

Common Course Outline
RECR 261/PEAQ 261
Aquatic Facility Management
3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Aquatic Facility Management explores the organization and management of indoor and outdoor aquatic facilities. The course presents in-depth information on facility design and mechanical characteristics, facility maintenance, staffing, characteristics of patrons, risk management, emergency action plans, and facility policies and procedures. Practical information is provided to minimize risks and increase efficiency in managing an aquatic facility. 3 credits: 3 lecture hours per week. Prerequisite: PEAQ 115.

Overall Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. trace the history of aquatic facility design and management;
2. explain the characteristics and motivations of various user groups that visit aquatic facilities;
3. manage program based on facility design capabilities;
4. expertly handle the mechanical aspects of an aquatic facility;
5. assess the health of the water in a particular aquatic environment;
6. identify recreational water illnesses and their prevention methods and techniques;
7. provide a safe and healthy recreational aquatic environment;
8. effectively manage the risk involved in operating an aquatic facility;
9. create an emergency action plan for an aquatic facility;
10. incorporate persons with disabilities into as many aspects of an aquatic facility as possible, e.g., participants, programs, staffing, advisory boards;
11. create a maintenance management plan for an aquatic facility;
12. develop policies related to the recruitment, hiring, and training of aquatic facility staff;
13. create a budget for a chosen aquatic facility;
14. develop a rental policy for the use of a public aquatic facility;
15. create a marketing plan for an aquatic facility; and
16. develop an evaluation plan for yearly and seasonal evaluations of the facilities and programs of an aquatic center.

Major Topics

- I. History of aquatics facilities and design
- II. Today's changing aquatic users and their characteristics
- III. Aquatic program and facility design
 - A. Basic characteristics of swimming pools
 1. Residential pools
 2. Public pools
 3. Therapy pools

- B. Mechanical
 - 1. Water circulation and distribution
 - 2. Filtration and design of filtration systems
 - 3. Improving air quality in indoor aquatic facilities
 - 4. Water chemistry
- IV. Recreational water illnesses (RWIs)
- V. Specialty facilities
 - A. Hot tubs and spas
 - B. Water parks
 - C. Winterizing outdoor pools
 - D. Landscape ponds and water features
- VI. Safety, Supervision, and Risk Management
 - A. Pool signage
 - B. Diving and other head first entries
 - C. Body, hair, and limb entrapments
 - D. The psychology of lifeguarding
 - E. Preventive lifeguarding
 - F. Practical risk management
 - G. Legal liability and risk management
 - H. Emergency actions plans (EAPs)
 - I. Routine operations: daily, weekly, monthly
 - J. Safe handling of pool chemicals
 - K. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- VII. Pool and spa care and maintenance
- VIII. Administration
 - A. Staff training, management, and certification
 - B. Financial management and budgeting
 - C. Facility rental management
 - D. Marketing aquatic facilities
 - E. Evaluating aquatic-based services

Course Requirements

Grading/exams/writing assignments: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

- ♦ Reading textbook and handouts;
- ♦ Creation of at least three of the following plans for an aquatic facility: maintenance, staffing, financial, rental, marketing, and evaluation;
- ♦ Develop an emergency action plan for a chosen aquatic facility;
- ♦ Participate in problem-solving sessions related to issues that arise in the management of aquatic facilities;
- ♦ There are two exams and a final.

Other Course Information

This is a minimum course outline. Individual instructors have the right to add additional requirements.

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, in a career and

as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes and skills appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many forms such as surveys, standardized or faculty-developed tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvements of CCBC's courses and programs.