

Outward Bound

- Founder by Kurt Hahn, a pioneer in the field of experiential education.
- Established to meet the need for well-trained sailors.
- Mission: “To inspire character development and self-discovery in people of all ages and walks of life through challenge and adventure, and to impel them to achieve more than they ever thought possible, to show compassion for others and to actively engage in creating a better world.”
- Courses offered for wide range of constituencies including at-risk and handicapped students.
- Emphasis on personal challenge and community service.
- Students develop confidence that transfers into their real lives.
- Values: compassion, integrity, excellence, inclusion & diversity.
- Design: learning through experience, challenge & adventure, and supportive environment.
- Outcomes: character development, leadership, and service.

NOLS

- Founded by Peter Petzoldt, a pioneer in the field on mountaineering.
- Established to meet the need for well-trained outdoor instructors.
- Mission: “To be the leading source and teacher of wilderness skills and leadership that serve people and the environment.”
- Courses offered for several constituencies including educators and future NOLS instructors.
- Emphasis on leadership and technical skill development.
- Students develop leadership skills that transfer into their real lives.
- Values: commitment to wilderness, education, leadership, safety, community, and excellence.
- Design: first-hand experiences.
- Outcomes: leadership development, outdoor skills, minimal impact conservation techniques, and expedition dynamics.