The Outdoor Adventure Leadership degree is designed to prepare students for careers in a wide variety of leadership settings with hands-on learning activities. The curriculum has been strategically planned to develop students’ skills in group dynamics, leadership principles, outdoor educational philosophy, as well as teaching, facilitation, and communication. Students have the chance to acquire and enhance environmental skills and knowledge related to a variety of populations including senior citizens and youth at risk. Practical work in indoor and outdoor risk management, as well as adventure program design is presented.

The objective of the Outdoor Adventure Leadership degree is to fill the need for experienced employees in a growing Montana industry and to meet the present economic growth and fuel new development in outdoor recreation. The outdoor recreation industry is one of the fastest growing businesses in the nation. The Outdoor Adventure Leadership curriculum develops the student’s ability to effectively teach and facilitate outdoor skills, safely oversee outdoor programs, and guide outdoor activities. The goal is to prepare students for professions with agencies that have a natural resource base foundation as well as public and private entities utilizing the outdoors.

The Student Learning Outcomes for Outdoor Adventure Leadership include:

1. Demonstrate safe and effective leadership in the skill areas encompassed in the program, consistent with professional standards, including risk management.
2. Plan, implement, and evaluate adventure experiences in areas encompassed in the program.
3. Determine and evaluate participant learning outcomes in outdoor adventure experiences.
4. Professionally communicate knowledge, demonstrate skills, and evaluate participant performance in adventure activities and programming.

Required Courses
- Environment /Leave No Trace
- Fundamentals of Backcountry Travel
- Basic Navigation/Orienteering
- Foundations of Outdoor Adventure Leadership
- Challenge Course Fundamentals
- Outdoor Living Skills
- Winter Outdoor Living Skills
- People and the Environment
- Adventure Leadership
- Wilderness Medicine
- Adventure Guiding and Instructing
- Ethical/Legal Aspects in Outdoor Adventure Leadership
- Adventure Program Planning and Development
- Introduction to Business
- Principles of Marketing
- Emergency Medical Responder
- Methods of Adapted Health Enhancement
- Foundation of Exercise Science and Lab
- Motor Learning and Control and Lab OR
  Exercise Physiology and Lab

Skills Areas
- Nordic Skiing
- Alpine Skiing 1 and II
- Telemark Skiing
- Snowboarding 1 and II
- Fly Fishing I and II
- Low Element Challenges
- Rappelling/Belaying
- Shooting Sports 1 and II
- Canoeing
- Rock Climbing I and II
- Kayaking I and II
- Rafting I and II
- Archery I and II
- Advanced Navigation
- Winter Survival Skills
- Basic Survival in the Outdoors
- Mountaineering
- Skiing/Snowboarding Instructor Development
- Challenge Course Skills and Facilitation

Rescue Skills
- Swift Water Rescue
- Ropes Rescue
- Avalanche Awareness
- Search and Rescue

Department of Health and Human Performance
Physical Education Building Room 120, 1500 University Drive, Billings MT 59101

Access & Excellence