

Adrian Cruz  
Program Specialist  
Duck Rides Program

I am a first-generation college graduate from the University of Oregon 21' and was a student employee with the Summer Academy to Inspire Learning Program as a counselor and lead staff since 2017, before taking on a professional role as the Outreach Coordinator for a few months. During my undergrad, I was also involved with the UNDOCU Student Advisory Board, First Generation Working Group (something I am still a part of currently) and SafeRide (now known as Duck Rides.) I became passionate about working for Duck Rides when I started in 2017 and after graduation, I decided to take on the professional role of becoming the Program Specialist at Duck Rides. As a recent graduate, I bring in the student perspective into the program while also balancing now the professional perspective and I want to extend this by doing more work with others on campus. I am very much a person that enjoys being a leader and that is also why I am pursuing a master's degree in leadership with a concentration in higher education. I would like to continue advocating for diversity, equity, inclusion, opportunity, and creating new opportunities for students, staff and faculty of the UO community. Higher education has shaped me into the person I am today and therefore want to share my experience with others to help them also be successful on their journey.