

Parks and Recreation Management Program Learning Outcomes Assessment AY 2016-17

The Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT) Narrative Report

7.01 Foundations - Students graduating from the program shall demonstrate the following entry-level knowledge: a) the nature and scope of the relevant park, recreation, tourism or related professions and their associated industries; b) techniques and processes used by professionals and workers in these industries; and c) the foundation of the profession in history, science and philosophy.

Program-specific learning outcome consistent with COAPRT Standard 7.01

The students will be able to distinguish the relationship between philosophical concepts, personal philosophies, and professional philosophies and apply theoretical leisure philosophical concepts to personal life experiences.

Method by which learning outcome was assessed: PRM 220 Philosophy Assignment, Direct Measure.

Result of Assessment: Assessment results were obtained from five classes in AY 2016-17: Fall 2016 campus class, Fall 2016 online class, Spring 2017 campus class, Spring 2017 online class and Summer 2017 open class for a total of 242 students. Assessment results showed 84% of students scored 70% or higher in meeting this learning outcome.

Action Plan: The majority of points lost by students were due to non-submission of the assignment. Of the 38 students who did not reach a 70% grade, 26 simply failed to submit a completed assignment and the remainder did not follow the directions of the assignment or submitted an incomplete submission and thereby received a below 70% grade. Faculty will continue to remind students of the importance of completing all course assignments regarding success in this course and overall knowledge of recreation professions. Faculty will also remind students that we are open to listening to extenuating circumstances that impede their ability to turn in assignments on time. All extenuating circumstances must adhere to NAU policies surrounding such issues.

7.02 Provisions Of Services and Experiences - Students graduating from the program shall be able to demonstrate the ability to design, implement, and evaluate services that facilitate targeted human experiences and that embrace personal and cultural dimensions of diversity.

Program-specific learning outcome consistent with COAPRT Standard 7.02

The students will be able to design, implement and apply the foundations of group activity leadership through a hands-on volunteer leadership experience.

Method by which learning outcome was assessed: PRM 252 Volunteer Leadership Experience Assignment, Direct Measure.

Result of Assessment: Assessment results were obtained from three classes in AY 2016-17: Fall 2016 campus class, Fall 2016 online class, and Spring 2017 open class for a total of 128 students. Assessment results showed 77% of students scored 70% or higher in meeting this learning outcome.

Action Plan: The 23% of students who fell below 70% can be attributed to three main reasons: student did not submit assignment, student did not complete the assignment, and student did not submit the supervisor evaluation or supervisor email. Future actions will be to attempt to better assist students with finding an appropriate place to complete their Volunteer Leadership Program and set up a more formal relationship with the Boys and Girls Club. Another action will be to send out more reminder emails to students about making sure they ask their supervisor to fill out the evaluation forms and send confirmation emails.

7.03 Management and Administration - Students graduating from the program shall be able to demonstrate entry-level knowledge about operations and strategic management/administration in parks, recreation, tourism and/or related professions.

Program-specific learning outcome consistent with COAPRT Standard 7.03

The students will develop a greater understanding of current outdoor recreation trends and issues and their role in outdoor recreation land management.

Method by which learning outcome was assessed: PRM 346W Outdoor Recreation Trend or Issue Assignment, Direct Measure.

Result of Assessment: Assessment results were obtained from two classes in AY 2016-17: Fall 2016 campus class, Fall 2016 online class, Spring 2017 campus class, Spring 2017 online class and Summer 2017 open class for a total of 109 students. Assessment results showed 78% of students scored 70% or higher in meeting this learning outcome.

Action Plan: To address the students who did not reach 70%, more reminders for future assignments will be given to ensure students have a clear opportunity to turn their work in on time. Additionally, work will be done to clarify assignment directions to avoid any student confusion. Finally, a plan will be implemented to be more responsive to answer any student confusion. Most students who failed to reach a 70% or better failed to submit the work. It is hoped that these measures could lower the instances of missed assignments.

7.04 Provisions Of Services and Experiences - Students graduating from the program shall demonstrate, through a comprehensive internship of not less than 400 clock hours and no fewer than 10 weeks, the potential to succeed as professionals at supervisory or higher levels in park, recreation, tourism, or related organizations.

Program-specific learning outcome consistent with COAPRT Standard 7.04

The students will begin the transition from the academic setting to the work setting through individualized study into lifelong learning.

Method by which learning outcome was assessed: PRM 498C PRM Learning Assessment Questions and Statement Assignment was used as a Direct Measure.

Result of Assessment: Assessment results were obtained from four classes in AY 2016-17: Fall 2016 campus class, Fall 2016 online class, Spring 2017 campus class, and Spring 2017 online class for a total of 75 students. Assessment results showed 92% of students scored 70% or higher in meeting this learning outcome.

Action Plan: The 8% of students who did not score 70% or higher, is attributed to six assignment non-submissions which resulted in a score of 0. No changes for this assignment will be made but continued and additional efforts on personal contact with students who do not submit by the required deadline will be made.

February 22, 2018