

# Equipment List

## Semester on the Borders

**Welcome to NOLS Southwest and NOLS Pacific Northwest!** We look forward to having you with us this semester. We have designed this list to help you decide what equipment you will need for your course. Please take the time to read the following information carefully before making any equipment choices.

### Equipment Selection

Equipment selection and care is an essential wilderness skill. There is a bewildering variety of equipment on today's market. We urge you to do some research before buying and to be careful about lots of expensive pre-course purchases. Because you will have a better understanding of your equipment preferences after your NOLS course, we recommend renting from NOLS rather than purchasing expensive gear in advance. Gear rental will provide you with the opportunity to test specific items and will help you make more informed purchases for your future outdoor pursuits after NOLS.

You are welcome to bring any gear on our equipment list that you already own. Please try to match your selections as closely as possible to the items described in the following list. Your instructors will inspect all of the gear you bring to determine if it is suitable for your course's specific route and anticipated weather. If an item is not approved, you can leave it with your luggage in our storage lockers. You may be asked to rent or purchase gear from our outfitting department to supplement what you brought with you. **Your specific instructor team, recent weather and route will ultimately determine which gear is best for your expedition.**

### Gear Purchase

Throughout the course, students have the opportunity to purchase new and used equipment from NOLS. We offer substantial discounts for purchasing used equipment and the rental fee for gear used on your course will be applied toward the purchase price. A cautionary note: a number of additional gear purchases may raise the total outfitting bill above the equipment deposit.

If you wish to buy gear before your course, consider using one of our Preferred Retailers. These are retail stores that maintain close ties to NOLS. The staff members at these stores are familiar with NOLS and have a good idea of the equipment you need for your course. Please ask the NOLS admission office about Preferred Retailers in your area or visit our website at [www.nols.edu/about/partnerships/retailers](http://www.nols.edu/about/partnerships/retailers). When purchasing gear, especially for your backpacking section, we encourage you to consider the weight of the equipment. Remember, you will be carrying everything you need to be comfortable in the backcountry on your back so, lightweight gear is a smart choice.

### Equipment Fees

The NOLS Southwest and NOLS Pacific Northwest outfitting departments are capable of providing virtually all of the equipment needed for your course, with the exception of hiking boots. To cover the cost of your equipment purchases and rentals from us, you have been charged an equipment deposit in addition to the course tuition. (See your account statement for the amount.) The equipment deposit equals the cost of what the average student spends on gear purchases and rental items throughout the duration of this semester. Additional charges will be incurred for any equipment that is lost or damaged. You will be billed for any charges that exceed your equipment deposit or refunded any balance approximately 2-4 weeks after the end of your course. **Please note that the rental prices listed are for the entire course.**

### Equipment List

Please pay careful attention to those items we do not provide, and/or those that are for purchase only— with no option to rent. **Please note that prices are subject to change without notice.**

**The availability of each item is indicated as follows:**

**Purchase at NOLS** — The item is available from NOLS, but for PURCHASE ONLY.

**Must Bring** — The item is NOT AVAILABLE from NOLS; bring from home.

**Rental Only** — The item is available for RENT from NOLS. But may be purchased at the end of your course.



**Important Note:** If you have not spent much time in the outdoors and have little experience with outdoor gear, this list may seem overwhelming at first. Please don't stress. Just do your best to find items that match most closely to those described. Do some research on gear online or bring this list to your local gear store for help. Please also do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions, we love hearing from future students before courses start! Please direct hiking and climbing gear questions at **NOLS Southwest (520-749-0955)** and sea kayaking/sailing gear questions at **NOLS Pacific Northwest (360-445-6657)**.

### Upper Body Layers

NOLS uses a layering system where different combinations of clothing are worn to achieve optimum body temperature control. The upper body garments listed here are either synthetic garments which retain their insulating properties even when wet, or nylon or Gore-Tex® layers which help prevent heat loss by repelling wind, rain, and snow. You will need three insulating layers plus a wind layer and a rain layer. All must fit comfortably over each other so they can all be worn at the same time, if necessary. One of these layers must be a heavy fleece made of Polartec® 300 or equivalent, or a synthetic-filled jacket with a zipper. With the exception of one T-shirt for your climbing section, cotton or cotton blends are not acceptable. Synthetic t-shirts are ideal—silk or polyester.

Equipment Item	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Primary Insulating Layer (Mid-Weight Top)	Purchase at NOLS	\$40-\$55	2	Lightweight or mid-weight underwear crew or zip turtleneck top made of wool, polyester, Capilene® or polartec power dry. For kayaking, you will want to have 2 base layers. Example: Patagonia Capliene 2 Lightweight Crew, 5.6oz]	
Secondary Insulating Layer (Expedition Weight Top)	Purchase at NOLS	\$80-\$155	1	Expedition-weight crew or zip turtleneck top of polyester fleece or stretch polartec, capilene, medium-weight wool sweater or shirt. [Example: Patagonia R1 Hoody, 11.5 oz]	
Top Insulating Layer (Fleece Jacket)	\$30	Rental Only	1	Optional. A heavyweight full-length zip fleece jacket of Polartec® 300 or equivalent weight. All other layers must be able to be fit comfortably under this top layer. You will need either a fleece or synthetic top layer (see below). [Example: Patagonia R2 jacket, 13.1oz]	
Top Insulating Layer (Synthetic “puffy” Jacket)	\$60	\$145-\$190	1	Lighter weight and warmer than a comparable fleece jacket! A warm synthetic filled jacket is recommended for people who get cold easily. We recommend synthetic. Down can be used, but is <u>not</u> suitable for your time in the Pacific Northwest. [Example: Mountain Hardware Compressor Jacket, 16oz]	
Wind Shirt/Jacket	\$25	\$50-\$100	1	A lightweight, breathable, nylon wind shell either pullover or full zip style. Must be large enough to fit over all of your insulating layers. Hooded wind jackets are strongly recommended. Does not need to be waterproof. [Example: Patagonia Houdini Jacket, 3.7oz]	
T-Shirts	Purchase at NOLS	\$20- \$40	2	1 synthetic shirt for hiking, and 1-2 cotton shirt for climbing. We highly recommend Polyester/Capilene® for hiking because it dries much more quickly than cotton and can be incorporated into a layering system. Consider a men's polyester button up dress shirt for a hiking shirt, inexpensive at a thrift store and provides great sun protection! [Example: Patagonia Capilene 1 Silkweight T-Shirt, 3.4 oz]	



### Upper Body Layers (Continued...)

Equipment Item	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Rain Jacket	Purchase at NOLS	\$120 - \$150	1	A roomy waterproof jacket with a hood. Must be large enough to fit over all the insulating layers. Both coated nylon and breathable fabric such as Gore-Tex and H2NO® are acceptable. A parka that comes down to or below your knees is a great option and may eliminate the need for rain pants. Ponchos are not acceptable. Gore-tex® jackets can be used for kayaking and sailing. Your rain jacket should not weigh more than 16 oz. GoLite, Outdoor Research, Marmot, Mont-Bell and Patagonia make great lightweight options. [Example: Marmot Precip Jacket, 13oz]	
Sport Bra	Purchase at NOLS	\$35 - \$38	1	Synthetic works best.	

Our Advice? ? Despite its reputation, the desert can get below freezing, especially at night, and courses often encounter rain or even snow. Bring the puffy jackets and polypro you think might work. We'll advise you on the best combination for your course, the season and area.

### Lower Body Layers

You will need at least two synthetic insulating layers, plus a wind layer. All must fit comfortably over each other so that they can be worn at the same time.

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Primary Insulating Layer (Light-Weight or Mid-Weight Bottoms)	Purchase at NOLS	\$40 - \$50	2 pairs	This insulating layer should be made of polypropylene, wool or Capilene®. Cotton and cotton blends are not acceptable. [Example: Patagonia Capilene 2 Lightweight Bottoms, 5.7 oz] Add an extra layer if you get cold easily. For kayaking, you will want two base layers.	
Secondary Insulating Layer (Fleece Pants/ Synthetic Puffy Pants)	\$25	\$30-\$140	1 pair	Polartec® 200 or equivalent. Side zippers (full length, or knee high) make it easier to put pants on over hiking boots. [Examples: Patagonia Capilene 4 Expedition Weight Bottoms, 7.1 oz or Montbell U.L. Thermawrap Pants 10.2 oz.] NOLS only rents fleece pants.	
Wind Pants	\$35	\$65	1 pair	Breathable nylon pants that are roomy enough to fit over all lower body garments. Zippered legs will help you slip your pants on over boots. Lightweight running pants are not durable enough. We recommend that you rent wind pants from us. NOLS has a custom design that includes zippered legs and reinforced patches at points of wear.	

Lower Body Layers (Continued...)					
Equipment Item	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Rain Pants	Purchase at NOLS	\$60-\$125	1 pair	Most people find that these are not necessary for your time in the southwest, though they are needed for kayaking in the northwest. Breathable rain pants can double as wind pants.	
Nylon Shorts	Purchase at NOLS	\$30-\$45	1 pair	For the backpacking and sea kayaking sections. Loose fitting nylon athletic or river shorts work well. Cotton shorts will only be acceptable for the climbing section. [Example: Patagonia Baggies, 8.1 oz]	
Underwear	Purchase at NOLS	\$20-\$35	2-4 pair	Silk / synthetic or none. We recommend that men go without underwear, and just use nylon shorts with liners. Women should go with what's comfortable.	
Our advice? Bring the synthetic or wool long johns, fleece or puffy pants you think might work. We'll advise you on the best combination for your course.					

Head, Neck and Hand Layers					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Sun Hat, Baseball Cap or Visor	Purchase at NOLS	\$20	1	Bring a baseball hat, sun hat or visor to protect face and ears from the sun.	
Wool/Fleece Hat	Purchase at NOLS	\$15-\$30	1	A warm hat made of wool or fleece.	
Balaclava	\$4	\$16	1	Full head and neck coverings with an opening for the face. Usually made out of Polartec® 100 or 200 fleece.	
Lightweight Gloves	Purchase at NOLS	\$8-\$24	1 pair	Ragg wool or fleece are acceptable.	

Packs					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Backpack	\$80	New: \$300 - \$350  Used: \$200 - \$300	1	<p>Various internal frame backpacks are available to rent from NOLS. Our packs are large, expedition models. If you are planning to purchase a backpack in advance, or bring your own, it must have a volume of 5500 cubic inches. A compression stuff sack is required for your sleeping bag.</p> <p>Recommended packs: Golite Odyssey (3.5 lbs , Osprey Aether series, NOLS Deuter pack (4+ lbs), or other packs of similar quality and capacity. The backpack itself should weigh no more than 4-5 lbs.</p> <p>If you do not already own a backpack, we recommend you rent one from us. You can decide after your course what size and type of backpack you wish to purchase. If you bring your own backpack your instructors will examine it to determine its suitability.</p>	
Climbing “Day” Pack	\$30	\$170	1	Used for the climbing section. Needs to be big enough for personal things and group climbing gear—minimum of 2750 cubic inches. A school book-bag pack is usually too small.	
Small Zip (Duffel) Bag	\$5-\$10	\$30	1	1 lightweight medium-sized zippered nylon bag (approx. 12" x 24") with nylon handles is used as part of our packing system.	
Small Stuff Sacks	\$4 each	\$15-\$20	2 or 3	Small nylon or mesh sacks with drawstrings for organizing items in your pack.	
Big Duffel Bag	\$20	\$30-\$40	1	A large-sized zippered nylon bag (4000-8000 cu. inches) is used for packing your gear on the climbing section.	
<p>Our advice? An expedition backpack is a major purchase. If you don't already own one we think you should use ours, gain some experience, then make an informed decision based on your needs.</p>					



### Sleeping Gear

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Sleeping Bag	\$80	Available new and used for \$100-\$270	1	Despite popular belief, <b>it gets very cold in the Southwest at night.</b> We recommend synthetic-filled bags (Quallofil®, Hollofil®, Polarguard®, etc.). These bags are very durable and perform well in the variety of conditions we encounter. A bag with a 5°-15° F temperature rating is required. Bags lose loft and subsequent warmth over the years (at least 10° of warmth over the course of a year). We stock 0°-15° F Mountain Hardwear bags. Down or feather-filled bags are not suitable for the wet and windy conditions encountered on the ocean-based portion of your course.	
Compression Sleeping Bag Stuff Sack	\$15-\$25	\$20 - \$55	1	These are recommended for use with internal frame packs. These stuff sacks have straps attached to compress your sleeping bag and ease packing. [Example: Granite Gear Air Compressor, 2.2 oz]	
Plastic Trash Bags	Purchase at NOLS	\$.75 - \$1	2-3	2-3 heavy-duty trash compactor bags (33 gallon) to help waterproof your sleeping bag stuff sack and backpack.	
Sleeping Pad	\$12	\$8-\$12 (ensolite) \$60-\$90 (Therm-A-Rest®)	1	A 3 A 3/4-length closed cell foam or “self inflating” pad to insulate and pad between the ground and your sleeping bag. Self-inflating Therm-A-Rest® type pads are acceptable if you bring a patch repair kit. NOLS does not rent self-inflating pads, only foam pads. [Example: Therm-a-rest Trail Lite Regular, 2.0 lbs]	
Sleeping Pad Stuff Sack	\$4	\$8-\$16	1	If you are planning to rent a foam pad from us, then plan to rent a stuff sack, as well. This helps make it easier to pack and cuts down on wear and tear.	
Ground Cloth	\$8	\$12-\$20	1	A nylon sheet to go between your sleeping pad and the ground.	

Our advice? A sleeping bag is another major purchase. If you don't already own one, we think you should use ours, gain some experience, then make an informed decision on your needs.

### Climbing Equipment

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Helmet	No Charge	-	1	You may bring your own UIAA approved helmet or you can use one from NOLS for free.	
Rock Shoes	\$38	New & used \$60-130	1 pair	Shoes should be tight fitting (“toes just hit the end”), but loose enough that they can be worn for up to five hours at a time.	
Harness	\$32	\$75	1	We have harnesses to rent, but if you own one, bring it along.	



Climbing Equipment (Continued...)					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Cotton Climbing Pants	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	Optional. Comfortable cotton or polypro pants to protect your legs while climbing.	
Climbing Shorts	Purchase at NOLS	\$35 - \$45	1 pair	Cotton shorts are appropriate for your climbing section. Longer shorts are best to wear with a harness. We have a limited stock of Prana® sportswear.	
Chalk Bag	Purchase at NOLS	\$20 - \$25	1	Optional. Chalk bags hold chalk that is used to dry hands while climbing.	
Chalk Ball	Purchase at NOLS	\$4	1	Optional. Gymnastic chalk enclosed in a tight mesh sock. Used to dry hands while climbing.	
Our advice? If you own a harness, helmet, chalk bag and pair of shoes, bring them along. If your instructors approve, you can use them. We will use the school's climbing protection, belay devices, slings, carabiners and ropes.					

Sea Kayaking & Sailing Equipment					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Paddling Jacket	\$40	\$115	1	A waterproof nylon jacket with neoprene seals on cuffs and collar.	
Kayaking Foul Weather Jacket	\$20	\$25	1	A heavy-duty, waterproof jacket (PVC or similar material). If you have a suitable Gore-Tex jacket, bring it. It may be used for kayaking/sailing sections.	
Kayaking Foul Weather Bibs	\$15	\$125	1 pair	Heavy duty, waterproof bibs (PVC or similar material). Gore-tex® pants will also work.	
Personal Floatation Device (PFD)	\$15	\$135	1	A class III vest, with whistle, designed for kayaking. We use Lotus Deepwater and Locean, Astro Bouyancy Tempo 200.	
Paddling Pogies/Gloves	\$7	\$35	1 pair	Made to fit over a kayak paddle, either insulated or non-insulated. Neoprene recommended.	
Rain Hat / Sou'wester	\$4	\$10	1	We suggest a Sou'wester-type rain hat even if your foul weather jacket has a hood.	
Rubber Boots	\$20	\$100	1 pair	Knee high, all-rubber boot with a very good tread sole that fit comfortably with 1-2 pairs of socks. We use XTRATUFs® for exploring beaches and in camp.	
Waterproof Dry Bag	\$5	\$12-\$40	2	10 liter and 20-liter waterproof rubberized dry bags used for kayaking.	
Zip (Duffel) Bags	\$5	\$10-\$60	2	One small size (9"x 12") and one large size (12"x 24") zippered nylon bags used as clothing and storage bags for sailing.	
Sailing Foul Weather Jacket	\$20	\$150	1	A heavy duty, offshore-weight waterproof jacket fully lined. Gore-tex® jacket will work.	

Sea Kayaking & Sailing Equipment (Continued...)					
Equipment Item	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Sailing Foul Weather Bibs	\$20	\$125	1	Heavy duty, offshore weight waterproof bibs. Gore-tex® pants will work.	
Deck Boots	\$10	\$45	1 pair	Mid-calf yachting boot with a very good razor-slit non-skid sole. We only stock to size 13.	

Miscellaneous Items					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Insulated Mug	Purchase at NOLS	\$4-\$10	1	12 to 20 oz. insulated mugs with lids are preferred.	
Bowl	Purchase at NOLS	\$3-\$8	1	A bowl with a snap-on lid is also handy. Tupperware is best.	
Spoon	Purchase at NOLS	\$2	1	Lexan spoons are light, durable and popular.	
Water Bottles	Purchase at NOLS	\$7-\$11	2	Wide mouth quart- or liter-size plastic bottles with a total capacity of 2 liters.	
Hydration System	Purchase at NOLS	\$13-\$60	1	Very handy and popular. We carry Platypus bottles and MSR Hydromedary bags. (1 -3L).	
Lip Balm	Purchase at NOLS	\$3	1	Stick, cream, or tube type moisturizing balm with sun protection factor SPF 15 or greater.	
Sunscreen	Purchase at NOLS	\$3-\$9	1	An 8- to 10-ounce tube with sun protection factor SPF 15 or greater.	
Bandanas	Purchase at NOLS	\$3	2 or 3	A few of these are always handy.	
Sunglass Retainers	Purchase at NOLS	\$6	1	Optional. Chums® or Croakies® for keeping track of your glasses or sunglasses.	
Sunglasses	Purchase at NOLS	\$40-\$100	1 pair	Lenses should block 100% ultraviolet and 95% infrared light. We carry various brands and styles.	
Headlamp	Purchase at NOLS	\$25-\$45	1	Durable and lightweight. LED Head lamps are popular. Bring spare batteries. We carry Black Diamond Spots® and Gizmo® headlamps.	
Batteries	Purchase at NOLS	\$.75 each	2 sets	We have AA and AAA batteries for sale.	
Disposable Lighter	Purchase at NOLS	\$1.50	1	Used for lighting your camp stove.	
Toilet Articles	Purchase at NOLS	\$1.50 - \$5	1 of each	Toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, brush, skin lotion, tampons, etc. Travel or trial sizes are enough. We carry soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and shampoo.	
Watch	Purchase at NOLS	\$40-\$60	1	A watch with an alarm is a necessary item.	

Miscellaneous (Continued...)					
Equipment Item	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Notepad and Pencil/Pen	Purchase at NOLS	\$4-10/\$.50	1	A small, lightweight pad is necessary for taking notes.	
Town Clothes	Must Bring	Must Bring	2 sets	Bring two sets of comfortable clothing that you can travel in — jeans, shorts, t-shirt, rugby shirt, etc. Avoid bringing excess clothing, as storage space is limited.	
Bathing Suit	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	Used during kayak/sail sections.	
Towel	No Charge	NA	1	We will provide you a towel for showering with in between sections.	
Our advice? Keep the toiletries, pocketknife and camera gear to small sizes. We work to keep our pack weight as low as possible, but our packs are still heavy. Saving every ounce is essential!					

Optional Items					
Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Liner Socks	Purchase at NOLS	\$7	2 or 3 pairs	Lightweight wool, polypropylene or Capilene® "wick dry" socks. You will need at least two pairs if you are using the liner sock/wool sock combination in your hiking boots.	
Pocket Knife	Purchase at NOLS	\$40-\$60	Optional	One small, lightweight, knife is sufficient. Simple Swiss Army knives are best.	
Vitamins	Must Bring	Must Bring	Optional	Not necessary, but a small quantity of multi-vitamins is popular among staff and students for a course of this length.	
Insoles	Must Bring	Must Bring	1 pair	To assure your comfort in hiking boots an after market insole (these are insoles available for purchase separate from footwear) can provide arch support, stabilize your foot and heel, add cushion and help volume adjustment. Suggestions are Spenco Polysorb®, Superfeet, Montrail Stabilizing Insoles.	
Water Treatment	No Charge	NA	1	NOLS supplies Aqua Mira for backcountry water purification. Aqua Mira is a chlorine dioxide based treatment that is iodine and chlorine free. However, if you have sensitivity to this treatment you may need to bring your own water filter such as the PUR Scout or Hiker, or the Sweetwater Guardian.	
Book	Purchase at NOLS	\$6-\$38	1 or 2	A small, lightweight paperback reading book.	
Thermos	Purchase at NOLS	\$25-\$30	1	Great for keeping morning drinks warm during base camps or sailing/kayak sections.	

**Optional Items (Continued...)**

Equipment Item	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Camera	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	Lightweight, 35 mm or digital compact cameras are sufficient; bring a protective case. Avoid heavy lenses and elaborate set-ups during the backpacking section.	
Backpacker's Camp Chair	Purchase at NOLS	\$35	1	Crazy Creek or one with Therm-A-Rest fitting. These collapsible camp chairs may mean carrying a little extra weight, but can be used as a sleeping pad too.	
Roll of quarters/cash	Must Bring	Must Bring	\$5-\$10	For doing laundry between sections.	
Prescription Glasses And Contact Lenses	Must Bring	Must Bring	1-2 pairs	Bring a spare pair of glasses or lenses. Contact lens wearers should also bring a pair of glasses as backup. Prescription sunglasses are a nice item to have.	
Trekking Poles	Purchase at NOLS	\$65 - \$70 /pair	1 or 2	If you like to use a trekking pole while you hike. Should be a sturdy 2-3, section pole that packs easily.	
Collapsible Umbrella	Purchase at NOLS	\$40	1	If you already have one, you may bring it.	
Binoculars	Must Bring	Must Bring	1	These are recommended to help you develop your ability to assess sea conditions. 7x35 or 8x35 are good choices. You may need a waterproof container since you'll be around salt water.	

**Footwear**

Equipment	Rental Price	Purchase Price	Quantity	Comments	Check List
Hiking Boots	Must Bring	Must Bring	1 pair	Sturdy medium weight backpacking boots with good ankle support and proper fit are critical for hiking on uneven terrain with heavy expedition packs. See recommended boots at the end of this document.	
Socks	Purchase at NOLS	\$8-\$14	3-4 pair	3-4 pair, crew length. Socks must be heavy wool or heavy wool/synthetic blend. Cotton/wool blend socks are not appropriate. Additionally, a few pairs of shorter 1/4 length socks are nice for the climbing section.	
Gaiters	Purchase at NOLS	\$45	1 pair	Gaiters keep dirt and other debris from entering the boot. These are a critical part of your footwear system. [Example: Outdoor Research Crocodile Gaiters]	
Camp Shoes	Must Bring	Must Bring	1 pair	Running, tennis or cross-training shoes, in good condition, to wear around camp. Open-toed "river" or "mountain" sandals are not acceptable for the backcountry.	

Our advice? Your boots will be a critical piece of gear. If they're not sturdy, don't provide enough support or don't fit properly with at least a liner and a wool sock, we won't let you use them. If you have any doubts about boots, please give us a call.



## Recommended Boots

**Please note that NOLS Southwest does not rent or sell hiking boots.** Medium-weight, off-trail backpacking/light mountaineering boots work best. This type of boot is constructed with a full grain leather upper and typically has a Vibram® rubber sole. Some models utilize an injection molded, composite rubber sole with a randed welt to bond the leather upper to the sole. Both types of sole are acceptable. These boots are designed for extended backpacking, provide good support for off-trail hiking with 40 – 60 pound packs, and usually require less break-in time than heavyweight mountaineering boots.

The following list is not exhaustive and is to be used for suggestions only. The boots listed here should help define what types are acceptable for your course. It is fine to substitute a similar boot for one listed here provided the boot that you bring is a good quality leather model designed for extended backpacking expeditions with heavy packs.

### EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTABLE BOOTS\*

Examples Of Acceptable Boots\*

Asolo: TPS 520 GV, TPS 535

Lowa: Tibet GTX, Banff, Baffin Pro

La Sportiva: Thunder II GTX, Cypress GTX

Montrail: Feather Peak GTX

Scarpa: Barun GTX, Mustang GTX

Vasque: Wasatch GTX, Summit GTX

\*Please note that boot manufacturers often rename their product line. Visit the manufacturer's website or contact us if you have questions.

## Group Equipment

All items listed below are provided by NOLS and shared among all expedition members.

Group equipment is included as part of the course tuition; however, students will be charged for any lost or damaged group equipment.

Tents & Shelters

Camp Stoves

Fuel and Fuel Bottles

First Aid Kits

Trowels

Kayaks and Accessories

Boat Bags

Climbing Protection

Climbing Ropes

Cooking Gear/Spice Kits

Bear Resistant Food Containers

Fishing Equipment

Safety Equipment

Wet Suits

Maps, Charts & Compass

Reference Books

Paddles

Equipment Repair Kits

Water Jugs

Binoculars

