



COURSE OUTLINE: NRT148 - PARK OPERATIONS

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Approved: Bob Chapman - Dean

Course Code: Title	NRT148: PARK OPERATIONS
Program Number: Name	5212: ADVENTURE RECREATION
Department:	NATURAL RESOURCES PRG
Academic Year:	2025-2026
Course Description:	This course introduces students to how protected areas operate and are managed as parks. Activities incorporate the operations and management of federal, provincial, and municipal parks with a focus on preparing students for meaningful employment. Case studies will be used to learn about the roles and responsibilities of parks employees. The Ontario parks system will be studied in detail including history, conservation, management objectives, and current issues. Field trips scheduled throughout the semester will complement classroom learning and provide practical park operation experience where possible, including the end of season shutdown of a provincial park.
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	42
Prerequisites:	There are no pre-requisites for this course.
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Substitutes:	NRT111
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:	5212 - ADVENTURE RECREATION
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	VLO 1 Demonstrate clear, concise and industry appropriate written, spoken and visual communication skills.
	VLO 3 Describe how the six park systems in Ontario are managed and operated.
	VLO 5 Start and manage a career in the Adventure Recreation and Parks field.
	VLO 6 Demonstrate a sound understanding of the significance of the Adventure Recreation and Parks Industry including relevant legislation, trends and issues.
	VLO 8 Demonstrate an understanding of sustainable development and apply the foundations in the natural environment.
	VLO 9 Safely operate and maintain equipment used in Adventure Recreation and Park operations.
	VLO 10 Evaluate and apply current technologies and mathematical concepts used to collect, manage and analyze data.
VLO 11 Analyze, evaluate and apply subjective and objective safety considerations for Adventure Recreation and Parks activities.	
Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in	EES 1 Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.



this course:	<p>EES 2 Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.</p> <p>EES 6 Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.</p> <p>EES 7 Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.</p> <p>EES 10 Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.</p> <p>EES 11 Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.</p>
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Course Evaluation:	<p>Passing Grade: 50%, D</p> <p>A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.</p>
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Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:	Academic success is directly linked to attendance. Missing more than 1/3 of the course hours in a semester shall result in an automatic F grade.
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Books and Required Resources:	<p>Parks & Protected Areas in Canada Planning and Management by Dearden & Rollins Publisher: Oxford University Press Edition: 4th Edition ISBN: 9780199009930</p>
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Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:	Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1
	1. Develop an investigative report and class presentation that describes in detail how a selected park operates including employment opportunities.	<p>1.1 Describe a provincial or national park where employment opportunities are found, outlining the purpose and objective for its establishment.</p> <p>1.2 Describe the role and classification of a chosen park in the greater context of its system plan.</p> <p>1.3 Outline the specific operational and management strategies used within an investigated park, along with information on existing facilities and services.</p> <p>1.4 Describe employment opportunities within a chosen park, outlining the education and training needed to obtain employment.</p>
	Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2
	2. Differentiate between the park systems in Ontario and the management strategies and operational techniques.	<p>2.1 Describe from field knowledge how the operation and management of a variety of parks is established based on use, and level of protection.</p> <p>2.2 Identify management issues that are found within varying park classes as well as mitigation strategies.</p> <p>2.3 Describe the facilities, services, and natural and cultural features which make each visited site unique.</p> <p>2.4 Compare the different operational and management strategies used in parks within the Algoma region.</p> <p>2.5 Gain an understanding of the facilities and amenities found within differing parks.</p>
	Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
	3. Describe the distinct goals, objectives, policies,	3.1 Describe the emphasis of protection versus public use in different park systems.

	and management issues of each park system found in Ontario.	3.2 Explain the difference between conservation versus preservation when discussing park protection. 3.3 Explain the variety of internal and external stresses on park environments.
	Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
	4. Describe a variety of seasonal and full-time employment opportunities within each park system found in Ontario.	4.1 Identify a minimum of five (5) traditional park seasonal employment opportunities. 4.2 Describe other career paths in the outdoor recreation field, where seasonal and full-time employment is found. 4.3 Explain the function and role of traditional park positions, in the context of park operations. 4.4 Describe the education, training, and background needed to apply for such positions.
	Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
	5. Describe the evolution of management strategies and operational techniques used from past to present to future in each of Ontario Park systems.	5.1 Describe how the parks movement began in North America. 5.2 Compare how the different park systems were established from their infancy. 5.3 Explain how park operations and management strategies in each park system evolved over the past 100 years. 5.4 Describe the shift of emphasis in management style in some park systems, from public use to protection.
	Course Outcome 6	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 6
	6. Discuss and demonstrate knowledge of local park operations, management, and key issues based on field trips to various local and regional parks for a variety of park systems.	6.1 Describe from experience the various field operational strategies in running and maintaining local and regional parks, in a variety of park systems. 6.2 Perform important park operations duties in the field and demonstrate knowledge of basic season shut down procedures of a local park. 6.3 Describe the training system for certification of water treatment operators in seasonal resorts and parks. 6.4 Describe the importance of customer service skills as they relate to customer satisfaction in local parks.

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Field trip activities	20%
Field Trip Reflection Assignments	10%
Final Exam	20%
Quizzes	10%
Readings Assignments	15%
Report and Presentation	25%

Date:

August 20, 2025

Addendum:

Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.

