

# recreation management

UNION COLLEGE

## Department of Wellness, Human Performance, and Recreation

### DESCRIPTION: Bachelor of Science

The Recreation Management major provides students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to handle an array of professional opportunities in public and non-profit recreation program management, natural resource-based outdoor recreation, outdoor experiential education, and park management, as well as preparation for life-long involvement in leisure activities.

Students will complete a core program and select an area of concentration in Leisure Service Management, Outdoor Experiential Education, or Natural Resources Recreation Management.

### KEY STRENGTHS

- Small class sizes allow for personal attention and mentoring
- Located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains with easy access to caves, two national parks, and two Kentucky state parks
- Neighboring falls, lakes, streams, and caves provide a wealth of experiential learning

### STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- UC Outdoors and the Appalachian Wilderness Club
- Internships in a variety of settings around the country

### FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

- Union treats the abundance of outdoor recreation resources in the Appalachian Mountain region as an extension of its campus
- Specialized computing and plotting equipment
- Access to caving, rock climbing, and backpacking equipment, as well as canoes and kayaks

### PAST INTERNSHIPS

- Lander, Wyoming: Allen Diamond Four Outfitters
- Shenandoah National Park, Virginia: National Park Service
- Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky, National Park Service
- Cumberland Gap National Park, Kentucky, National Park Service
- Lake Hope State Park, Ohio: Ohio State Park System
- Cumberland Falls State Park, Corbin, Kentucky
- Saint Mary's, Kentucky: Marion Adjustment Center
- Dover, Ohio: Camp Tuscazoar, Boy Scout facility
- Brandenburg, Kentucky: Camp Piomingo, YMCA of Greater Louisville

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Recreation management professionals are hired in various settings and industries, including:

- Park rangers
- Outdoor recreation planners
- Camp director and staff
- Recreation program supervisors and staff
- Director of parks and recreation
- Director of park maintenance
- Backcountry and wilderness rangers and specialists
- Adventure-based outfitter
- Settings include park systems, recreation facilities, camps, playgrounds, cruise ships, resorts, religious organizations, theme parks, tourist attractions, community centers, and more

### SALARY DATA

- The minimum entry-level salary (GS-5) for federal recreation management professionals with a college degree is \$27,026, though annual earnings can reach as much as \$127,604 for a GS-15, step 10. Salaries in other outdoor recreation organizations vary extensively but tend to be in the general range of those offered by the Federal Government.

### FACULTY

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\*information provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, and the US Office of Personnel Management.