



Outdoor and Environmental Leadership AA

The Outdoor and Environmental Leadership program is a dynamic, experiential learning program designed to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and passion to become effective leaders in environmental conservation and outdoor recreation and education.

Outdoor and Environmental Leadership Curriculum

Curriculum

Program Courses

Course Code	Title	Course Outlines	Goal Areas	Credits
BIOL 1200	Current Environmental Issues and	View-BIOL 1200	n/a	4
GCST 1040	American Indian Culture - Indigenous Peoples of Minnesota and	View-GCST 1040	n/a	3
GCST 1490	Dave Larsen American Indian Immersion Experience and	View-GCST 1490	n/a	4
GCST 1970	Environmental Justice and Nature Immersion Experience and	View-GCST 1970	n/a	4
GCST 2017	Outdoor Leadership Internship and	View-GCST 2017	n/a	4
GCST 2970	Outdoor Experiential Program Leadership and	View-GCST 2970	n/a	4
GEOG 1010	Physical Geography and	View-GEOG 1010	n/a	3
PHIL 1200	Environmental Philosophy	View-PHIL 1200	n/a	3

Program Electives

Course Code	Title	Course Outlines	Goal Areas	Credits
Choose 3 credits from the following:				
EXSC 1240	Rock Climbing or	View-EXSC 1240	n/a	1
EXSC 1640	Outdoor Activity Sampler or	View-EXSC 1640	n/a	1
EXSC 1740	Hiking or	View-EXSC 1740	n/a	1
EXSC 1760	Introduction to Kayaking and Canoeing	View-EXSC 1760	n/a	1

General Education Courses

Course Code	Title	Course Outlines	Goal Areas	Credits
ENGL 1200	Gateway College Writing or	View-ENGL 1200	n/a	4
ENGL 1201	College Writing I and	View-ENGL 1201	n/a	4
ENGL 1202	College Writing II or	View-ENGL 1202	n/a	2
ENGL 1203	College Writing II with Workshop and	View-ENGL 1203	n/a	2
COMM 1210	Small Group Communication and	View-COMM 1210	n/a	3
BIOL 1001	Biology I and	View-BIOL 1001	n/a	4
ANTH 1010	Introduction to Anthropology: Cultural Anthropology and	View-ANTH 1010	n/a	3
ENGL 2340	Nature in Literature	View-ENGL 2340	n/a	3

MnTC Electives: Goal 4

Course Code	Title	Course Outlines	Goal Areas	Credits
Choose 1 of the following:				
MATH 1010	Survey of Mathematics or	View-MATH 1010	n/a	3
MATH 1130	Elementary Statistics	View-MATH 1130	n/a	3

MnTC Electives: Goal 5

Course Code	Title	Course Outlines	Goal Areas	Credits
Choose 1 of the following:				
SOC 1110	Introduction to Sociology or	View-SOC 1110	n/a	3
GCST 1350	Immigration and Society or	View-GCST 1350	n/a	3
GEOG 1040	Human Geography or	View-GEOG 1040	n/a	3
POLS 1140	State and Local Politics or	View-POLS 1140	n/a	3
PSYC 1150	General Psychology	View-PSYC 1150	n/a	3

MnTC Electives: Goal 6

Course Code	Title	Course Outlines	Goal Areas	Credits
Choose 1 of the following:				
ART 1160	Digital Photography or	View-ART 1160	n/a	3
ENGL 2330	Hmong American Literature or	View-ENGL 2330	n/a	3
ENGL 2380	American Indian Literature or	View-ENGL 2380	n/a	3
ENGL 2410	US Latinx and Latin American Literature or	View-ENGL 2410	n/a	3
GCST 1030	Introduction to Japanese Culture or	View-GCST 1030	n/a	3
GCST 1978	American Indian Cultural Expression	View-GCST 1978	n/a	3
Total Credits Required			60	

Program Overview

The Outdoor and Environmental Leadership program at North Hennepin Community College is a dynamic, experiential learning program designed to empower students with the knowledge, skills, and passion to become effective leaders in environmental conservation and outdoor recreation and education. This comprehensive program combines theoretical classroom learning with hands-on outdoor experiences, fostering an understanding of environmental and outdoor issues, sustainability, and stewardship. The program intentionally focuses on acknowledging barriers in access to outdoor spaces and programming in Minnesota with the goal of systemically addressing this.

Participants will engage in a variety of outdoor activities, from hiking, canoeing, and camping to wildlife tracking and observation, while learning about environmental justice issues, ecosystem dynamics, biodiversity, and conservation techniques through different cultural lenses. Leadership development is a cornerstone of the program, with a strong focus on building skills in team coordination, decision-making, and effective communication in outdoor settings.

Community engagement is another key element of the program. Students will have multiple opportunities to plan, implement and lead environmental justice and climate justice workshops and events, participate in community-based conservation projects, and advocate for sustainability initiatives. Students will build relationships and collaborate with local organizations and community members, thus applying their learning in real-world contexts.

The program is designed for individuals passionate about the outdoors and environmental issues, aiming to pursue careers in environmental education, outdoor recreation, tribal conservation and cultural preservation, sustainable development, and more. The program offers a unique blend of academic rigor, practical skills, and community involvement, preparing students to become influential outdoor and environmental leaders and change-makers in their communities and beyond.

Career Opportunities

Information on careers, including career descriptions, salary data, and employment outlook is available on the [Bureau of Labor Statistics website](#) and [O*Net Online website](#).

Transfer Information

If you are planning on transferring to another institution, follow the guidelines available on our transfer resources web page to help you plan the process: [Transfer Information](#)

Degree Information

The Associate of Arts (A.A.) is awarded for successful completion of 60 credits and is designed to constitute the first two years of a liberal arts bachelor degree program. An A.A. degree includes the entire 40 credit Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) as the general education requirement. Students may also choose to concentrate in a particular field of study in preparation for a planned major or professional emphasis at a four year college by following the pre major requirement of the desired transfer institution in addition to the MnTC and A.A. requirements.

A student shall:

- Earn a minimum of 60 semester credits.
- Earn a grade point average of 2.00 (C) or higher in courses taken at North Hennepin Community College.
- Earn a minimum of 20 semester credits of the 60 semester credits required for the A.A. Degree at NHCC.
- Complete the general education distribution requirement listed in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum. The student shall select general education (MnTC) courses numbered 1000 or above to complete a minimum of 40 credits.
- Have four years in which to complete their work under the terms of the catalog in effect at the time of their first enrollment.
- Students taking more than four years to complete their graduation requirements may follow any catalog in effect during the four year period preceding their date of

graduation.

Required A.A. Degree Course Distribution:

- Complete 40 credits in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum satisfying the requirements for each of the 10 goal areas.
- Complete at least 2 credits for the Wellness requirement from either Health (all courses) or Physical Education (all courses).

If the student intends to transfer, he/she is encouraged to work with an advisor to fulfill requirements for transfer to the other institution.

Completion of an A.A. degree fulfills the Goal Area 2 requirement of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC).

Developmental Courses Some students may need preparatory course(s) in Math and/or English. Courses numbered below 1000 will not apply toward a degree.

Equal Opportunity Employer and Disability Access Information North Hennepin Community College is a member of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system and an equal opportunity employer and educator. This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling 7634930555 or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 18006273529.

Accreditation

North Hennepin Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2400

Chicago, IL 60602-2504

1-800-621-7440

