



University of Scouting

2026 Course Catalog

We have a number of new classes! This is a great opportunity for supplemental Scout leader training!

Do you want to be a better leader? University of Scouting is the place for you to learn new skills and hone the ones you currently have in your tool belt.

This catalog provides a preliminary listing of course descriptions, class times, and other useful information. Please note that the information is subject to change. Closer to the event, a schedule of class times will be available.

*University of Scouting will be on
Saturday, January 24, 2026
at the Austin Community College Highland Campus*

What is University of Scouting?

University of Scouting (UoS) is the premier one-day supplemental training opportunity for all Scout Leaders. UoS goes beyond Leader Specific Training to give knowledge and skills on specific topics that will help to deliver the promise of Scouting. The goal of UoS is to provide information that is practical and immediately useful on topics that are not readily available at the local unit or district level. UoS Instructors have skills and insights that have been developed through years of Scouting experience. It's also a great opportunity to network with other Scout Leaders, make new friends, and share best practices across the Council.

What will I do at UoS?

You can come for the day or for a part of the day - it is totally your choice. You will have the opportunity to pick classes that interest you and allow you to bring new skills back to your unit. There is no need to preselect or register for individual classes - you can choose them as you go or use the table in this document to determine ahead of time what interests you.

9:00 - 9:50 AM	Course Session 1
10:00 - 10:50 AM	Course Session 2
11:00 - 11:50 AM	Course Session 3
12:00 - 12:50 PM	Lunch Break
1:00 - 1:50 PM	Course Session 4
2:00 - 2:50 PM	Course Session 5
3:00 - 3:50 PM	Course Session 6

What do I need to bring?

Please wear your Scout Uniform and bring:

- A pen and paper
- Water bottle
- Snacks, as needed
- If not ordering lunch through the registration, bring lunch

and be relaxed and have a blast with all of us!

Lunch

Lunch can be ordered through the registration or can be brought with you (or you can sneak out).

How can I volunteer to teach or serve as staff at UoS?

The Deans and the Chancellor select volunteers for their courses. If you have a topic that you would like to see/teach or if you would like to be part of the UoS Staff, contact the Chancellor. Their contact information is found in this catalog.

Questions???

For any questions about this event, contact the Chancellor: Staci Kilpatrick at stacikilpatrick30@gmail.com.

COURSE DETAILS

College of General Studies

Course Name	Description
Dutch Oven Cooking	Hungry? Learn how to cook in a Dutch oven or increase your skills and recipes. Come on over and have a bite!
Committee Discussion Hour	All Committee members are invited and especially Committee Chairs. Whatever your unit type, the committee plays a vital role in the success of your unit. Join a moderated discussion hour and bring your questions about any topic - membership, finances, recruiting, chartered org, equipment, etc. Your challenges are not unique - come find some help and solutions.
Wood Badge: What does future success look like?	Every Scout deserves a trained leader. Wood Badge is the premiere training every adult should take - recommended for everyone from the first-time Den Leader to the 40-year veteran Scouter. Learn what it is to communicate and plan effectively, make the most of your team, and learn to train and trust the youth.
Did You Know There Are <u>Seven</u> Council Camps?	Our Council has 7 camp properties - how many have you been to? Can you name them all? This class presents a survey of all properties, how & when to reserve them, costs, safety notes, and the general and specific rules for council camps.
Social Media Basics for Units	Why does your unit have (or why do you want your unit to have) a social media account? Is it just to communicate with families within your unit? If so, there are better ways to achieve this goal. But if you want to promote your unit and the Scouting program in general, then social media can be an effective tool. We will discuss social media in terms of its advertising and awareness-building capabilities and some basic scouting-specific rules for social media management.
Scouting with Special Needs	Do you want to know more about Scouting and the resources for disabled Scouts and Special Needs resources? Come and learn from the experts!
COSMIC: the new council STEM Award program	Make your unit's STEM program a mountain-top experience by incorporating the COSMIC STEM award program. Learn details of the new awards and what you can do to run a successful program. This celebrated class is highly recommended training for everyone doing STEM and is required to become a council-approved COSMIC Mentor.
Council Awards and You!	What are the council-level awards that Scouting America offers and what role do you play? Learn the different types of awards, requirements, history, and nomination process.

Course Name	Description
Religious Emblems & the Role of Scout Chaplain	A Scout is Reverent, faithful in their religious duties, and respects the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion. Scouting America has approved various programs that allow for religious emblems to be worn on the official uniform. Come learn how to conduct a religious emblem program for your unit. This session will primarily discuss Catholic Religious Emblems as an example of a religious emblem program. This session will also teach about duties of a Scout Chaplain, duties of a youth Chaplain's Aide, and putting together a Scout's Own Service.
Philmont Training Center Conferences & Family Fun Adventures	Do you know all the fun things that Philmont has to offer on the “side that doesn’t prep you for hiking”? Come learn about all that Philmont can offer families.
<i>Membership Best Practices:</i> Managing Visitors and Onboarding New Families	When visitors or prospective families come to visit your unit – how do you greet them and make them feel welcome? Come to this session to learn some best practices!
<i>Membership Best Practices:</i> Welcome to Our Unit! - What information to include in your unit guide	Do you have a packet of information to give to new people in your unit? Discuss best practices for what information to include and how and when to distribute and review that information.
<i>Membership Best Practices:</i> Recruiting and Retaining Adult Volunteers	Let’s come and talk about recruiting and retaining adult volunteers, especially those brand new to Scouting. Take these practices back to your unit!
Leave No Trace Awareness	This beginner-friendly course will cover the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace. Participants will explore practical ways to model and teach outdoor ethic ethics skills. This course provides the foundation for creating a culture of respect for the outdoors within your unit and sets the stage for future Leave No Trace training and outdoor leadership opportunities.
Teaching Leave No Trace to Youth	Learn how to teach Leave No Trace to your youth. Leave No Trace is prevalent in requirements for rank and merit badges. Come preview demonstrations of Leave No Trace experiential learning and learn how to develop an Outdoor Ethic through games and activities for youth. Games can be tailored for Cubs through Venturing.
Trail Sisters: Women in the Backcountry	Are you ready for some time beyond the parked car for camping? Spending time in the backcountry is not only for men! Come spend some time learning together as we navigate the different needs of women in the backcountry. From finding clothes and gear that fit, to the biological needs of women, we will cover it all. You will leave this hands-on workshop planning your next adventure in the great outdoors!

Course Name	Description
Outdoor Ethics Orientation	Would you like to facilitate the Outdoor Ethics Awareness Award for your unit? To complete requirement 5, Scouts must "Participate in an outdoor ethics course, workshop, or training activity facilitated by a person who has completed Scouting America's outdoor ethics orientation course or is a Scouting America outdoor ethics trainer or master." This is the course you need!
Conservation Events and Awards	Get a great introduction to Conservation in Scouting and learn about the council's new Conservation award - the Harrison McClure Conservation Award.
Community Service and Activities	Connecting units and districts with community service and activities ideas! How to make community connections and advertise & emphasize unit service.
S A F E Scouting	Scouts and those who love them expect our program to be delivered safely. We do this through the four points of S A F E. This course explains S A F E and how to use it in conjunction with the Guide to Safe Scouting.
The Other "High Adventures": Rock Climbing, Tower Climbing, and COPE	All adults at any unit level are welcome to join this class and learn how they can get trained to support climbing experiences. Learn what the Guide to Safe Scouting says for Cubs, Scouts, and older youth. Learn about opportunities for leaders to take your older youth units to new heights in natural and artificial surfaces and elementary COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience) courses.
Treasury: Tackling your Accounting Needs	Learn about best practices for unit finances and share your experiences - from dues to camping fees to fundraising - come ready with questions and to share your tips. Will also introduce the free Wave financial software.
My.Scouting.org	Come discuss the ins and outs of my.scouting.org and all of the information that is available for you on it.
Friends of Scouting Training	This course is required for all volunteers who will be delivering Family Friends of Scouting presentations in their packs, troops, ships, and crews. This training ensures every presenter is fully prepared, consistent in messaging, and equipped to support their unit's annual campaign.
A Roundtable on Roundtable!	Come get an interactive experience on what Roundtable is, how it can help your unit succeed, why you should attend, and how to conduct your own successful District meetings!

College of Cub Scouting

Course Name	Description
Flag Retirement for Cubs	Flag retirement is often a long-lasting memory. Here's how you and your Cubs can make it happen.
Woggles and beyond	Tired of hearing the clink of that slide hit the floor? There is a solution, a woggle! Together we will explore the variety of options and make a few along the way.
Pinewood Derby and Rockets	Like things that go fast? Do you know some scouts that may also like things that go fast? Come to our Pinewood Derby and Rocket course. Learn about prep, set up, day of event wisdom, and get cool ideas for trophies and awards!
How to say "Thank You!"	This is something many leaders forget to do or think must cost a lot to do. Come discuss ways that everyone in your Pack can practice that shows more gratitude for the hard work that everyone puts into making Scouting great!
Thrifty Crafting	Crafts you can make with common household (or cheap to buy supplies) that will fulfill a requirement and/or just be fun
Cubmaster 101	Cubmasters Unite! Come talk to fellow Cubmasters, ask questions, and enjoy great scouting conversations with peers.
Den Leader 101	Otherwise known as the "What did I get myself into??" course. We have all been there, so come and share your experiences, questions, and great ideas. Open to Den Leaders and aspiring Den Leaders!
AOL to Scouts BSA	The transition from Cub Scout to Scouting America Scouts can cause some anxiety for Scouts and parents. Let's make the journey over the Scout bridge and beyond a smooth transition for all. Come with questions!
Adapting leadership skills to manage all behaviors	Support around managing scouts with social, emotional, and behavioral health challenges. Come with questions and we will provide great resources.
Conversation Café- Preventing Leader Burnout	Conversation Café- Preventing Leader Burnout is very important. We will discuss how to prevent it and succession plan while networking, problem solving and enjoying fellowship with fellow scouters.
Recruiting Leaders	Hearing crickets when your Pack is looking for adult volunteers? Come and learn some practices that may help your unit out. Investing in the future Leaders of the Pack is essential for survival. Let's help make it easier to find folks that will grab and carry the torch of leadership!
Cubmaster/Committee Chair Chat	Cubmaster and Committee Chair Coffee Chat. Come network and swap knowledge. What are your best practices for your Pack and the things that cause you to suffer from heartburn? Let's talk.

College of Scouts BSA and Older Scouts

Course Name	Description
What is this thing called Family Troop?	National has come out with a new troop method – if you want to learn more... come to this session!
Adult Awards	Keeping Score - Using training awards to promote leader engagement
Back Packing / Camping for Beginners	Learn the ins and outs of backpacking and camping especially geared for the new Scout leader
Council Fishing Program	Learn about a combined Angler Education Course by Scouting America and TPWD
Eating on the Trail	Beyond pop-tarts and Ramen. Encourage your scouts to expand their culinary horizons cheaply and efficiently.
High Adventure Camps	Learn about the different High Adventure Camps – Sea Base, Northern Tier, Summit, and Philmont and what they have to offer
International Scouting	World Jamboree in Poland 2027. Learn about this and other opportunities in International Scouting.
Messengers of Peace	Earn the Messengers of Peace award
Scoutmaster Congress	Open discussion about upcoming changes to Scouting America
Shooting Sports Awards & Programs	All about shooting sports opportunities and awards in Capitol Area Council
How to Plan Your Unit's Introduction to Leadership Skills for Troops/Crews/Ships Training	Strategies and tips for holding ILST/C/S for your unit to support youth in their leadership roles. This is a required course to send them to NYLT. Learn how to help your scouts get to the next leadership level.
NYLT - National Youth Leadership Training: What does future success look like?	With NYLT (National Youth Leadership Program), older youth take on the leadership and training roles and learn the same skills and speak the same "language" as their Wood Badge-trained adults. Find out how, why, where, who, and when of these essential Scouting programs.