

Mission Statement

The mission of the Park and Resource Management program at Slippery Rock University is to provide students with the knowledge, skills and abilities to function as park and resource management professionals for a variety of federal, state and private agencies and organizations. The broad-based program provides detailed study in natural history and ecology, natural systems management, cultural resource management, visitor services management and contemporary issues in park and resource management. Coursework focused on the administrative, maintenance, planning and design aspects of park management is also featured.

Program Outcomes

1. Professional Interaction and Communication –

The ability to effectively communicate information in various forms (oral, written, and the appropriate use of technology); the ability to collaborate with park and resource management professionals, peers and academics; the ability to express ideas clearly and concisely; the ability to recognize and assess user conflicts from multiple perspectives and guide participants towards consensus.

2. Professional Competence –

The utilization of knowledge, skills, and abilities to manage and protect resources; develop, implement, and evaluate visitor management strategies, and the ability to connect agencies, their visitors and the general public to promote the appropriate use of public lands now and into the future.

3. Professional Ethics and Conduct –

The ability to act at all times as a park and resource management professional with integrity and in the best interests of the agency, the resource, the visitor and the general public.

4. Professional and Personal Development –

The commitment to continuously improve one's knowledge, skills, and abilities and to always project an image of professionalism through actions and appearance—both as a student and as a future park and resource management professional.

5. Professional Decision Making (Problem Solving) -

To demonstrate critical thinking and problem solving by making decisions based on the critical assessment and integration of multiple perspectives, the best available science and historical perspective.