

Outdoor Recreation Possible Support Area Courses

The outdoor recreation emphasis in the Recreation major includes students who are interested in a wide range of career paths: camp programming/tripping and administration, guiding (climbing and mountaineering, kayaking, rafting, etc.), wilderness therapy or therapeutic adventure, environmental/experiential/outdoor education, state parks management, and adventure travel. Support area courses vary depending on individual student interests.

Generally students should be looking at natural resource/environment courses and/or people courses (human behavior) with an emphasis on the population(s) that outdoor leaders work with. The options are numerous and conversations with faculty will help shape a useful and effective support area. Specific outdoor activity skills are essential and students get these on your own. Western's Outdoor Center trips are excellent for building skills and Wilderness First Responder courses are offered fairly regularly on campus and elsewhere.

Below are possible support area classes that other students have found helpful. Although support area classes are usually 300 level and above, there are possible exceptions as listed below. Be aware that many of the courses listed have prerequisites or require major or minor status.

Sociology

- 251 – Sociology of Deviant Behavior
- 255 – Social Organization of Criminal Justice
- 260 – The Family in Society
- 269 - Race and Ethnic Relations
- 330 – Introduction to Social Psychology
- 332 – Sociology of Human Relationships
- 352 – Criminology
- 354 – Domestic Violence and the Criminal Justice system
- 355 – Criminal Justice System
- 368 – Gender and Education
- 369 – Sociology of Race and Ethnicity
- 380 – Sociology of Youth
- 460 – Advanced Topics in Family

Psychology

- 230 - Developmental Psychology
- 240 – Social Psychology
- 250 – Introduction to Personality and Abnormal Psychology
- 331 – Adult Development and Aging
- 332 – Adolescent Psychology
- 340 - Environmental Psychology
- 343 – Social Processes
- 350 – Personality
- 351 – Abnormal Psychology
- 371 – Psychology of Human Learning, Cognition, Instruction
- 372 – Child Development and Education
- 373 – Adolescent Psychology
- 374 – Psychology of Child Rearing

Environmental Studies (ESTU)

- 303 – Human Ecology
- 304 – Environments/Resource Policy
- 305 – Environmental History and Ethics
- 369 – Introduction to Planning
- 371 – Environmental Education
- 372 - Environmental Education Curriculum
- 436 – Environmental Impact Assessment
- 444 – Environmental Dispute Resolution
- 467 - Natural Resource Policy
- 473 - Environmental Interpretation
- 474 – Outdoor Education (Spring Block)
- 476 – Experiential Learning in Environmental Education (Spring Block)
- 483 – Field Methods in Environmental Education (Spring Block)
- 484 – Natural History and Environmental Education (Spring Block)

- 477 – American Literature of Nature and Place
- 486 – Community Based Environmental Education
- 487 – Conservation Psychology
- 488 – History of Conservation in America

****Spring Block has space typically for two recreation majors. Be sure to take 371 in the fall and sign up early for Spring Block.**

There are other Environmental Studies courses that might support particular emphases in outdoor recreation/outdoor education/adventure. Check with your advisor.

Environmental Studies (ESCI)

- 321 - Oceanography
- 330 – Natural History of the Pacific Northwest
- 407 – Forest Ecology
- 408 – Field Methods: Wildlife Ecology

Communication

- 224 – Small Group Processes
- 318 – Professional Communication
- 325 – Introduction to Intercultural Communication
- 327 – Interpersonal Communication

Anthropology

- 353 - Sex and Gender in Culture
- 361 - Native Peoples of North America
- 365 – Peoples of Latin America
- 428 – Cultural Resource Management

Fairhaven

- 218C – Hispano/a-American Experience
- 219D – African-American Experience
- 263B - Native-American Experience
- 366E - Comparative Cultural Studies

American Cultural Studies

- 202 – The Native American Experience
- 203 – The Hispano/a American Experience
- 204 – African-American Experience
- 205 – Asian-American Experience
- 206 – Jewish-American Experience

- 242 – Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Experience
- Management
 - 271 – Law and the Business Environment
 - 311 – Introduction to Management and Organizational Behavior
 - 313 - Teamwork
- Geology
 - Check the available classes. Some may apply to your interests.
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A Wilderness First Responder course (approximately 100 hours of class and field work) can be taken by recreation majors for independent study credit through the Recreation Program. See Jim about this.