

FOR 480/680: Forest Recreation Management

Fall 2021

Course Description

In the popular PBS Ken Burns series, U.S. national parks are celebrated as “America’s Best Idea.” It could be argued that establishment of the National Park Service, an agency dedicated to the management of these parks, was an even better idea. The first parks (created before the agency) were subject to the whims of souvenir-seeking tourists, squatters, and poachers. Likewise, early recreationists were left to navigate the promises and perils of these magnificent landscapes on their own.

Today, national parks – and most recreation areas – are actively managed to ensure safe, satisfying experiences for recreationists and protection of the natural resources these individuals have come to enjoy. Responsibilities of the modern recreation manager are substantial and diverse; they include: administering facilities and services; budgeting and fundraising; assessing risk; recruiting, retaining, and assessing employees; motivating staff and volunteers; maintaining positive public relations; and integrating research into decision-making – among other things.

In FOR 480/680, we’ll explore the breadth of recreation management following these course goals and learning outcomes:

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Understand established approaches to outdoor recreation management.
2. Have an appreciation of the park and recreation profession.
3. Be able to critically consider the impact of outdoor recreation management decisions.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast outdoor recreation management models.
2. Explain key responsibilities of managers in the context of nature-based recreation.
3. Demonstrate competencies required of park and recreation professionals.
4. Identify techniques for assessing, monitoring, and managing ecological impacts in forests, parks, and protected areas.
5. Critique real-world applications of recreation management strategies and practices.
6. Author a recreation management case study.

Instructor

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

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://wisconsin-edu.zoom.us/j/97883233301?pwd=bUR3TkdTQWFKUUlBVTh2WFc4R2ZxQT09>

Meeting ID: 978 8323 3301

Passcode: 512580

Class Location & Meeting Time

TNR 320

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00am – 12:15pm

Required Text

Edginton, C., Hudson, S., Lankford, S., & Larsen, D. (2015). *Managing recreation, parks, and leisure services – An introduction*. Champaign, IL: Sagamore Publishing, LLC. (Text Rental)

Manning, R., Anderson, L., and Pettengill, P. (2017). *Managing outdoor recreation: Case studies in the national parks*. 2nd edition. Oxfordshire, UK: CABI Publishing. (Text Rental)

Additional readings as posted on Canvas.

Grading

Assignments/Exams	Learning Outcome(s) Addressed	Points
Midterm Exam	1,2	100
Final Exam	3-5	100
Management Case Study	5,6	100
Class Activities	1-6	50
	Total	350

FOR 480

Exams (100 pts each)	200 pts
Case Study	100 pts
<u>Class Activities & Discussions</u>	<u>50 pts</u>
Total	350 pts

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

FOR 680

Exams (100 pts each)	200 pts
Case Study	100 pts
Class Activities & Discussions	50 pts
<u>Lecture</u>	<u>50 pts</u>
Total	400 pts

Exams: Exams will be based on lectures, posted materials, assigned readings and class discussions and may contain true/false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and/or essay questions.

Management Case Study: We will consider several existing management case studies through a series of readings, presentations, and class discussions. In addition, you will prepare and share a case study on an outdoor recreation management issue of interest. Selected case studies will be presented during the last week of the semester. A final copy of your case study chapter is due the last day of class. Additional instructions, and an outline for the case study, will be provided in class.

Class Activities & Discussions: Throughout the semester, we will engage in several activities to illustrate and apply course concepts. Your participation will be key to the success of this class. In addition, we will review and discuss 25+ management case studies set in the national parks. You will be responsible for taking the lead on two of these case studies, and for participating in all case study discussions. Fifty points will be allocated based on participation in these activities. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may require flexibility for some of us at certain points during the semester. If you'll need to miss more than a couple of classes due to quarantine or other excused reasons, please reach out so I can help support your continued success in the course. Communication is key to navigating these uncertainties.

Graduate Lecture

Students taking the course for graduate credit will deliver a lecture on a recreation management topic for a separate grade.

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.

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. I will also ask for feedback during the semester. Don't hesitate to reach out when I can be of help. Writing and other academic assistance is available in the Tutoring Learning Center, 018 Albertson Hall. Please arrange for accommodations for learning or physical disabilities through the Disability Services and Assistive Technology Center, 609 Albertson Hall.

College of Natural Resources Principles of Professionalism

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.

COVID-19 Precautions

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>. The *Chancellors Order on Mask Use to Minimize Spread of COVID-19* requires that everyone wear a face covering while inside campus buildings. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center to discuss accommodations in classes. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors.

Course Schedule

See next page for a schedule of lecture topics, readings, exams, and assignments.

Unit	Wk	Topics	MRPLS Chapters	MOR Chapters	
Management Case Studies	1	Introduction & overview	1		
	Management Models	2	MOR framework General management history		1-5 Acadia
		3	Schools of management thought Outdoor recreation management	2	Appalachian Trail Great Smoky Mtns Arches Biscayne
		4	Activity- and experience-based management Benefits-based management		Mammoth Cave Chaco Denali Colorado River
	Manager Responsibilities	5	Vision, mission, and goal statements Ethics	3, 5	Apostle Islands Muir Woods Mesa Verde Mt. Whitney
		6	Leadership (TNR 356) Motivation	4, 6	
	7	MIDTERM EXAM Case Study Project (TNR 356)			
	Managing Ecological Impacts	8	Impact patterns Environmental durability		Petrified Forest Carlsbad Caverns Katmai Voyageurs
		9	Visitor use Monitoring techniques		Yosemite Zion Shuttle Grand Canyon National Mall
	Professional Competencies	10	Human Resources: Recruiting and hiring Appraisals and promotions	10	-- Devils Tower Yellowstone
		11	Operations: Legal issues Risk decisions	13	Grand Glacier Teton
		12	Finance: Types of budgets Budgeting time	11	
		13	Communication: Public relations & marketing ***Thanksgiving***	12	
		14	Programming: Program evaluation MOR Principles	14	31
		15	Case study presentations CASE STUDY CHAPTER		

FINAL EXAM: Thursday, December 16, 2021, 10:15 am – 12:15 pm