

INTRODUCTION TO FIELD GUIDING ONLINE COURSE

Theory Unit Standard: US 8478

Special Outcomes: SO 1-7

The Introduction to Field Guiding online course focuses on providing you with the knowledge that you will need to pass your CATHSSETA Nature Site Guide NQF2 theory examination. The field guiding course is focussed on preparing you for your role as a field guide/nature site guide. This includes how you should conduct a drive or walking safari, how you present yourself and how to be an ethical field guide.

Week	Lessons	Learning objectives	
1.	Introduction to the Skills of Guiding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Syllabus Pre-Course Survey Trainer Welcome Course Overview Meet the Team Engaging With the Community Reading: Intro to Skills of Guiding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall the main course requirements Differentiate between the different support roles: trainer and student support manager Introduce yourself to your peers and trainer Describe the definition of a nature guide and what the aims of guiding are Identify what make a nature guide ethical 	WEBINAR
	Developing a Guided Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Developing a Guided Experience Fundamentals of a Field Guide Creating a Guided Experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiate between a field guide and field ranger and understand the responsibilities of each role Recall the outcomes of interpretation Explain interpretation best practices Describe important skills and tools for guiding 	
2.	Conducting the Guided Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Conducting the Guided Experience Field Guide Briefings Legal Requirements and Code of Conduct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the key principles in guiding according to Bushwise and the Department of Tourism Recall how to carry out a pre-activity briefing Identify the practical requirements of guiding Describe the qualifications and legal requirements to guide 	WEBINAR
	Radio Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Radio Procedures Two-Way Radio Procedures Radio Procedures for Game Drives Sightings Stopping and Departing From a Drinks Stop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand how to use a two-way radio and what its functions are Explain best practices for managing sightings Recall how a two-way radio should be used when stopping and departing from a drinks stop 	
3.	Viewing Potentially Dangerous Animals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading: Viewing Potentially Dangerous Animals The Concept of a Walking Trail Role of a Dangerous Game Guide Dangerous game guide Equipment Dangerous Encounters VPDA Guest Briefings Dangerous Animal Behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall the role and responsibilities of a Dangerous Game Guide Understand how to interpret potentially dangerous animals' behaviour Define an ethical animal encounter Explain the difference between a calculated risk and an unnecessary risk Describe how to carry out guest safety briefings before a dangerous animal encounter 	WEBINAR

4.	Rifles and Advanced Rifle Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Rifle Handling • Rifle and Bullets Knowledge • Ballistics and Firing Sequence • Maintaining Your Rifle • Legal Requirements and Responsibilities • Step-by-Step Rifle Handling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the rules of handling a rifle • Explain rifle safety and shot placement • Summarise how to maintain and clean your rifle • Recall the protocol for advanced handling of a bolt action rifle • Identify the legal requirements for guiding with a rifle
	Becoming a Field Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Preparation for the Theory Exam • Reading: Next Steps to Becoming a Field Guide • The Bushwise Professional Field Guide Course • Bushwise Testimonials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know what to focus your time on for the theory examination • Know the next steps to take towards your CATHSSETA Nature Site Guide NQF2 qualification • Be aware of the further qualifications that you can take after NQF2 • Understand what the Bushwise Professional Field Guide Course is all about

Distribution of Learning Effort

Course total: 40 hours

Per module average of 5.5 hours for the live lectures, videos, reading material, quizzes and engagement in the discussion forums.

Your Responsibilities

You are expected to:

- create a professional profile on Canvas that gives background to your interest in the course, outlines your educational qualifications, work experience, and general interest and passions
- master a series of modules that consist of a series of readings, videos, presentations and notes
- undertake self-assessment quizzes to enhance your overall understanding of the content
- complete the mini assignments for each week
- make at least one significant contribution in the community discussion forum for each week (we define significant as something that either adds new perspective, or asks questions and gives inputs on resources or networks).

Assessments

You will be graded on the module assignments. These are summative assessments that integrate learning from the modules. You are also required to participate in pre- and post-course surveys and contribute to the discussion forums. You will not be graded on the self assessment quizzes. You will need to attend 50% of all the live masterclasses and webinars, and work through 100% of the study material.

Grading

You must get a grade of 75% or higher as an overall average score on your assignments in order to pass the course.

Once all online courses are completed and the assessments graded, the results are reported to the academic officer, who is responsible for maintaining student academic records and making results available to students.