



Outdoor Leadership

Department of Environmental Studies and Planning Sonoma State University

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THE MARKET

Outdoor leaders are in demand from growing outdoor recreation, adventure tourism and multisport industries. In addition, outdoor leadership skills are directly applicable to the workplace in a wide range of leadership, management and coordination positions. There is also a steady demand for outdoor leaders in non-formal educational settings, such as outdoor education schools, the outdoor products industry, business and management training programs, resorts and spas, adventure therapy projects, university recreation programs, and other non-formal educational and recreational enterprises. Outdoor leadership employment opportunities often are located in some of the world's most fascinating and beautiful places, both in the U.S. and overseas.

OUR PROGRAM

Responding to this emerging market, the Outdoor Leadership degree track described here combines relevant coursework in environmental science, education and communication, kinesiology, first aid, small business management, and organizational leadership. These courses help students strengthen core competencies including foundational knowledge, leadership theory and practice, self awareness and professional conduct, decision making and judgment, teaching and facilitation, environmental stewardship, program management, safety and risk management, and technical skills. All students are required to refine these competencies through a formal internship. Internships – with local outfitters, preserves, and non-profit organizations or on-campus programs such as the rock wall, outdoor resource center, or wilderness welcome program – give students the opportunity to apply their skills to help coordinate, lead, teach and evaluate programs in the outdoor leadership field. In addition to the required academic curriculum that follows, a variety of leadership training and skill development opportunities are also offered by SSU.

OUR CAMPUS

The SSU campus has many unique learning resources, such as: Fairfield Osborn Preserve (where our students can teach children while spending the day out on the trails); a world-class “green” recreation center (with climbing wall, a ropes course, and adventure programs center); the Kenneth M. Stocking Native Plant Garden (where there are several plant propagation projects underway); Copeland Creek (the focus of a student-faculty lead restoration effort); and the Environmental Technology Center (our high tech “green” center and classroom). Not far beyond the campus there are rugged beaches, Oak and Redwood forests, the vine country, and a world-class city just over the Golden Gate Bridge.

MOUNTAINS TO OCEANS

The Sonoma State Outdoor Leadership study track takes full advantage of the unique location of our campus. The North Bay is home to amazing beaches, rivers, deltas, bays, and mountains as well as a wealth of outdoor businesses and organizations. Most of the courses in our major requirements include significant field-based study and some include multi-day field trips.

Check our website: www.sonoma.edu/ensp

Other ENSP Study Plans include Education and the Environment •
Environmental Conservation and Restoration • Energy Management and Design • Planning •
Water Quality and Hazardous Materials Management

OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP STUDY PLAN

BACHELOR DEGREE REQUIREMENT (45 - 47 total units)

Lower Division Requirements (4 units)

ENSP 200	Global Environmental Issues (3) (GE)*
ENSP 201	Environmental Forum (1)

Environmental Science (29 units)

ENSP 302	Applied Ecology (4)
ENSP 303	Applied Physical Science (4)
ENSP 305L	Computer-Aided Communications (3)*
ENSP 307	Environmental History (4) -- OR -- ENSP 308 Environmental Literature (3) -- OR -- ENSP 401 Environmental Policy (3-4)
ENSP 440	Education and the Environment (4)*
ENSP 442	Methods and Models: Ed and Env (3)*
ENSP 444	Outdoor Leadership (3)*
ENSP 499	Internship in Outdoor Leadership (4 unit minimum)*

Breadth Requirements (12 – 14 units)

(Kinesiology, First Aid, Leadership and Small Business)

Kinesiology (3 units)

KIN 325	Introduction to Adaptive Physical Education (3)
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First Aid (3 units or WFR)

KIN 340	Emergency Response (3) -- OR -- passage of an approved Wilderness First Responder course.
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Leadership (3 – 4 units)

UNI 238	Foundations of Leadership (3) -- OR --
PSY 424	Human Systems Leadership (4)

Small Business Management (3 – 4 units)

To graduate in this study plan students must complete an approved small business management course from SSU or another university.

* = recommended for the Minor

GENERAL EDUCATION NOTES

The BA Degree also requires completion of the General Education (GE) requirements of the CSU including 9 units of Upper Division GE. See your advisor if you are unclear about your GE requirements.

GE RECOMMENDATIONS

BIO 220	Human Anatomy (4)
BIO 224	Human Physiology (4)
BIO 314	Field Biology

(Updated: Spring 09)