

OUTDOOR EDUCATION MAJOR (B.S.)

https://chhs.unh.edu/kin_oe

Description

The outdoor education major is an accredited, award-winning, internationally recognized program preparing students for careers in outdoor education, adventure programming, wilderness therapy, and other educational/organizational settings. In addition to providing rich course content, this interdisciplinary program gives ample opportunity for practical application and field experience in the New Hampshire seacoast and White Mountains areas. Students must earn a grade of C (2.0) or better in every major course. In addition, they must complete 50 days of documented leadership experience prior to beginning a required internship. Interested students should contact the undergraduate coordinator, Nate Fitch, nate.fitch@unh.edu.

Students in outdoor education complete KIN 650B Internship in Outdoor Education as the capstone course for the major. This course integrates the knowledge and skills learned in all previous major courses and experiences into practical applications students will use as they prepare to enter the profession. Students complete their internships at regional and national organizations upon completion of all other courses and prerequisites.

Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
KIN 444C	Amped Up: Social and Psychological Perspectives on Adventure ¹	4
or KIN 551	Adventure Programming: Backcountry Based Experiences	
KIN 540	Top Rope Rock Climbing	4
KIN 541	Management of Challenge Courses	4
KIN 543	Winter Adventure Programming	2-4
or KIN 548	Winter Expedition Programming	
KIN 550	Outdoor Education Philosophy and Methods	4
KIN 552	Adventure Programming: Water Based Experiences	3
KIN 681	Theory of Adventure Education	4
KIN 682	Experiential Teaching and Leadership	4
KIN 686	Wilderness Emergency Medical Care	4
KIN 687	Career and Professional Development Practicum	4
KIN 786	Organization and Administration of Outdoor Education Programs	4
KIN 650B	Internship in Outdoor Education ²	2-8
Select one of the following:		4
ENGL 501	Introduction to Creative Nonfiction	
ENGL 502	Professional and Technical Writing	
ENGL 503	Persuasive Writing	

Elective Courses

Select at least one of the following:		2-4
KIN 539	Artificial Climbing Wall Management	

KIN 542	Sea Kayaking
KIN 545	High Angle Rescue
KIN 546	White Water Canoeing
KIN 547	Lead Rock Climbing
KIN 549	Wilderness Navigation
KIN 693	Teaching Assistantship
KIN 782	Therapeutic Applications of Adventure Programming
KIN 798	Special Topics

Cognate Requirement

Select 16 credits - related core of courses or minor ³	16
Total Credits	65-75

- ¹ Participation in one of UNH's pre-orientation programs (CONNECT, PAWS, PROVES, Marine Immersion, etc.) is a recommended experience when taking KIN 444C in the fall semester.
- ² Proof of 50 days of leadership experience is required prior to taking this course.
- ³ Core of courses emphasizing the particular area or population in outdoor education of interest to student, e.g., business, education, psychology, social work (selected with the assistance of an adviser).

Degree Plan

Suggested Course Sequence

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
KIN 444C or KIN 551	Amped Up: Social and Psychological Perspectives on Adventure or Adventure Programming: Backcountry Based Experiences	4
KIN 540	Top Rope Rock Climbing (Fall only)	4
KIN 515	History of Outdoor Pursuits in North America	4
		Credits
		16
Spring		
KIN 552	Adventure Programming: Water Based Experiences	3
Outdoor Education Elective ¹		4
		Credits
		7
Second Year		
Fall		
KIN 541	Management of Challenge Courses	4
KIN 550	Outdoor Education Philosophy and Methods	4
KIN 686	Wilderness Emergency Medical Care	4
Outdoor Education Elective ¹		4
		Credits
		16
Spring		
Choose One:		2-4
KIN 543	Winter Adventure Programming (2 CR, Spring)	

KIN 548	Winter Expedition Programming (4 CR, Spring)	
Outdoor Education Elective ¹		2-4
Credits		4-8
Third Year		
Fall		
KIN 682	Experiential Teaching and Leadership	4
Minor or Outdoor Education Elective ¹		4
Choose One:		4
ENGL 501	Introduction to Creative Nonfiction	
ENGL 502	Professional and Technical Writing	
ENGL 503	Persuasive Writing	
Credits		12
Spring		
KIN 681	Theory of Adventure Education	4
KIN 687	Career and Professional Development Practicum	4
Minor or Outdoor Education Elective ¹		4-8
Credits		12-16
Fourth Year		
Fall		
KIN 682	Experiential Teaching and Leadership	4
Minor or Outdoor Education Elective ¹		4-8
Credits		8-12
Spring		
KIN 786	Organization and Administration of Outdoor Education Programs (Spring only)	4
Minor or Outdoor Education Elective ¹		4-8
Credits		8-12
Total Credits		83-99

¹ Outdoor Education Electives:
 KIN 539 Artificial Climbing Wall Management (2 CR)
 KIN 542 Sea Kayaking (2 CR)
 KIN 545 High Angle Rescue (2 CR)
 KIN 546 White Water Canoeing (2 CR)
 KIN 547 Lead Rock Climbing (2 CR)
 KIN 545 High Angle Rescue (2 CR)
 KIN 782 Therapeutic Applications of Adventure Programming (4 CR)
 KIN 549 Wilderness Navigation (4 CR)
 KIN 693 Teaching Assistantship (2 CR)
 KIN 798 Special Topics (varied Credit)

³ **Internship**

The final requirement for a degree in Outdoor Education is the completion of KIN 650B Internship in Outdoor Education, which is an internship that is a minimum of 400 hours in duration. Students will typically complete this requirement after their final semester. We encourage students to seek paid professional positions to fulfill this final requirement. Often, students' internships lead directly to full-time jobs with their host organizations.