Looking for a fun and challenging career in the outdoors? Interested in learning a variety of recreational and wilderness-based skills? This is the program for you.

The natural, rugged wilderness of the Algoma Highlands and Lake Superior region make the Sault area an ideal location for studying parks and Adventure recreation. The area contains several provincial parks and Parks Canada facilities, conservation areas, municipal parks, and outdoor recreational facilities. Included in this list are several Michigan State parks and U. S. National parks and forests, all within a short drive of Sault College.

Unique in Canada, our two-year Adventure Recreation and Parks Technician program offers you a broad background in natural resource management, with quality instruction in three major areas of concentration: Parks, Adventure Recreation, and Travel & Ecotourism. Specialty courses in the parks field include Park Operations, Park Interpretation, and Park Protection.

Adventure recreation training forms the second major component of our program and includes specialty courses in Recreation Planning, Adventure Recreation, and our Second Year Field Camp travel & ecotourism training forms the last major component of our program, and includes specialty courses in Ecotourism, and Adventure Expeditions.

Field trips and hands-on experience form an important part of the program. Students will visit a number of park systems and outdoor recreational facilities in the Lake Superior region. Knowledge of the natural environment will be stressed through acquiring field identification skills in a number of different courses such as Trees and Shrubs, Plant Diversity, Animal Diversity, and Regional Geology. During fall camp, students will be exposed to a number of skill areas in the outdoor recreation field, such as canoeing, kayaking, rock climbing, and wilderness camping.

As part of our commitment to providing practical, hands-on training and skills necessary to secure long-term employment, our program offers valuable opportunities to acquire employer recognized certifications where feasible. Many of these certifications are provincially or nationally recognized. Some of the specialized parks-related training which may be outside of class includes Chainsaw Operator Safety and Heritage Interpreter certification. Specialized outdoor recreation-related training may also be offered and may include certification in wilderness survival, kayaking, canoeing, nordic and alpine skiing, snowboarding, rock and ice climbing, and scuba diving. All certifications are subject to specific requirements and where applicable additional fees. Some certification courses are arranged through the School of Continuing Education at an additional cost to the student. Most of these certifications are provincially or nationally recognized.

Students may have the opportunity to be involved in applied research projects. Please see the ‘Applied Research Centre’ section for more information relating to the Sault College Applied Research Centre.

**PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

*A graduate of the Sault college Adventure Recreation and Parks Technician program will reliably*
demonstrate the ability to:

1. Demonstrate clear, concise and industry appropriate written, spoken and visual communication skills.

2. Identify, discuss, organize and assess common Flora & Fauna species found throughout ON, including biological and physiological characteristics.

3. Describe how the six park systems in Ontario are managed and operated.

4. Identify and evaluate the requirements for leading and participating in expeditions or field exercises using a variety of Adventure Recreation activities.

5. Start and manage a career in the Adventure Recreation and Parks field.

6. Demonstrate a sound understanding of the significance of the Adventure Recreation and Parks Industry including relevant legislation, trends and issues.

7. Describe the scientific method and how it shapes our understanding of the ecology of the natural world.

8. Demonstrate an understanding of sustainable development and apply the foundations in the natural environment.

9. Safely operate and maintain equipment used in Adventure Recreation and Park operations.

10. Evaluate and apply current technologies and mathematical concepts used to collect, manage and analyze data.

12. Analyze, evaluate and apply subjective and objective safety considerations for Adventure Recreation and Parks activities.

ADMISSIONS

MINIMUM ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Ontario Secondary School diploma with Grade 12 English (C) ENG4C or mature student status.

CAREER PATHS

Graduates of the program are trained to work in the public and private sectors, including Parks Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, conservation authorities, municipal parks departments, and private park owners. Examples of employment found within these park agencies include Park Warden, Park Interpreter, Resource Technician, and Park Superintendent.

In the Adventure Recreation field opportunities include employment prospects with adventure travel and ecotourism companies, either as a guide or business owner. Graduates may become recreational instructors at outdoor centres and children’s camps, teaching a variety of skills such as canoeing and kayaking. Opportunities as snowboard/ski instructors in winter or wilderness outfitters and/or retailers may also be available.

MANDATORY FEES

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<tr>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>International</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>Ancillary</td>
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<td>$2,975.80</td>
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These fees are for the 2020-2021 academic year (year 1 of study) and are subject to change. Please visit your Student Portal to view your Schedule of Fees.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

This is a Co-operative Education Program. September and January Intakes are available for this program.

This is a co-operative education program. Students are required to complete at least one co-op work placement (CWF100) in order to graduate. Work placement and career development skills are taught as one module in the Natural Resources Career Management course in Semester 2. For more information contact Program Coordinators Brian Anstess and Ryan Namespetra at:

Brian.Anstess@saultcollege.ca 705-759-2554 Ext: 2461

Ryan.Namespetra@saultcollege.ca 705-759-2554 Ext: 2853

**PROGRAM OF STUDY**

**SEMESTER 1**

CMM115-3 Communications I  
NET100-3 Fish and Wildlife Studies I  
NRT101-3 Trees and Shrubs I  
NRT111-4 Park Operations  
NRT123-3 Outdoor Navigation  
NRT130-3 Adventure Recreation I  
NRT131-2 Fall Field Camp - First Year  
NRT141-3 Science and Nature

**SEMESTER 2**

CWF100-3 Co-op Work Placement I  
**Note:** CWF100-3 is mandatory and takes place in the summer.  
MTH165-3 Numeracy and Quantitative Reasoning  
NET105-3 Fish and Wildlife Studies II  
NET107-3 Outdoor Equipment Certifications  
NRT109-3 Ecology  
NRT116-2 Natural Resources Career Management  
NRT133-3 Trees and Shrubs II  
NRT134-3 Adventure Recreation II  
NRT145-3 Horticulture Groundskeeper

**SEMESTER 3**

NET108-4 Geographic Information Systems  
NRT212-3 Park Interpretation  
NRT232-2 Fall Camp - Parks and Adventure Recreation - Second Year  
NRT234-3 Adventure Recreation and Parks Leadership  
NRT238-3 Physical Geology  
NRT256-3 Ecosystem Classification  
NRT260-4 Trail Construction and Facility Maintenance
GEN100-3 Global Citizenship

SEMESTER 4
NRT211-3 Protecting Park Values
NRT225-4 Wilderness Survival Skills
NRT231-3 Planning Recreational Events
NRT233-3 Adventure Ecotourism
NRT240-2 Natural Resources Law
NRT242-2 Natural Environment Business Management
NRT235-2 Sustainable Resource Management

Select one of the following:
GAS101: Rituals, Idols and Controversies in Sports
GAS103: What in the World is Going On?
GAS105: Film Appreciation
GAS109: Music and Pop Culture
GAS116: Your Two Cents
GAS120: Canada Eh!
GAS125: Food and Wine Pairings
GEN110: Student Selected General Education
HDG122: Personal and Academic Success Strategies
REC106: Fitness and Lifestyle Management
SSC102: Introduction to Aboriginal Peoples of Canada

Note: *Students must choose one of the identified Student Selected General Education Courses

Course Descriptions

Semester 1

Communications I (CMM115) (3 credits)

This course is designed to help students develop the skills necessary to communicate effectively in their programs and at the college level. Students will think critically to capture the meaning messages and respond appropriately; produce coherent, clear paragraphs; and purposively research and responsibly integrate credible sources into their own writing. Emphasis is placed on the writing process, from planning to revising, while providing opportunities to explore various modes of communication.

Fish and Wildlife Studies I (NET100) (3 credits)

This course concentrates on fundamental aspects of anatomy, physiology, and ecology of Ontario birds, Ontario Turtles, Ontario Snakes and Ontario Amphibian species. Lab sessions will develop skills in identification and classification, as well provide knowledge and experience with commonly used field inventory techniques.

Trees and Shrubs I (NRT101) (3 credits)

This course will provide a systematic study of structural characteristics of trees and shrubs, the identification of Canadian species by leaf features, their relationships to one another and recognition of their dynamic role in forest ecology. Coniferous species will be studied in considerable detail including twig, bark and growth characteristics.

Park Operations (NRT111) (4 credits)
As one of the core background courses in the Parks & Outdoor Recreation program, students will be introduced to a number of major park systems where employment opportunities are found. All lectures provide a systematic review of the agencies that manage parks and protected areas in Canada. In addition, the labs focus on preparing students for seasonal and full-time employment through coverage of
Students will demonstrate proper trailer operation and successfully complete the Canada Safety Council ATV Safe Rider course, and the
Sault College Chainsaw and Brush saw courses.

**Ecology (NRT109) (3 credits)**
This is an introductory course to provide students with an understanding of ecology as it relates to people who work with renewable resources. The course covers a wide range of topics that examine the interactions between plants and animals and their physical environment. A combination of lectures, labs and field surveys provide insight into the structure and function of ecosystems in general; but emphasize forest and freshwater aquatic ecosystems in Canada.

**Natural Resources Career Management (NRT116) (2 credits)**
This course will provide the student with the skills, tools and knowledge necessary to develop and manage their careers in the Natural Resources Field. This course will include researching Natural Resources employers, how and when to apply to Natural Resources employers, trends in Natural Resources employment areas, what Natural Resources employers like and don’t like in a resume, interview tips for Natural Resources employment, how to network for employment in Natural Resources, planning your career in Natural Resources, teamwork and interpersonal skills used in Natural Resources, the importance of attitude in career development and the preparation of the student for the CWF100 Co-op Work Term Placement.

**Trees and Shrubs II (NRT133) (3 credits)**
Students will gain the skill of winter identification of major tree and shrub species that are representative of the forest regions and urban areas of Ontario. Students will also identify dwarf woody plants and herbs commonly found in Ontario woodlands. The silvics of tree species and the ecology of plant associations will be studied to complement the identification of tree, shrub and herbaceous plant species.

**Adventure Recreation II (NRT134) (3 credits)**
This course will involve a series of outdoor education workshops focused on expanding student knowledge of outdoor recreational programming for both children and adult groups. This is a skills-oriented course, where students will be trained to work as outdoor recreation programmers and instructors for work with a variety of different employers including: parks, outdoor education centers, children's camps, recreational resorts, and a host of other related facilities. Field trips and hands-on experience focusing on experiential learning will be stressed. Topics such as employment opportunities in outdoor recreation, children's campfire programming, experiential education, team building games and initiatives, dog sledding, snowmobiling, snow shoeing, winter camping, Nordic skiing, alpine skiing, snowboarding, rock & ice climbing, horseback riding, and canoeing may be discussed.

**Horticulture Groundskeeper (NRT145) (3 credits)**
Students will receive training in the care and maintenance of grasses, flowers, trees, shrubs and invasive plants associated with managed and manicured landscapes. Practical experience with appropriate equipment in mowing, trimming, watering, planting and transplanting, pest management and pruning will be emphasized. Potential is available to earn the Land Class 1 Pesticide Applicators License.

**Semester 3**

**Geographic Information Systems (NET108) (4 credits)**
The aim of this course is to introduce students to the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as a source of immediate information and as an analytic tool for solving natural resource management problems. Students will be using ESRI’s ArcGIS software.

**Park Interpretation (NRT212) (3 credits)**
This practical, hands-on course will provide students with the skills and knowledge required by front-line park interpreters or wilderness interpretive guides working in the ecotourism industry. Oral communication skills are stressed, as are skills in the use of audio-visual equipment and other related hardware. Students will deliver a number of individual presentations, as well as a major group presentation suitable for provincial and national parks or environmental education centers.
Fall Camp - Parks and Adventure Recreation - Second Year (NRT232) (2 credits)
Parks and Outdoor Recreation students will take part in a variety of wilderness-based outdoor recreational activities such as canoe tripping, sea kayaking, backcountry camping, rock climbing, and high ropes course training. Students will also be trained to organize and deliver a group campfire program.

Adventure Recreation and Parks Leadership (NRT234) (3 credits)
The culmination course for Adventure Recreation students will teach, manage, and lead mini expeditions honing their skills and techniques in a variety of human power adventures. Judgment, assessment of capabilities and team dynamics will be the main focus of this course while the classroom will be the incredible wilderness of the Lake Superior Basin. Students will learn to persevere through bad weather, fatigue, equipment malfunctions and self-imposed barriers humans place on themselves. Students will emerge from this course having the confidence and skills to tackle life’s expeditions.

Physical Geology (NRT238) (3 credits)
The study of earth’s ever-changing nature. This course looks at the make-up of the earth, how it was formed, how it has evolved and how it is changing today. Topics include the formation of the earth, geologic time, plate tectonics, mineral identification, rocks, fossils and glaciation with an emphasis on the Lake Superior area.

Ecosystem Classification (NRT256) (3 credits)
Ecosystem classification is a survey of natural aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems and associated plant communities found in central Ontario. A wide variety of plants will be identified. Emphasis will be placed on using plants for the classification of forest and wetland ecosystems using ecological classification systems designed for use in the local area.

Trail Construction and Facility Maintenance (NRT260) (4 credits)
Trails have had a huge and historical impact on transportation, travel, tourism and recreation in Canada. Never has this been more evident than now. The Trans Canada Trail is unifying the nation, while recreationists portage across parks, and urban cyclists find safe routes to work. A mixture of Art and Science, understanding the fundamentals of trail sustainability is an essential area of expertise for Adventure Recreation and Parks students. This course will examine the foundations of trails from organization and advocacy to the hard skills involved with building and maintenance.

Global Citizenship (GEN100) (3 credits)
The world we are living in is one in which local, national and international issues are interwoven, and the need for us to understand the impact these issues can have on our lives has never been greater! Using a socio-cultural, political and environmental lens, students will view how the world is changing and how to become active agents of change from the local to international level. Important issues such as social injustice, poverty, environmental protection, resource scarcity, sustainability, and health will be addressed. Global citizenship is an opportunity to `Be the Change` . This course meets the Civic Life and Social and Cultural Understanding General Education themes.

Semester 4

Protecting Park Values (NRT211) (3 credits)
This course examines the effects of natural and man created disturbances (forest fires, forest insects, tree diseases and recreational stressors) on the ecological health of and their management in, parks and protected areas. Fire ecology, fire suppression and fire use (prescribed burning) concepts, tools and techniques are introduced. Park protection issues will be covered including: assessing and ameliorating the impacts of recreational activities on parks, invasive plant species, restoration concepts, the concept of ecological integrity, and commemorative heritage protection.

Wilderness Survival Skills (NRT225) (4 credits)
Students will learn the important necessary skills required to professionally conduct extended backcountry trips for guiding in the adventure tourism industry. Topics will include: client expectations and professionalism, specialized training and certification (hard skills), trip planning and preparation, outdoor clothing and gear selection, outdoor cooking and nutrition, leave no trace camping, wilderness safety, liability and risk management, wilderness survival, outdoor leadership, and wilderness communication. Case examples of high profile adventure travel companies will be explored.

**Planning Recreational Events (NRT231) (3 credits)**
Recreation planning will be examined on two levels; the planning of recreation uses on public lands and private resorts, and the planning of special events. Through case studies, students will discuss: ways to integrate land uses, anticipate and reconcile use conflicts, funding and staffing constraints, impact monitoring techniques, managements planning, etc. Recreational event planning processes will be introduced using case studies. Students will plan and implement a community event.

**Adventure Ecotourism (NRT233) (3 credits)**
This introductory course provides students with an overview of the variety and scope of adventure ecotourism opportunities in Canada. Students will be given the chance to research the local natural and human history of the Algoma region, and apply their knowledge when conducting day-long guided adventure ecotours in the field. Logistical and safety issues will be experienced and considered in the design of these educational tours. This course directly ties into other courses such as Adventure Recreation one and two as students will be using techniques learned in those classes and will be responsible for designing and executing the full scope of their Adventure Ecotour.

**Natural Resources Law (NRT240) (2 credits)**
This course will acquaint natural resource students with pertinent issues in the Canadian and Ontario justice systems and enforcement procedures. Students will be required to have a working knowledge of the content and significance of legislation related to natural resource use. A section will be devoted to aboriginal rights related to natural resources. Compliance monitoring and enforcement protocols will be emphasized.

**Natural Environment Business Management (NRT242) (2 credits)**
This course is an introduction to operating a small business in the rapidly expanding private sector of natural resources. Case studies will be used to demonstrate the operation of local natural resource businesses. Major topics covered in the course are self-evaluation, needs assessment, market analysis, financial assistance programs, components of a small business plan, types of small businesses and management styles.

**Sustainable Resource Management (NRT235) (2 credits)**
This course will explain the principles and practices involved in carrying out sustainable resource management. The full range of values provided by forests will be described and methods of protecting, maintaining or enhancing those values will be presented. Forest, wildlife or recreation management practices, which integrate the management of all forest values, will be introduced.

**Rituals, Idols and Controversies in Sports (GAS101) (3 credits)**
This course gives students the opportunity to examine the many rituals, idols, and controversies surrounding the world of sports. Students will debate, discuss, and present a variety of popular topics in sports such as athlete salaries, performance-enhancing drugs and athlete product endorsement. This course will explore the impact these issues have on social and cultural aspects of human behaviour.

**What in the World is Going On? (GAS103) (3 credits)**
This course will give you the opportunity to build a strong awareness of current global issues. You will explore various media such as radio, TV, Internet, newspaper, and magazines. Through discussions, debates, and presentations, students will focus on the main international headlines. Students will discover and develop a view of and understanding of the impact of events related to music, entertainment, fashion, sports, politics, economics, world issues, and human-interest stories.
**Film Appreciation** (GAS105) (3 credits)
This introduction to movies will provide an opportunity to understand the importance of visual creativity in human affairs. The students will gain the capacity to recognize and evaluate artistic creativity of film and film production. Through viewing, discussing, and presenting, students will gain an aesthetic appreciation for the arts.

**Music and Pop Culture** (GAS109) (3 credits)
This course will give students the opportunity to think creatively and critically about the influence of popular music. Students will explore different music genres (rock, metal, hip hop, and rap), their development and social significance. Students may explore music in film, commercials, war and protest, social and civil rights movements, and the contributions of specific artists to contemporary culture. The ways in which popular music has contributed to the current culture and, in turn, how culture has shaped popular music will be examined.

**Your Two Cents** (GAS116) (3 credits)
No matter one’s lifestyle, income, or background, each person has experienced and developed practices to how we relate to money. This course explores our relationship and personal understanding with money, and its place and value in our culture and individual lives.

**Canada Eh!** (GAS120) (3 credits)
What does it mean to be Canadian? This course will examine the people of Canada and aspects of life, such as food, music, television, art, language, etc. By examining our diversity, we will come to understand that there is more than one Canadian identity.

**Food and Wine Pairings** (GAS125) (3 credits)
Become a wine enthusiast and decipher the many complexities revealed in wine by developing the ability to pair food and wine in today’s culinary world. Whether planning to entertain in the comfort of one’s home, preparing for a business dinner meeting or developing food and wine menus for restaurants or special events, understanding how to pair food and wine is invaluable and a life skill. This course will explore the significance of food and drink by examining fundamental concepts of wine history, tradition and culture. Students will learn about terroir, wine terminology, production, storage, selection and how wine is properly served.

**Student Selected General Education** (GEN110) (3 credits)
For Transfer Credit Purposes only.

**Personal and Academic Success Strategies** (HDG122) (3 credits)
This course will prepare you for the rigors of academic life and enable you to develop a personal profile for college and career success. The main focus of this course will include accepting personal responsibility, discovering self-motivation, mastering self-management, employing interdependence, gaining self-awareness, adopting lifelong learning, and developing emotional intelligence. In addition, you will develop and produce a ‘Personal Profile’ that will identify your personal learning style, communication style, and personality style to enable you to achieve success in learning about, understanding, and choosing the courses and careers that will lead to personal and professional satisfaction.

**Fitness and Lifestyle Management** (REC106) (3 credits)
This course deals with the pursuit of wellness with a focus on physical fitness. Topics include: positive lifestyle choices, self-management and behaviour change techniques, exercise prescription, fitness training methods and body fat management. Students are introduced to a variety of fitness activities known to maximize health benefits while providing lifelong appeal.
Introduction to Aboriginal Peoples of Canada (SSC102) (3 credits)
This course will provide participants with an introduction to the history and cultural survival of Canada`s Aboriginal people. Aboriginal worldview will be identified and discussed in both historical and modern perspectives. Students will review colonization, government policies and legislation, which provide a foundation for understanding modern Aboriginal life in Canada.