

## Lessons from Leaving: Analyzing Student Motivations and Prevention Strategies for Early Dismissals

1. Identify significant factors to be considered when an early dismissal decision is happening on course.
2. Create a tool for outdoor education practitioners to explore tolerance by group members for “outlier” students who may be candidates for early dismissal.
3. Identify and examine two philosophies guiding a decision to remove a student from course:
  - a. Keep student on course no matter what the cost is to group.
  - b. If certain boundaries are crossed should student be removed from course because of cost to group experience.
4. Examine trends in early departure data of Outward Bound Veterans and open enrollment program data from 2014-15.
5. Examine effects of dismissed students from course for behavioral reasons.
6. Explore hidden motivations behind student motivations.
7. Explore behavioral intervention strategies available prior to dismissing students from course.
8. Foster ability for practitioners to discern early dismissal causation so preemptive action can take place to maximize student success.