
OUTWARD BUILD

Objectives and Expectations

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MISSION STATEMENT

Outward Build is conceived as a comprehensive educational experience for students of architecture and allied arts, combining the educational values of the Design/Build Program currently taught at the University of Oregon, with those of the Outward Bound Schools in this country. Design/Build seeks to provide students with an exercise in collaborative design, working directly with willing clients on a building project of civic value, and executed through the hands-on experience of taking a design-on-paper to a structure-in-place. Outward Bound seeks to provide compelling, value forming experiences leading to personal discovery, and is based on strong values of environmental preservation. Community service and cooperative learning are values shared by both programs. Using the medium of environmental design and construction in a compelling physical and cultural context, instruction in building skills and facilitation of group process provide the value-forming experiences of personal skills mastery and community building central to this hybrid educational program.

PROJECT EXPECTATIONS

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| Project Selection | Projects selected will be for the benefit of communities or non-profit organizations. Projects should involve community development and/or environmental improvement and preservation. |
| Services Provided | Design services provided may include environmental assessment and master planning, site and landscape design, and building design. Central to the design process are concepts of ecological design and the creation of environmentally adapted buildings/structures which make optimal use of site resources, requiring little or no off-site energy or resources. Alternative power and water collection are attractive elements of such design values. A commitment is made with the Client to the construction of completed structures and site improvements within the agreed upon parameters of the Project. |
| Project Duration | The total length of on-site Student and Staff participation will be limited to approximately six to eight weeks. Ideally, this period would begin in mid-June, following the end of the academic Spring term. |
| Project Scale | The size of the project, or elements of the project, should be limited to structures and site improvements that can be completed within the six to eight week project duration. Should this become part of a larger plan, or the scope of this particular project be too large in scale to complete in one intensive period, an on-going commitment could be established for a project to be developed over several building seasons. Depending on the scale of design services requested and site information available (i.e. site maps), some design, especially at the master planning level, could occur prior to arrival for the design/build project. |

Design and Construction Process Upon arrival, students would participate in an orientation phase, becoming familiar with both the environmental and cultural context of the project. This would ideally contain an element of fun and adventure (backpacking, river trip, etc.). This would be followed by a design phase lasting approximately five days during which students would develop design proposals based on client interviews, perhaps contact with local builders and buildings, and site research. During this period base camp would be established. This is followed by a construction phase during which time the site is prepared, building elements are fabricated and assembled, and structures are erected. Completed structure(s) and/or completed site improvements are important objectives.

PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS

- Client The Client or client group will articulate the vision and expectations for the Project. They must be willing to interact directly with a group of 10 to 16 students, communicating the project and program goals, evaluating design proposals, and reviewing work in progress. The Client will be responsible for securing necessary permits, building materials, and any tools and equipment necessary beyond the personal *builder's tools* brought by the Students. They will assist the Instructional Staff in securing any necessary living accommodations, and in delivery of food and water to remote sites.
- Staff The Staff is responsible for planning, coordinating, and executing a safe and valuable educational experience congruent with the mission of this Program, and compatible with the needs of the Client. The Staff will work directly with the Client in organizing and planning the Project. They will solicit and select Student participants, orient students to program and environmental requirements and expectations, and coordinate transportation to and from the Site. The Staff will be responsible for coordinating all logistics of living and working on a remote site, and will hire additional staff or consultants as needed to assist in these tasks. In this case, it will probably be necessary to have a local paid builder/consultant to instruct and facilitate construction. The staff may or may not receive monetary remuneration for their services, to come from Student tuition.
- Students The students will be selected on the basis of their strong commitment to the goals and expectations of this program, and on their potential for working in a collaborative and cooperative process in a potentially challenging physical environment. They will be required to secure necessary tools, equipment, and personal gear necessary for working and living in a remote location. Tuition paid by students will cover the costs of food and housing during the project, and project expenses which may include staff remuneration, administration costs, and costs associated with project logistics. Students will be responsible for the cost of travel to and from the Site.