CSS Outdoor Education – Personal Gear List

The following supplies are required for participation in CSS Outdoor Education:

	running shoes	Proper running shoes required! Skate shoes or Vans will not work. If you have difficulty with running, we recommend buying shoes from a store dedicated to fitting running shoes.
	hiking boots	Waterproof hiking boots required: Gore-Tex lined or leather that can be sealed; light but supportive enough for a three-day backpacking trip is ideal.
	hiking socks x2	Comfortable, absorbent hiking socks: med weight; synthetic or wool. No cotton.
	base layer: bottoms	Tights: usually made of synthetic material, wool, or silk. Must keep you <i>warm-when-wet</i> . Under-layers used for other sports, like hockey, may be acceptable. No cotton or denim!
	base layer: top	Same as above
	quick-dry shorts	No cotton or denim!
	t-shirt: warm-when-wet/quick dry	Must be made of a synthetic material, wool, or silk. Must keep you warm-when- wet. No cotton!
	insulation layer – top	Warm, light-weight puffy jacket or sweater. Does not need to be waterproof because it will be layered with a shell jacket. Must be <i>warm-when-wet</i> : No cotton hoodies! Fleece jacket or synthetic filled jacket ideal. Down jackets with hoods work well too.
	shell pants: waterproof/breathable	A Gore-Tex style, waterproof/breathable fabric to be layered over base layer. Zippers on legs are convenient for winter. Heavier products will be more durable – lighter products will be more breathable. Insulated ski-pants will wet-out in temperatures near 0°C and will be too heavy to carry .
	shell jacket: waterproof/breathable with taped seams	As for above but with taped seams. Taped seams are more important on the upper body: they keep water from seeping through stitching. Feel seams for a ribbon of tape that runs the length of the stitching.
	toque	<i>Warm-when-wet</i> . Toques will be carried on all trips during fall and winter season, not just winter
	sun hat or baseball cap	Quick dry is nice but not necessary.
	sunglasses	Very important during winter. Must be rated to stop uv rays.
	plastic eating utensils	Durable plastic required. Fast-food utensils will do in a pinch but will not last.
	eating bowl	A 4-cup plastic measuring cup purchased from a grocery store makes a simple and light plate set: works as bowl, plate, and mug; or buy a fancy set from an outdoor store.
	winter mitts and a light pair of gloves	Ideal mitts have a waterproof shell with removable insulation (such as fleece) for quick drying. Ski gloves will wet-out under warmer condition and are too hard to dry . A very light pair of gloves (like figure skating gloves) work well around camp or when hiking.
	personal toiletries	Basic essentials only. No shampoo etc not needed.
I	Optional Items	
	fleece tights	If you get cold, or during the winter season, an additional mid-layer for the lower body will be needed.
	quick-dry pants	General use nylon, quick-drying pants are more comfortable than waterproof/breathable when it is not raining.
	blister supplies	We will go over various options in class. Lots to choose from these days.