

FEBRUARY 2024

OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

Recreation and Sport Management
Health, Human Performance and Recreation
College of Education and Health Professions



A YEAR OF IMPACT

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHTS

The outdoor industry is booming particularly in the state of Arkansas. With state level support coming from the Office of Outdoor Recreation and high-level partners throughout the region, students are seeing the opportunities that exist today and, more importantly, the industry's positive growth trend.

Outdoor Leadership has had representatives on panels at the inaugural Arkansas Outdoor Recreation Economy Summit, has presented at the Climbing Advocacy Conference, led sessions at the Wilderness Education Conference and continues to be at the forefront of conversations around collaboration and partnerships within the outdoor industry.

We are working with industry partners to identify experiential learning opportunities that provide quality training for students and real value to local businesses and organizations. Partners include: Swim OZ, Arkansas NICA, Pedal It Forward, Coler Mountain Bike Preserve, Ozark Foundation, and Illinois River Watershed Partnership.

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Spring Course Highlights

Wilderness First Aid RESM 1101

Students are now able to receive course credit AND a 3-year Wilderness First Aid Certification. Kat Miller, Wilderness Medical Training Center certified instructor, works with students Monday evenings to ensure students are ready in the case of a medical emergency. The 8-week course covers common ailments and includes extensive scenario training.

Introduction to Bike Mechanics RESM 1091

Students are delving into mastering chain upkeep and replacing and installing tubes and tires. The class is working to refurbish bikes with community partner Pedal It Forward, an organization where donated bikes are given a new life and distributed to community members in need.

Outdoor Living Skills RESM 1032

Students are headed to the Buffalo National River for a backpacking trip, Feb. 17-18. The grandeur and significance of the Buffalo as our nation's first national river is an excellent outdoor classroom for outdoor living skills. During the trip, students will learn the basics of overnight backcountry travel, meal planning, route finding, risk management, and other outdoor recreational skills.

Rock Climbing RESM 1051

Rock Climbing students are mastering knots, belay technique, and climbing commands. Students have learned how to use an ATC and Grigri, two different common belay devices which require specific technique to master and will soon be assessed on their belaying skills.





Upcoming Applied Outdoor Leadership Excursions



Outdoor Leadership students have three upcoming opportunities to put their coursework into practice and expand their experience. Applied Outdoor Leadership RESM 4023 considers the values and scope of outdoor recreation programs, leadership and skill development with practical experience in a wilderness environment. The course includes adventures like canoeing through the wilderness, and skill training in such areas as orienteering and rock climbing; and leadership development in interpersonal and processing skills. The upcoming excursions are as follows:

MAY 11- JUNE 1, 2024

South Island New Zealand Sea kayaking, hiking, backpacking to Mount Cook, white water rafting, camping, high ropes and zipline tour, school and mental health facilities tour, collaborating with University of Canterbury. Cost: \$9,000-\$10,000

MAY 15-23, 2024

Arkansas adventure including a variety of overnight and extended field trip opportunities while cycling, canoeing, and rock climbing. Offered through RESM (4023), 8 seats available. Cost to be announced.

AUGUST 2024

Minnesota adventure including an expedition canoe trip in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, cycling on the north shore of Lake Superior, and rock climbing. Offered through RESM (4023). 8 seats available.

