

# FOR 394/594: Forest Recreation Seminar

Fall 2022

## Course Description and Objectives

Forestry 394/594 provides an opportunity to examine recreation planning and management in-person and in-depth. This semester, we'll consider the Ice Age National Scenic Trail and the mosaic of agencies, organizations, individuals, and volunteers that work towards its development, promotion, and protection. In particular, we'll focus on two key trail partners – the Ice Age Trail Alliance and the National Park Service. The Ice Age Trail Alliance is the nonprofit organization responsible for promoting, developing, and supporting the trail. The National Park Service is the trail's administering agency. Collectively, we will explore the text "A thinking person's guide to America's national parks."

The seminar, and its options, will be guided by the following learning outcomes:

1. Develop a thorough understanding of selected nature-based recreation providers
2. Support the provision and management of real-world outdoor recreation opportunities
3. Discuss multiple dimensions of park administration and management
4. Reflect on knowledge and experiences gained during the seminar

## Instructor

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Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00 – 11:00 am; other times by appointment.

## Class Meeting Times

This semester, our field experience is planned for Saturday, October 22. Please let me know as soon as possible if you have an unavoidable conflict on this date. In addition to participating in the field experience, you will contribute to weekly online discussions of the course text, complete and upload some individual assignments, and participate in a final class gathering. The timing of the final class gathering will be determined based on our collective schedules.

## Text and Resources

Manning, R., Diamant, R., Mitchell, N., & Harmon, D., Eds. (2016). A thinking person's guide to America's national parks. George Braziller Publishers: New York.

Ice Age Trail Alliance website: <https://www.iceagetrail.org/>

National Park Service Ice Age Trail website: <https://www.nps.gov/iatr/index.htm>

## Activities, Assignments, and Grading

### Project Set-Up (5%)

Points will be allocated for confirming your availability to participate in the field experience and completing set-up activities on Canvas in a timely fashion.

### Essay Responses (30%)

Throughout the semester, we will work through the collection of essays in “A Thinking Person’s Guide to the National Parks.” Each week, starting in week two, a prompt will be posted for two of the 23 essays in the book. You will be responsible for responding to 10 of these prompts over the course of the semester and for reviewing all discussion posts. A brief (one or two paragraphs) – yet thoughtful – response should be posted to the appropriate discussion on Canvas for each essay reviewed.

### Field Experience (30%)

This semester, our class will join an opportunity to help build the Ice Age Trail in our own backyard – at the Ice Age Trail Alliance Mobile Skills Crew Wildcard Event in Iola, Wisconsin. The event is planned for October 20-23, with our field trip planned for Saturday, October 22. If interested, there will likely be opportunity to join the event early, and camp on site with other enthusiastic Ice Age Trail volunteers. I will make additional details available as soon as they are officially posted on the IATA website.

### Written Report (25%)

You will be asked to provide a written report reflecting on the field experience and insights gained into the two recreation providers that are the focus of the seminar. Details for the report will be provided on Canvas.

### Class Reflection and Discussion (10%)

We will gather at semester’s end to share and reflect on the field experience and course text. I will coordinate a meeting time and format during the semester based on your schedules.

#### Grade Scale

A:	93+	C:	73-76
A-:	90-92	C-:	70-72
B+:	87-89	D+:	67-69
B:	83-86	D:	63-66
B-:	80-82	D-:	60-62
C+:	77-79	F:	<60

## Learning Resources

If you have questions or observations about the course, please share them! I am happy to talk during office hours, or at another scheduled time. Don't hesitate to reach out when I can be of help. Writing and other academic assistance is available in the Tutoring Learning Center. Please arrange for accommodations for learning or physical disabilities through the Disability Services and Assistive Technology Center.

## Academic Honesty

All suspected cases of academic misconduct will be reported to the Dean of Students. Refer to the Dean of Students website for policies and expectations regarding academic honesty at UW – Stevens Point.

## College of Natural Resources Principles of Professionalism

Please see Canvas for a copy of these principles, required of all students, staff, and faculty in the CNR.

## Forestry Anti-harassment Statement

Please review this statement on Canvas and the associated expectations of everyone involved in this class.

## University COVID-19 Guidance

Please take good care of yourself and others this semester by following health and safety guidance provided by the University: <https://www.uwsp.edu/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>.