Frequently Asked Questions

Visit our website- www.hopkinsmedicine.org/som/wildernessmedicine

Q: Am I eligible to take the course?

A: Initial enrollment will be limited to medical students enrolled at Johns Hopkins, including MSII, MSIII, and MSIV students. There are no clinical rotation prerequisites. For junior students (MSII), the course will be a good introduction to rapid survey and stabilization of acutely ill or injured patients; for senior students (MSIII and MSIV), the course will strengthen their understanding of emergency response in any setting.

Q: Do I have to be "outdoorsy" or have prior experience with wilderness or international activities?

A: NO! We will introduce you (gently) to an austere environment. Many course sessions take place outside, but none will require long-distance hiking or advanced outdoor skills. The purpose is to understand living in these environments to better prepare you for many different experiences.

Q: What kind of equipment do I need?

A: We have a detailed equipment list, but provide much of the group equipment (tents, cooking supplies). At a minimum you will need warm clothes, a good pair of walking shoes and (if the weather demands) maybe a raincoat. Ideally you also need to bring your own personal supplies (sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries) and a plate, glass and utensils for eating, but we can help with some of these supplies.
Q: I'm a faculty member or resident and would like to take the course or help teach...what should I do?

A: Great! Contact Dr. Kirsch to talk about scheduling a lecture, practical session or whatever kind of involvement you had in mind.

Q: I'm a student and want to help set up the course...what should I do?

A: Great! There are plenty of opportunities to help out with scheduling and preparing lectures, planning practical sessions, and organizing general course logistics (including menu planning) and participating in our wilderness medical scenarios. Contact Dr. Peterson.