



RESCUE SOUTH AFRICA
WILDERNESS SEARCH &
RESCUE

Wilderness Search and Rescue

Preamble

The instructors that will be presenting this program are considered specialists in the field.

Intended Audience

This course is designed for any persons who in the course of their normal duties would be required to safely and effectively co-ordinate and or participate in a wilderness search and rescue operation.

Desired Outcome

- After being assessed as competent the candidate will be able to operate as an integral part of a team that undertakes rescue operations in a wilderness setting.

Duration: 14 Days

Min/Max No of Delegates: 8/12

Course Prerequisites

Grade 12 (NQF4) certificate or equivalent ABET / RPL recognition

Medical certificate indicating that you are in good health

Current HPCSA Rescue Practitioner (RP) registration with module 4 (High Angle II)

Successful completion of the institutions physical fitness assessment

Core Content

- Introduce you to the concept of wilderness search & rescue
- Explain the need for and the role of allied services in a search & rescue operation
- Provide you with the insight needed to classify wilderness areas and have an appreciation for the possible dangers and or particular problems associated with operating in each type of wilderness area
- Knowledge and practical skills needed to navigate and function effectively during rescue operations in rural or wilderness areas
- Knowledge and practical skills needed to effectively organise and manage a search operation.
- Provide you with an opportunity to integrate your new theoretical knowledge & practical skills as you function as a member of a team in the organizing and manage of a simulated search operation. On completion of this exercise you will be critically debriefed thus providing you with an opportunity to evaluate your effectiveness after the scenario

Course Details

The aim of this module is to provide you with the necessary knowledge, skills and insight needed to safely and effectively co-ordinate and or participate in a wilderness search and rescue operation.

The academic and practical outcomes of this module are in line with those of the Tertiary Medical Rescue Technology Module offered as part of the National Diploma / B Tech Emergency Medical Care Qualifications, and as such fulfil the specified SAQA outcomes for this field. Each section has been carefully designed to provide you with important learning tasks and experiences, each of which is linked to an expected learning outcome. On completion of each section it is important that you refer to the expected learning outcomes stated at the end of the section and ask yourself: "have I achieved all the outcomes as stated?" If the answer is no then the onus is on you to approach your lecturer and or revisit the learning content to ensure that remedial intervention is initiated.

It cannot be overemphasised that you will be assessed both during the course and on completion thereof in order to measure to what extent you have achieved the learning outcomes as stated. Simply put; the assessment criteria are directly linked to the various learning outcomes, failure to achieve the learning outcomes will result in you having to repeat the course.

A word on safety

Safety is everyone's concern not only the instructors! Since most accidents involve basic errors your attention is drawn to the following:

- (1) You will be heavily penalised if the instructor has to continuously correct safety errors.
- (2) You will be penalised should you fail to inspect your equipment prior to use
- (3) You are obliged to immediately report all lost and or damaged equipment to your lecturer.

About the patient

As an aspirant rescue practitioner you are once again reminded that the central focus of any rescue incident is the patient and not the rescue operation. All scenarios will involve a patient and should appropriate medical management according to your registered scope of practice not be applied or provided, you will fail the assessment (regardless of how well your rescue operation was conducted).

Course Outline

Section A	Introduction to wilderness Search & Rescue
Section B	Navigation & Camp craft
Section C	Practical Navigation & Camp craft
Section D	Principles of search management
Section E	Search & Rescue Scenario
Section F	Assessment