



Alaska Sea Kayaking Symposium

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Class Descriptions - Beginners, Advanced Beginners & Youth

The Alaska Sea Kayaking Symposium offers students instruction both on the water and in the classroom. The following class descriptions should give you a better idea of what will be covered. If you would like to get a head start in learning about sea kayaking, look for a complete Bibliography in the Sea Kayakers Resource Manual in your student dry bag that you will receive at registration.

Format: You will be assigned to a group of 7 people and one instructor. This will be your group for all water classes throughout the weekend. Each group will receive instruction during five kayaking sessions. The schedule for each group of students will vary in order to accommodate all of our participants. Pool sessions will include additional instructors. Many groups will meet together for the land classes.

PLEASE be 5-10 minutes early so we can get started without delays!

Location: Pool sessions will be held at APU's Moseley pool and the pool at UAA. All Lake sessions are at University Lake. Park at the Moseley Sports Center or the Atwood Center parking lots for all events. You can drive yourself to and from UAA pool or take the shuttle in front of Moseley ten minutes before the start of your session.

Water Classes Curriculum:

Pool Session 1: During this session you will practice getting out of your boat in the water by doing a 'wet exit.' There will also be time to learn and practice assisted rescues.

Pool Session 2: Continue practicing assisted rescues and bracing strokes.

Lake Session 1: Practice paddling strokes such as forward, backward and turning strokes. Learn how to "pod up" to better communicate with others on the water. You will not be practicing re entries in the lake. If you do happen to go over then we ask that you return to the Moseley Sports Center to take a shower as there is bacteria in the lake.

Lake Session 2: We'll continue practicing and adding to the skills learned in the previous sessions. We'll also include ways of improving your ability to control and maneuver the boat.

Boat Demonstrations: Here is your chance to try various models of boats, paddles and spray skirts and more; provided by local merchants and outfitters. Representatives will be on hand to answer questions.

Land Classes (Lecture Series): Your name tag must be visible upon entering each Lecture Series presentation.

There are four recommended classes for all Symposium Participants: Wind, Weather & Waves, Trip Planning and Safety, Low Impact Camping and Cold Water Immersion.

In addition, there are many other optional classes scheduled throughout the day. Attend the lectures of your choice! Many speakers will provide handouts and augment their classes with slides and demonstrations in order to keep the information interesting and fun.

Our instructors can help you fine tune and enhance your abilities. If you know you need adaptive equipment because of size or lack of strength please let us know asap.

Have a great time this weekend and a safe Summer paddling in Alaska!

If you have any questions please contact Corey Aist (907) 275-PADL or email coordinator@aksks.org.