

Robert J. Cooper, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management College of Health and Human Development The Pennsylvania State University	2012
M.S., Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management College of Health and Human Development The Pennsylvania State University	2010
B.S., Department of Criminal Justice Southeast Missouri State University	2005

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Clinical Assistant Professor Department of Human Development Prevention Science Washington State University Pullman, WA	2012-present
Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management The Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA	2006-2012
Graduate Program and Teaching Assistant Shaver's Creek Environmental Center Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management The Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA	2007-2011

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Experiential Education
Challenge and Outdoor Education
College Success and Well-being
Emerging Adulthood

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2015. Providing Evidence for the Benefits of Challenge. Association for Challenge Course Technology. \$1500. PI: Scott VanderWey. Co-PI: Robby Cooper (July 2014 – 2015) [1,2,3,5].

2014 – 2015. Human Development Alumni Survey, 1995 – 2015. Department of Human Development. \$4000. PI: Robby Cooper. Co-PI: Rayna Sage. [1,2,3,4,5].

1) Provided the initial idea; 2) Developed research design and hypotheses; 3) Authorship of grant application; 5) Managed personnel and project activities

TEACHING ACTIVITY AND MENTORSHIP

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT

HD101 Human Development Across the Lifespan; Sp14, Fa14, Sp15, Fa15 (2 sections), Sp16 (2 sections), Su16, Fa16 (2 sections), Sp17, Su17, Fa17, Sp18, Su18 (2 sections), Fa18 (2 sections).

HD205 Developing Effective Communication and Life Skills; Fa12, Sp13, Su13, Fa13 (2 sections), Sp14 (3 sections), Su14, Fa14, Sp15, Su15, Fa15, Sp16, Su16, Fa16, Sp17, Su17, Fa17, Sp18.

HD350 Family Diversity; Su16, Fa17, Sp18, Fa18

HD487 Peak Experiences in Leadership; S15, S16.

GUEST LECTURE

HD101 Human Development Across the Lifespan; F12, F13 “Emerging Adulthood and Leisure Behavior.”

HD350 Diversity in Contemporary Families; Sp17 “Diversity in Personality”

HD412 Adult Development and Learning; F15 “Emerging Adulthood: A (Relatively) New Perspective on Adult(ish) Development.”

HD420 Theories in Human Development; S13 “Impacts of Cognitive Development on Communication”

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

HD415 Peak Experiences in Leadership (developed course and developed course evaluation process. Course was accepted as a UCORE Capstone course in Spring 2016).

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

WSU Common Reading Series. “The Value of Self Care.” Facilitated an interactive workshop for 165 WSU students, connecting the Common Reading book (*Soonish*) to students’ personal practices of self care and well-being. Fall 2018.

WSU Teaching and Innovation Forum. “Engaging Students Using the Experiential Learning Model.” Facilitated an interactive teaching workshop for WSU faculty. Spring 2017.

WSU Common Reading Series. “Live with a Purpose: Values, Willingness and Action.” Facilitated 3 interactive workshops for WSU students, connecting the Common Reading book (*I am Malala*) to students’ personal values practices. Fall 2016.

Prevention Science Colloquia. “So What? Experiential Education Theory and Practice.” Spring 2015.

Prevention Science Colloquia. “Being Smart is Not Enough to Ensure Success: Integrating Personal Development into the College Curriculum.” Fall 2015.

FACILITATION

WSU Athletic Training Student Orientation. Facilitated a 1-day teambuilding event and 3 follow-up sessions for 55 Athletic Training students. Summer, Fall 2016.

Washington State FFA Convention. “Mindfulness for You.” Taught basics of mindfulness and facilitated mindfulness experiences for FFA members. August 2015, August 2016.

CTLL Faculty Training. “HD205 Immersion Training.” Facilitated a 3-day immersion training for WSU Tri-cities and WSU Vancouver on teaching HD205. July 2016.

Tidal Leadership Symposium. “Lessons from the Wild Side: Learning to Lead from the Center” Along with other CTLL faculty, facilitated leadership workshop for 60 WSU faculty and staff. October 2015.

CTLL Student Success Workshop. “Should I Stay or Should I Go? Coming Home to CAHNRS” Facilitated a workshop on successful adjustment to and success in college for 20 WSU students. October 2015.

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING ACTIVITY

Advised 80 Human Development undergraduate students; Spring 2015. Focus: new majors.

GRADUATE STUDENTS SUPERVISED AS PRIMARY ADVISOR AND COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

Strey, Miranda. Masters in Prevention Science [Completed Spring 2015]. Master Thesis: Perceptions of Campus Climate and Queer Well-being.

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND ACTIVITY

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Principal Investigator (2012 – present). WSU Challenge Programming Evaluation.

Co-investigator. (2013 – 2017). Human Development 205 Program Evaluation.

Co-investigator (2011 – 2012). Hickory Run / Lehigh Gorge State Parks Economic Impact Study.

Principal Investigator (2010 – 2012). ORION Wilderness Experience Program Evaluation.

Research Assistant (2008 – 2009). White Salmon River Visitor Use Study.

Research Assistant (2008). National Visitor Use Monitoring Study.

Research Assistant (2007). Pennsylvania Visitor Use Monitoring Study.

Research Assistant (2006 – 2007). TimeWise Leisure-time Intervention.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PRESS

Cooper, R.J., Vanderwey, S.A., & Wright, K.C. Strategies to Promote Fidelity in Program Evaluation Using Third-party Data Collection. *Journal of Extension*.

PROFESSIONAL ARTICLES AND TECHNICAL REPORTS, NON-REFEREED

Cooper, R.J., Whitehall, A.P., & Hill, L.G. (2013). Human Development 205 Program Evaluation Report. Project Healthy Campus, Washington State University. Report submitted to Washington State University Office of the Provost.

Mowen, A.J., Graefe, A.R., Stynes, D.J., & **Cooper, R.J.** (2012). Hickory Run / Lehigh Gorge State Park economic impact survey. Report submitted to Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS, REFEREED

VanderWey, S., **Cooper, R.C.** Wright, K.C. 2016. Evaluating the Development of Life Skills Through a 4-H Adventure Education Challenge Course. Abstracts from the Coalition for Education in the Outdoors 13th Biennial Research Symposium.

Cooper, R.J., Graefe, A.R., & Burns, R.C. (2011). Effects of visitor perceptions of crowding, conflict and norms. Proceedings of the 2011 Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES, REFEREED

- VanderWey, S.A., **Cooper, R.J.**, Wright, K.C. *Workshop: Evaluating the Development of Life Skills through an Urban 4-H Adventure Education Experience*. Global 4-H Network summit, Ottawa, ON, Canada, 2017.
- Cooper, R.J.** & VanderWey, S.A. (2016). Using ACT for Mindful Leadership. *International Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference and Expo*. Austin, TX. February.
- Cooper, R.J.**, VanderWey, S.A., & Turner, K.O. (2016). Research findings of challenge course outcome evaluation. *International Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference and Expo*. Austin, TX. February.
- VanderWey, S.A., **Cooper, R.J.**, & Wright, K.C. (2016). Evaluating the development of life skills through a 4-H Adventure Education challenge course experience. *Coalition of Education in the Outdoors Biannual Research Symposium*. Bradford Woods, IN. January.
- Cooper, R.J.**, VanderWey, S.A., & Turner, K.O. (2015). Evidence-based program design. *International Association for Challenge Course Technology Conference and Expo*. Indian Wells, CA. January.
- Cooper, R.J.** (Presenter), Whitehall, A.W., & Hill, L.G. (2014). Effects of experiential education on college students' well-being and life Skills. Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium. Cooperstown, NY. April.
- Cooper, R.J.** (Presenter), Graefe, A.R., & Mowen, A.J. (2013). Outdoor orientation programs and transition to college. Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium, Cooperstown, NY, April.
- Cooper, R.J.** (Presenter), Graefe, A.R., Mowen, A.J., Zinn, H.C., & Yoder, E. (2012). Recreation socialization through university outdoor orientation programs. Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium. Cooperstown, NY, April.
- Mowen, A.J. (Presenter), Graefe, A.R., Trauntvein, N.E., & **Cooper, R.J.** (2012). Preliminary results from a survey of Hickory Run / Lehigh Gorge State Park visitors. Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium. Cooperstown, NY, April.
- Cooper, R.J.** (Presenter), Graefe, A.R., & Burns, R.C. (2011). Effects of visitor perceptions of crowding, conflict and norms. Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium, Bolton Landing, NY, April.
- Cooper, R.J.** (Presenter), Graefe, A.R., & Burns, R.C. (2010). An examination of encounter norms, perceived crowding and conflict on the White Salmon River in southern Washington State. National Association of Recreation Resource Planners Conference, Portland, OR, May.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

EXTENSION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH RESEARCH PROJECTS, NON-REFEREED

Principal Investigator. (2012 – present). Washington State Extension Adventure Education / Challenge Program Evaluation.

EXTENSION PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS, NON-REFEREED

Cooper, R.J. (2016). Challenge Survey Report 2016. Washington State 4-H Annual Forum. Pasco, WA. October.

Cooper, R.J. (2015). Challenge Survey Report 2015. Washington State 4-H Annual Forum. Everett, WA. October.

AWARDS AND HONORS

The Richard G. Law Excellence Award for Undergraduate Teaching: Washington State University. 2017.

4-H Excellence in Urban 4-H Programming Award: Western Region. Urban 4-H Programming Team: Scott Vanderwey, Kevin Wright, Ken Turner, Robby Cooper, Dan Teuteberg, Jason Clark. 2016.

4-H Excellence in Teamwork Award: Western Region. Urban 4-H Programming Team: Scott Vanderwey, Kevin Wright, Ken Turner, Robby Cooper, Dan Teuteberg, Jason Clark. 2015.

Pennsylvania State University Academic Outreach Annual Award. ORION Wilderness Experience Program: Jen Emigh & Robby Cooper. 2011.

SERVICE

NATIONAL SERVICE

2009 – 2010. Mid-Atlantic Representative. National Recreation and Park Association Student Branch Board of Directors.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2016 – present. First Year Focus instructor and facilitator.

2014 – 2015. Council member. Council for University First-Year Experience.

CAHNRS and EXTENSION SERVICE

2014 – 2017. Facilitator. Center for Transformational Learning and Leadership.

2012 – 2017. Evaluation Specialist. Washington State 4-H Urban Programming Team and Washington State Extension Adventure Education.

2012 – 2013. Committee Member. Regional Extension Specialist Search Committee.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2017 – Present. Committee Member. Undergraduate Programming Committee.

2015. Committee Member. Clinical Assistant Professor Search Committee.

2014 – Present. Committee Chair. Recruitment and Marketing Committee.

2014 – Present. Committee Member. Strategic Planning Committee.

2013 – 2014. Committee Member. Recruitment and Marketing Committee.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2015. Publication Reviewer. WSU Extension Curriculum Publications.

CIVIC SERVICE

2018 – present. Chair, Moscow Parks and Recreation Commission, Moscow, Idaho.

2017. Vice Chair, Moscow Parks and Recreation Commission, Moscow, Idaho.

2015 – 2016. Member, Moscow Parks and Recreation Commission, Moscow, Idaho.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Contextual Behavioral Science
Association for Challenge Course Technology
Society for Prevention Research

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Presenters: Steven Hayes, Kelly Wilson and Robyn Walser “ACT Bootcamp.” Burbank, CA.
Developed my understanding of the newest ACT processes in an immersive, 5-day training.

Presenter: Kelly Wilson “New Directions in ACT.” Cape Cod Institute: Eastham, MA. August.
Developed my teaching and facilitation skills in a 5-day workshop.

Presenters: Jason Luoma and Jenna LeJeune “Acceptance and Commitment Therapy” An
Experiential and Practical Introduction” ACT Northwest: Portland, OR. Developed my
understanding of ACT and learned new experiential ACT processes, from a new perspective.