CSUS 276
Sustaining our National Parks and Recreation Lands

Fall 2014
Monday and Wednesday, 12:40-2:00 p.m.
221 Natural Resources Building

Instructor: Dr. Chuck Nelson
Department: Community Sustainability
Office: 131 Natural Resources Building
Phone: (517) 432-0272
Email: nelsonc@msu.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00-3:00PM or by Appointment

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION
This course introduces students to sustainable outdoor recreation, the natural resources that support it and the many organizations that directly and indirectly that provide for outdoor recreation. It covers the scope and management of participants, public and private lands and waters, businesses, non-profits and governmental units that serve outdoor enthusiasts. The array of careers in the field is described in detail by those working the in the public, commercial and non-profit sectors. Students will investigate a natural resource recreation site and provider of their choosing to better understand provider organizations and the resources they manage.
COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. Students will understand the historical and current range of natural resource based recreation and motives for participation.
2. Students will understand the historical and current status of land, water, forest, and wildlife resources that provide the basis for natural resources recreation.
3. Students will understand the basic resource management philosophies under which resources and recreation opportunities are sustained through management and their historical antecedents in relationship to US history and natural resource recreation.
4. Students will understand the motivations and the mandates of public, commercial and non-profit resource managers who provide natural resource recreation opportunity.
5. Students will comprehend the range of values citizens associate with natural resource recreation and public lands in the United States.
6. Students will have an overview of the roles and responsibilities of land managers regarding natural resource based recreation.
7. Students will understand the array of career options in natural resource recreation in the public, commercial and non-profit sectors and examine in depth one organization and career choice.
8. Students will be able to demonstrate accomplishment of 1-7 on objective examinations.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Required Texts:

Exams
There will be four exams during the course of this semester. They will include a mixture of multiple choice, matching, and true/false questions. **There will be no opportunity for extra credit other than those the instructor provides to all students on the exams and speaker highlights.** No one will be excused from taking exams at the time scheduled without PRIOR permission of the instructor. If you attempt to contact me and I am not available, it is your responsibility to leave an email message or a phone message with a way to contact you. The instructor’s notes, videos and handout materials will not be posted on the internet. **BE IN CLASS!**

Speaker Highlights
For each guest speaker, student will hand write an in-class speaker highlights paper of 1 page that details the key remarks and insights provided by each guest speaker. The paper for each speaker will be worth up to 5 points. Should there be more than 5 guest speakers, points for highlights will still be awarded for each speaker, providing an opportunity for extra credit points.

Natural Resource Recreation and You
In a paper of 2-3 pages single spaced excluding title page and references discuss how the following factors have influenced your interests and participation in NR recreational activities:

- friends and family throughout your life including experiences and opportunities as a child;
- one important NR recreation site you visited
- living in the MSU/Lansing area and one other place that you have lived;
- current age;
- current economic condition;
- current personal mobility (physical and mechanical);
- other relevant factors (factors that have influenced your NR recreation behavior and are not included in the list above);
- how you see natural resource recreation as part of your life going forward including your career plans and your experiential goals

**NR Recreation Organizational Paper**

Individually or in a group of 2-4 students, select a natural resource recreation activity in which all participate or at least have a strong interest, even if all have not participated. Locate an entity that offers or facilitates this activity. This could be a public, commercial or non-profit entity. Read the organizations website to better understand the organization and gain as much information as possible from the website. For those questions unanswered and to better understand career opportunities related to this activity/organization, make an appointment to interview a knowledgeable member of the organization and gather the remaining information:

A. Describe the activity. Each group member should describe his/her history and involvement with that activity as a participant, spectator and a manager.

B. Describe the organization:
   - mission statement of the organization (if none, explain and paraphrase);
   - whether it is for-profit, non-profit or governmental;
   - sources of funding for capital improvements and operations
   - size of most recent available capital improvement budget (if none available explain)
   - size of most recent available operations budget (if none available explain)
   - description (demographic profile) of the users/participants/target market
   - trend over past decade in the amount of users/uses (if none available explain)
   - organization’s policies related to sustainability
   - organization’s objectives/plans for improvement over the next 5 years
   - relationship of funding, use, sustainability and improvement plans to mission
   - suggestions your group has for entity in better meeting mission

C. Appendix: Provide the written questions used during your interview and the full name, title and address of the manager/owner who was interviewed. Include a copy of the thank you sent to the professional you interviewed.
In this paper document your knowledge through use of course notes and references to readings. This paper should be 4-5 pages double spaced, excluding title page, reference list, and appendix.

**Course Evaluation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Highlights</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR Rec. and You Paper</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR Rec. Paper</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All grading will be on a straight scale with:

- 90% or more = 4.0 = 270 - 300 points
- 85% - 89.94% = 3.5 = 255 - 269 points
- 80% - 84.94% = 3.0 = 240 – 254 points
- 75% - 79.94% = 2.5 = 225 – 239 points
- 70% - 74.94% = 2.0 = 210 – 224 points
- 65% - 69.94% = 1.5 = 195 – 209 points
- 60% - 64.94% = 1.0 = 180 – 194 points
- Less than 59.95% = 0.0 = Less than 180 points

**Academic Integrity**

Article 2.III.B.2 of the Academic Freedom Report states: “The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards.” In addition, the Department of Sustainability adheres to the policies on academic honesty specified in General Student Regulation 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations.

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU regulations on Protection of Scholarship and Grades will receive a failing grade in the course or on the assignment.
Faculty are required to report all instances in which a penalty grade is given for academic dishonesty. Students reported for academic dishonesty are required to take an online course about the integrity of scholarship and grades. A hold will be placed on the student's account until such time as the student completes the course. This course is overseen by the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>READING(S)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M 1/12</td>
<td>Introduction to NR recreation and link to sustainability; Greening of Mid-Michigan video</td>
<td>Jensen and Guthrie (J&amp;G)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 1/14</td>
<td>Concepts of recreation, leisure, play and work</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 1/19</td>
<td>Martin Luther King Jr. Day – No class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 1/21</td>
<td>How did we get where we are: History of conservation, preservation, and exploitation</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 1/26</td>
<td>Key people and accomplishments</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 1/28</td>
<td>Key people and accomplishments</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2/2</td>
<td>Benefits of NR recreation – personal to societal</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2/4</td>
<td>NR recreation trends, influences and resources</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapters 4 + 5 + 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2/9</td>
<td><strong>Exam #1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2/11</td>
<td>National Park Service: Crown Jewel Nature Parks - Segments...</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2/16</td>
<td>National Park Service: Urban and Near Urban Parks - Segments...</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2/18</td>
<td>National Park Service: History and the Parks - Segments...</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 2/23</td>
<td>US Forest Service – Segments of Continuing Forest Video</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2/25</td>
<td>US Fish and Wildlife Service – Segments of America’s Wildest Places video</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 3/2</td>
<td>Bureau of Land Management – Segments of The People’s Land Video</td>
<td>J &amp; G Chapter 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 3/4</td>
<td><strong>Exam #2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M &amp; W</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK --- NO CLASS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/9 &amp; 3/11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
M 3/16 Federal public sector water managers: Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation J & G Chapter 12

W 3/18 Wilderness J & G Chapter 7

M 3/23 State public sector: Parks, wildlife areas, boating access, forests and trails J & G Chapter 13

W 3/25 Michigan State Parks

M 3/30 Local public sector with a focus on greater Lansing area – Segments of Universal Access Video J & G Chapter 14

W 4/1 Rail Trails: Recreation, health, economics and brownfields - Segments of Rail Trails in MI – Making the Connection video

M 4/6 Non-profit and commercial sectors J & G Chapter 16

SECTION III CAREERS AND INNOVATIONS IN NATURAL RESOURCE RECREATION

W 4/8 Exam #3

M 4/13 Law enforcement and security

W 4/15 Interpretation

M 4/20 Social entrepreneurship

W 4/22 Management

ORGANIZATION PAPER DUE

M 4/27 Planning and Administration

W 4/29 Future of natural resource recreation J & G Chapter 21

THURS Exam # 4 – Thursday May 7 from 12:45 - 2:45 PM in Room 221 NR

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER and ENJOY THE GREAT OUTDOORS IN YOUR WORK AND PLAY!

If you are interested in becoming a Sustainable Parks, Recreation and Tourism major, see me or Student Advisor Frances Kaneene at kaneene@anr.msu.edu.