



## Silver Navigator Award Syllabus

Minimum course duration is 2 days with at least 12 hours of tutor contact time. Additional time may be required for inexperienced candidates.

Maximum tutor/student ratio for training and assessment is 1:6.

### The Learning Outcomes

On completion of the Award participants will be able to safely plan and follow a route with some sections away from paths and tracks through being able to:

- Utilise the skills and techniques of the Bronze Award in the context of Silver Award navigation strategies.
- Relate small hills, small valleys, prominent re-entrants and prominent spurs to their corresponding map contours. Use prominent hills, ridges, spurs and valleys as a means of navigation in good visibility.
- Use landforms and point features to orientate the map and as collecting and catching features.
- Use a compass to: accurately follow a bearing; aim off; check the direction of handrails and other linear features.
- Deviate briefly from a compass bearing to avoid obstacles or difficult terrain and accurately regain the original line.
- Use back bearings to check route following accuracy.
- Measure distance on the ground in varied, open terrain using timing and pacing and make practical allowances for any discrepancies.
- Simplify legs using coarse navigation, attack points and fine navigation.
- Recognise dangerous or difficult terrain on map and ground.
- Plan and implement navigational strategies based on the above skills.
- Maintain route finding accuracy in poor visibility or darkness.
- Recognise a navigation error within a few minutes and apply appropriate relocation techniques.
- Understand how personal fitness and nature of terrain affect route choice both at the planning stage and on the ground.
- Understand the potential consequences of fatigue and physical discomfort in demanding terrain and/or extreme weather conditions.
- Select appropriate clothing, equipment and first aid kit for walking in open country in all weather conditions.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the Countryside Code, current access legislation and the environmental impact of walkers on the countryside.
- Understand the responsibilities of walkers towards other countryside interests such as farming, forestry and conservation.

### Assessment Guidance Notes

- Practical assessment should take place over a distance of 5km to 8km depending on terrain.
- The assessment route should utilise distinct contour features which require the use of a wide range of navigational strategies.
- The assessment route should offer varied terrain to allow candidates to make appropriate route choice decisions.
- Candidates should plan a safe walk of appropriate distance, explain the issues involved and estimate the time needed for a specific leg.
- Candidates should demonstrate an acceptable level of knowledge of the Countryside Code and Access to Open Country.