

# PARKS AND RECREATION LEADERSHIP (BS)

## Bachelor of Science

The parks and recreation field involves managing and leading the recreation programs and business operating systems in settings such as community, state, and national parks; resorts; youth camps; college campuses; assisted living centers; outdoor education centers; and nature centers. The Parks and Recreation Leadership program prepares students to design, manage, and lead recreation programs in all of those settings. The program enables students to develop core values of integrity, citizenship, excellence, and lifelong learning and acquire foundational parks and recreation knowledge and skills. Additionally, the development of written and oral communication skills and critical thinking are addressed throughout the curriculum.

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
REC-1760	Leisure and Society	4
REC-2220	Recreation Leadership	4
REC-3330	Recreation Programming	4
REC-3400	Outdoor Recreation and Education	4
REC-3500	Outdoor Recreation Skills	4
REC-4780	Parks and Recreation Leadership Internship	4
REC-4980	Senior Seminar in Parks and Recreation Leadership	4
<b>Required Supportive Courses</b>		
BIO-2200	Humans and the Environment	4
MTH-2100	General Statistics	4
SPM-4370	Facilities and Special Events	4
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>40</b>

## Undergraduate Degree Requirements

A student who graduates from Aurora University with a baccalaureate degree will have met the following requirements:

- Completion of all requirements for an approved major (with no grades lower than "C").
- Overall completion of at least 120 semester hours of coursework with a GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale (a course may be utilized only once in application toward a degree requirement, unless otherwise noted in the academic regulations). The 120 semester hours of coursework must include:
  - At least 52 semester hours completed at a senior college.
  - Residency Requirement - At least 30 semester hours completed at Aurora University, including the last 24 semester hours in the degree, and including at least 18 semester hours in the major. (Portfolio assessment credit, life and vocational experience credit, off-campus experience credit, examination credit, participation credit, and block credit, shall not count toward the residency requirement).
  - Upper-Division Requirement - A minimum of 30 semester hours numbered 3000 or above. Of these 30 semester hours, 15

semester hours must lie within the major and 15 semester hours must be completed at Aurora University.

- Completion of all General Education requirements (with no grades lower than "C"), as follows:
  - Quantitative and Formal Reasoning competency requirement (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#satisfy-quantitative-reasoning-requirement>)
  - ENG-1000 Introduction to Academic Writing
  - IDS-1200 Discover What Matters or IDS-3040 Global Justice
  - IDS-1150 First Year Experience - *Not required for Transfer or AU Online students*)
  - Satisfactory participation in the junior-year mentoring and assessment process designed to guide students to successful completion of their degree and to encourage planning for next steps beyond graduation. (IDS-3500 Junior Mentoring Program I and IDS-3550 Junior Mentoring Program II - *Not required for ADC or AU Online students but may be designated electives for AU Online students admitted with fewer than 15 hours of transfer credit.*)
  - Distribution Requirements  
*Students will complete one approved course<sup>1</sup> from each of the following categories:*
    - Artistic Literacy
    - Cultural Literacy
    - Human Inquiry
    - Scientific Inquiry

*In addition to the above, ADC and Online students will also complete one approved course<sup>1</sup> from the following category:*

- Discovery and Reflection

<sup>1</sup> Only courses that are approved to meet the distribution requirement can be used toward this requirement. See the list of approved courses (<https://catalog.aurora.edu/regulations-policy-catalog/academic-regulations-procedures/general-education/#approved-courses-gen-ed-distribution>) for available options. Courses taken to meet distribution requirements are 4 semester hours apiece, with the following exceptions:

- An approved transfer course of at least 2.50 semester hours can be used to satisfy a distribution requirement.
- Courses with co-requisite laboratory components may be used to satisfy a distribution requirement, provided that the student successfully complete both the three-credit-hour course and the single-credit-hour lab component.

## Learning Outcomes

- Articulate an understanding of the range of career opportunities in the field of parks and recreation leadership and an understanding of the knowledge, skills and certifications required to obtain employment in the student's chosen niche (campus recreation, youth sports, outdoor recreation, community center, etc.).
- Articulate an understanding of effective strategies for leading recreation program staff and participants.
- Demonstrate the ability to plan and develop recreation programs, including the ability to use information technology to plan, document, and report the outcomes of recreation programs.

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- d. Demonstrate the ability to plan and develop outdoor recreation activities, including meals, necessary equipment and supplies, and risk management.