

FOR 485/685: Forest Recreation Planning and Site Design
Spring 2020

Course Description

At a popular camping area along the Appalachian Trail, campsites built on sloping land prevent the spread of ecological impacts. Nearby, on the National Mall, a permit system helps to ensure peaceful expressions of democracy at one of the world's most intensively used urban forests. Far to the north and west, elevated boardwalks and platforms promote the well-being of both visitors and the several-hundred pound Alaskan brown bears that they've come to observe. To the south and east of the U.S. continent, fragile coral reefs, known as the "rainforests of the sea," are protected by a series of markers and mooring buoys. All are reflective of intentional recreation planning and design. In FOR 485/685, our study of planning and design will be guided by the following goals and learning outcomes.

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Understand outdoor recreation planning processes, principles, and frameworks.
2. Have an appreciation for established approaches to site design in forests and parks.
3. Be able to propose an outdoor recreation site plan.
4. Meet Communication in the Major requirements.
5. Meet Capstone Experience in the Major requirements.

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Identify steps in the master planning process.
2. Explain how key state and federal laws relate to outdoor recreation planning.
3. Interpret recreation planning frameworks used by federal, state, and local agencies.
4. Describe the processes involved in obtaining and analyzing data useful to planners.
5. Evaluate recreation facilities and use areas based on established standards and guidelines.
6. Apply design guidelines and principles to an outdoor recreation site.
7. Evaluate alternatives to meet goals for an outdoor recreation site development.
8. Prepare an outdoor recreation site plan.
9. Apply discipline-specific standards of oral and written communication to compose an articulate, grammatically correct, and organized presentation/piece of writing with properly documented and supported ideas, evidence, and information suitable to the topic, purpose, and audience.
10. Critique their own and others' writing/oral presentations to provide effective and useful feedback to improve their communication.
11. Complete a project that integrates knowledge, skills, and experiences related to those General Education Program Outcomes appropriate to the discipline.
12. Demonstrate skills, processes, and resources needed to make a successful transition from college to the world beyond.

Instructor

Dr. Laura E. Anderson McIntyre

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Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00 am – 10:50 am; other times by chance or appointment

Class Location & Meeting Time

TNR 320

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00 pm – 2:50 pm

Required Text

Baas, J. & Burns, R. (2016). Outdoor recreation planning. Sagamore Publishing. Urbana, IL.

Additional readings on reserve at the library or as posted on Canvas.

Exams

There will be two written exams – a midterm and a final. Exams will be based on lectures, assigned readings and class discussions and may contain true/false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, short answer, and/or essay questions.

Planning and Design Project

We'll practice recreation planning and design through a final project. The project will consist of two components: a written plan and an in-class presentation. Additional instructions for the plan and details about the project will be provided during lab. Some lab time will be dedicated to advancing the project.

Site Design Journal

To facilitate greater awareness of planning and site design in recreation areas, you will be asked to maintain a "Site Design Journal" throughout the semester. The journal should contain the following components: date, location, activity, planning or site design element observed, comments or reflections. Include at least one entry per week in the journal, observing 10 or more different recreation sites.

Lab Assignments

A variety of lab activities will take place to demonstrate the principles and practices of planning and design. If you must miss a lab activity for an excused reason, please make arrangements to complete the lab as soon as is practical.

Graduate Lecture

Students taking the course for graduate credit will deliver a lecture on a recreation planning or site design topic.

Grading

Assignments/Exams*	Learning Outcome(s) Addressed	Points
Midterm Exam	1-4	100
Final Exam	5-7	100
Final Project	6-12	100
Site Design Journal	5	50
Lab Assignments	1-8	50
	Total	400

*The graduate lecture is worth 50 points, yielding 450 total possible points for FOR 685.

Grade Scale**

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

**Course grades may be adjusted up or down based on attendance and participation.

Academic Honesty

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 to share about the course, please see me! I am happy to talk after class, during office hours, or at another scheduled time. Don't hesitate to reach out if 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.

Course Website

Check Canvas frequently for announcements, reading assignments, project instructions, and other materials.

Course Schedule

	Wk	Days	Tuesday	Thursday	Assignment
Forest Recreation Planning	1	Jan 21 & 23	Course overview and introduction to recreation planning	Final project set-up, site design journal (CCC 307)	Read Ch. 1
	2	Jan 28 & 30	Planning process; SCORPs	SCORP lab (CCC 307)	Read Ch. 2, 12, & Canvas
	3	Feb 4 & 6	VERP, LAC, VUM	VUM lab (CCC 307)	Read Canvas
	4	Feb 11 & 13	ADA & NEPA	NEPA lab (CCC 307)	Read Canvas
	5	Feb 18 & 20	Gathering data to inform planning	Recreation data sources lab (CCC 307)	Read Ch. 3, 4, & 5
	6	Feb 25 & 27	Public meetings, plan management, and decision making	Developing alternatives	Read Ch. 6, 8, & 9
	7	Mar 3 & 5	<u>MIDTERM EXAM</u>	Final project (CCC 307)	
& Site Design	8	Mar 10 & 12	Design considerations	Aesthetics lab (CCC 307)	Read Canvas
	SPRING BREAK				
	9	Mar 24 & 26	Trails	Trail lab	Read Canvas
	10	Mar 31 & Apr 2	Campgrounds	Campground lab	Read Canvas
	11	Apr 7 & 9	Transportation; parking	Bus lab	<u>PROJECT DRAFTS DUE</u>
	12	Apr 14 & 16	Playgrounds; project peer review	Playground lab	Read Canvas
	13	Apr 21 & 23	Visitor information; restrooms; picnic sites	Sign lab	Read Canvas
	14	Apr 28 & 30	TBD	Final project (CCC 307)	Read Canvas
	15	May 5 & 7	Project presentations	Emerging issues; site design journals	Read Ch. 13 <u>JOURNALS DUE</u>
16	May 13	<u>FINAL EXAM</u>	10:15 am – 12:15 pm	<u>FINAL PROJECT DUE</u>	