

RECM 380 – Recreation Administration and Leadership

Instructor: Dr. Keith Bosak

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Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 12-1 pm or by appointment

Course description:

This course will explore the many roles that leadership plays in the administration of recreation, parks and leisure services. We will learn about the leadership process and styles, group dynamics, organizational behavior, motivation and risk management. Students will also be introduced to leadership concepts and theories. We will have a chance to practice what we have learned through group and individual exercises.

Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the necessary concepts, theories and applications of leadership in a recreation context so that they will be prepared to take on leadership roles.

Learning objectives:

- Understand the process of leadership
- Obtain knowledge of leadership theories, concepts and models
- To explore and understand one's own leadership style.
- Identify and define the types of leadership found in recreation, parks and leisure services organizations
- To understand the importance of group dynamics and identify various techniques that can be used by leaders working with groups
- To understand the motivation process
- Understand the role of communication in interpersonal and organizational contexts
- To gain an awareness of and learn how to manage risks
- Gain knowledge of leadership in an outdoor setting

Learning materials:

Reading materials for this course will consist of the textbooks (see below) and supplementary readings. All reading materials will be available on Blackboard. All lecture notes and handouts will also be available on Blackboard.

Required Texts:

Edington, et al. 2005. *Leadership for Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Services 3rd ed.*
Champaign, IL: Sagamore Publishing.

Peterson, J et al. 2005. *Risk Management for Park, Recreation and Leisure Services 5th ed.*
Champaign, IL: Sagamore Publishing.

Assignments and assessment:

The assignments and assessments for this course will be used to measure your understanding of the topics covered and your ability to communicate that understanding verbally and through writing. The assignments will also provide additional opportunities for learning about and synthesizing the topics covered in this course. All assignments are due at the beginning of class and late assignments will not be accepted unless the student has a written and verifiable excuse.

Explanation of assignments and assessments:

Assignments: Students will complete several lab assignments during the course of the semester. These assignments will be worth 50-200 points each, totaling 500 points. Some assignments may take multiple weeks and therefore be worth more than 50 points. Students may work in groups or individually depending on the assignment but all write-ups must be turned in individually.

Assessments: There will be two exams given during the semester, each worth 150 points and a comprehensive final exam worth 200 points. The exams will consist of matching, multiple choice, true/false and short-answer questions. Any information from the text, supplemental readings, lectures, guest lecturers or the assignments will be potential content for exam questions.

Class participation and attendance:

The success of this course depends on lively in-class discussion. Therefore, students are expected to come to class everyday well-prepared and ready to discuss the assigned readings and topics from the lectures. Students who do not prepare and those who miss class will find it difficult to succeed in this course. Those of you who do prepare and attend class regularly will learn a great deal and have fun in the process.

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to abide by the University of Montana Student Conduct Code. Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. The Student Conduct Code can be found here in case you have any questions: <http://life.umt.edu/VPSA/name/StudentConductCode>

Course Schedule:

This is only a guide and is subject to change.

week of:	topic/chapter	assignment/assessment
26-Jan	leadership and the leadership process/prologue and ch-1	
2-Feb	leadership concepts and theories/ch-2	assignment-01
9-Feb	leadership concepts and theories/ch-2	assignment -02
16-Feb	leadership roles/ch-3 (no class Monday)	assignment -03
23-Feb	leadership and group dynamics/ch-5	Exam-01 (Wed, Feb-25)
2-Mar	leadership and group dynamics/ch-5	assignment -04
9-Mar	leadership and motivation/ch-6	assignment -05
16-Mar	leadership and communication/ch-7	assignment -06
23-Mar	outdoor leadership/ch-9	assignment -07
30-Mar	spring break	no class
6-Apr	catch-up week	Exam-02 (Wed, April-08)
13-Apr	risk management/ch-8 and risk management booklet	assignment -08
20-Apr	risk management/ch-8 and risk management booklet	assignment -09
27-Apr	risk management/ch-8 and risk management booklet	assignment -10
4-May	Leadership in social settings and event management/ch-10 and 11	
12-May	3:20 to 5:20	Final Exam

Grading:

There will be a total of 1000 points offered in this course. Extra credit will not be given. The breakdown is as follows:

Assignments (10 @ 50 points each)	500 points
Exam-01	150 points
Exam-02	150 points
Final exam (comprehensive)	200 points
total	1000 points

900-1000	points	A
800-899	points	B
700-799	points	C
600-699	points	D
below 600	points	F