

Principles of Outdoor Recreation (HPERC)

Outdoor Recreation Program Leadership for Whitewater Youth and Senior Groups

Fall, 2017



Project Impact:

Student Learning	Students applied the outdoor leadership skills learned in class.
Contribution to Discipline	New outdoor recreation programs developed in Whitewater.
Impact on Community Partner	Several participants reported they had not had similar opportunities for decades.
Supporting UWW's Strategic Plan	Transforming lives and impacting society: Student learning was enhanced by the hands-on project.



PROJECT PURPOSE AND RESULTS

Three student groups led outdoor recreation adventures for Whitewater community seniors (Fairhaven residents) and children in the Lincoln Elementary School after school program. The students applied the outdoor programming, facilitation, group management, and risk management skills they learned in the classroom and during a course-based 4-day canoe trip on the Wisconsin River to the leadership of their own outdoor programs.

The students collaborated with community partners (Fairhaven Leisure Services and Whitewater Parks & Recreation Department) to plan the programs, recruit participants, implement the programs, and evaluate the programs' impacts. Following their programs, the students presented their experiences to the class and the community partners, and discussed the lessons learned about facilitating outdoor recreation experiences across different demographics, environments, and program types.

The students, community partners, and participants reported extremely positive feedback.

Course Offering Information

REC 496 Principles of Outdoor Recreation was proposed as a Special Studies course for fall 2017, however, the HPERC department plans to build the course and CBL project into a regular offering.

