



Prescott College

For the Liberal Arts, the Environment, and Social Responsibility

The High Mountain Institute / Prescott College Relationship

Participants in the internationally recognized High Mountain Institute (HMI) Apprentice Program have the unique opportunity to pursue a Master of Arts degree in Adventure Education at Prescott College during their HMI experience.

Upon acceptance into the HMI Apprentice Program, students can apply to the Prescott College Master of Arts Program (MAP). Accepted HMI/MAP students are co-enrolled at both institutions, pay the normal tuition and fees to both programs, and must fulfill the requirements of both programs.

In order to save time during the application process, HMI students are encouraged to use the same letters of recommendation to HMI as part of the Prescott College application process. Letters of recommendation should address qualities such as: maturity and ability to thrive in a self-directed graduate program - in addition to the individuals' risk taking, level of personal responsibility, and experience in the field of Adventure Education.

There is no transferring of credits involved. HMI does not grant college credits, nor is it affiliated with a credit granting institution. For this reason, students who previously completed an HMI apprenticeship cannot later enroll in Prescott and seek credit for work already done. For new students, Prescott will be the credit granting institution.

Upon admission to the Prescott College Master of Arts Program, HMI/MAP students will have a graduate advisor and will complete all the same requirements as other students.

Coursework

During the first term of study, HMI/MAP students will enroll in the following courses:

- Adventure Education (3 theory semester credits)
- Wilderness Skill Development (3 practicum semester credits)
- Apprentice Seminar (3 practicum semester credits)
- Theory and Practice in Experiential Education (3 theory semester credits)
- Residential Program Supervision (3 practicum semester credits)

Adventure Education – This course provides an introduction to research methods and the Master of Arts Program educational model of student-designed, research-based, and faculty-supervised learning. The course focuses on learning research skills including evaluation of existing research, selecting a research problem; conducting a literature review; designing a research question or statement, selecting appropriate research design, ethical issues, limiting research parameters and development of a research proposal for review. Additionally, the course serves as a continuing forum for dialogue, supporting cohort development for new students.

Wilderness Skill Development – Participation in a two-week wilderness training expedition and help facilitate three Rocky Mountain semester program wilderness expeditions. These expeditions consist of backpacking, climbing, backcountry skiing, and fly fishing, as well as formal academic and wilderness classes. The wilderness curriculum includes, among other skills, leadership and communication development, basic camping, navigation, judgment, and decision-making. Evaluation of student skills as well as the ability to teach these skills to others will be included in this course.

Apprentice Seminar – HMI/MAP students work closely with an onsite academic mentor, honing their teaching style and skills, and enriching their knowledge of the subjects. In order to gain exposure to a wider range of techniques and curricula, students will observe other academic classes every two weeks.

Theory and Practice in Experiential Education – HMI/MAP students will participate in a weekly course on theory and practice in Experiential Education. The curriculum will include, among other topics, leadership and communication skills commonly used in a classroom setting, teaching techniques, and risk management theories and practices.

Residential Program Supervision – Actively participate in the residential life of a high school student program by cooking meals with the students, helping with daily chores, facilitating daily activities, and acting as a Cabin Head for a student cabin. Carrie Malozzi, the HMI Apprentice Program Coordinator, will supervise practica hours.

Institutional Aid

Renewable Graduate Fellowships and a Graduate Teaching Assistantship program (fall only) are available.

Application Deadlines

Fall Semester – April 15 (to be considered for institutional aid) and May 15 (application deadline)

Spring Semester – September 15 (to be considered for institutional aid) and October 15 (application deadline)