Intramural-Recreational Sports

Job Description: COAR Field Instructor

Program Description:

COAR is a multi-day outdoor adventure program for incoming first-year students. The program was developed to support new students’ transition to the University by enabling uninterrupted time to make friends, reflect, and discuss life at the University of Virginia. COAR participant’s camp in Shenandoah National Park, complete hikes ranging from 2-8 miles, make meals together, and share memories of sunsets and starry skies (can’t beat that). Each COAR trip is made up of ten first year students and two student field instructors.

Team Members Responsibility:

- Take Pride in being a Student Employee in the IM-Rec Sports Department.
- Establish a positive rapport and relationship with Student and Departmental Staff and program participants.
- Take Initiative, be proactive, and be confident in decision making.
- Be proactive and prepared to respond to all emergency situations and follow procedure/protocol for pre and post Incident/Accident.
- Maintain a Standard of Excellence in professionalism.
- Enforce policies and procedures as set forth by the department.

Area Specific Responsibilities:

- The COAR instructor will be responsible for the group for the duration of the 3-day experience. COAR instructors will act at various times as a coach, a guide, a friend and a teacher.
- Adhere to and enforce University/Departmental Policies.
- Be a positive and respectful representative of the University and department.

Requirements/Qualifications:

- We are looking for mature, enthusiastic and committed students who have an interest in working in the outdoors with groups of students. Experience with outdoor pursuits, outdoor leadership, group facilitation, and/or wilderness risk management are all beneficial. Ideal candidates should possess a servant leadership mentality and should be excited to work with incoming first years to facilitate friendships and act as their first introduction to life at UVA.
- Applicants should be able to lift 40+ pounds.
- The time commitment for the COAR program involves the dates of the program itself (Beginning of July-first week in August) as well as the training sessions prior to the trips. Attendance at training sessions are mandatory. The bulk of staff training will occur the week of May 12 -17 after exams end.
- Applicants should possess a strong work ethic and personal initiative.

Expressed Benefits:

- Salary & Benefits: Staff are paid $110/day plus food and accommodations.
- Instructors will receive outdoor and site-specific training
- Wilderness First Aid certification (a $200 value)
- Acquire work and life skills that will be useful to you after graduation.
- Additional income opportunities exist beyond COAR such as employment in the Climbing Center, Rental Center and Poplar Ridge Challenge Course program.