed for wind and current
- Launching and landing safely

## **Poling**

- Poling in a straight line
- Forward poling stroke
- Upstream ferry
- Downstream ferry
- Setting into an eddy
- Poling upstream through a rip
- Stopping and holding boat in a rip

## **Paddling**

- J Stroke
  - Knifing J
  - Pitch
  - Underwater
  - Draw
  - Pry
  - Sweep
  - Eddy Turn
  - Peel Out
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# **Craft**

## **Craft Benchmarks**

Must make working models of the following crafts the specified number of times:

- Bow Drill Set - 2
- Bucksaw - 2
- Packframe - 1
- Hand Spun Rope - 1
- Net Bag - 2
- Tin Whistle - 3
- Canoe Paddle - 1
- Quickie Bow (2 Hour Bow) - 2
- Arrows - 6
- Atlatl and Dart - 1
- Netting Needle and Gauge - 2
- Hammock - 1 - and must spend a night sleeping in it

- Crooked Knife - 1
- Canoe Pole - 1
- Spoon - 1
- Burned Bowl - 1
- Natural Fiber Cordage - 10'
- Coil Basket - 1
- Half-Round Basket - 1
- Plaited Basket - 1

### **Deadfalls And Snares**

Build working deadfalls and snares of the following traps and snares, and an understanding of the terminology:

- Squirrel Pole Snare
- Hare In The Air Snare - Counter Weight
- Hare In The Air Snare - Spring Pole
- Hare In The Air Snare - With Choker Bar
- Promontory Peg Trap
- Koolyumpka Trap - Underpropped
- Samson Post Trap - Underpropped
- Overhung Kicker Deadfall Trap With Bar
- Overhung Kicker Deadfall Trap With Treadle Board
- Lever Deadfall
- Figure 4 Trap
- Paiute Trap

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## **Nature**

### **First Person Ecology Fieldwork And Research**

Field and background studies on the weather, plants, mammals, stars, fish and the night sky. For more information see [First Person Ecology](#).

- Weather Journal - 30 Consecutive Days
- Plant Studies - 50 Species
- Mammal Studies - 10 Species
- Constellation Studies - 12
- Fish Studies - 5

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## **Culture**

Required Reading:

- [AMC Guide To Outdoor Leadership](#)

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## **Sustainability**

Required Reading:

- [The Humanure Handbook](#)

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## **Self**

- 3-Day Solo. This can be either a stationary solo, or a solo trip.
- 4-day water fast.

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**Jack Mountain Bushcraft School**  
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