

It's called COPE, or a Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience. A COPE Course is a custom built challenge course or ropes course designed to meet the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Project COPE installation and operation procedures. COPE Programs are based on attaining seven goals, summarized as:

Teamwork. Teamwork is the key that allows a group to navigate a COPE challenge course successfully. The COPE challenge ropes course experience makes it clear that each individual can accomplish more as a member of a team than by going it alone.

Communication. A COPE challenge course encourages active learning of critical listening and discussion skills important for any Crew or individual attempting to accomplish a difficult task. Trust. Participants completing difficult tasks on a COPE challenge course develop trust in the COPE staff members, their fellow Crew members and themselves. COPE staff are highly trained and certified in all safety aspects of climbing, by the way.

Leadership. Team members attempting to solve problems on a COPE course have abundant opportunities to develop and exercise leadership skills in small and large groups.

Decision Making. COPE requires Crews to make decisions by developing one or more solutions to a the specific obstacle, problem, or initiative. Teams must consider all the available resources and alternatives, and evaluate the probable results before moving forward. Problem Solving. COPE challenges Crews and individuals to develop solutions to interesting problems. Participants must step outside of the box and frequently use creative ideas.

Participants can then test their solutions and evaluate the results.

Self-Esteem. Meeting the challenges of a COPE challenge course allows individuals and groups to develop self-esteem and encourages them to set challenging yet attainable goals.

