

NRES 320: Natural Resource Communication and Public Relations Fall 2021
(3 credits, one 1-hour asynchronous lecture, one 2-hour F2F discussion per week)

- INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Paul Doruska
OFFICE: TNR 239
PHONE: 715-346-3988
EMAIL: pdoruska@uwsp.edu (or through Canvas)
- Class Time:** Lecture (320-02): asynchronous online in Canvas
(expected to view ahead of Discussion each week)
Disc. (320-02D1): Fri. 12:00pm – 1:50pm TNR 254
Disc. (320-02D2): Thur. 3:00pm – 4:50pm TNR 254
- Final Exam:** Asynchronous online task: due by 5pm CST on Thursday December 16, 2021
- Office Hours:** Wednesday and Thursday 10:00-10:50am: F2F and Zoom (Zoom details in Canvas)
I am generally available to answer quick questions anytime I am in my office and the door is ajar. Larger, more time-consuming questions require meeting during office hours or an appointment. Questions can be posed via Canvas as well.
- Prerequisites:** implied junior level standing (as a 300-level course) and accepted into a CNR major or consent of instructor
- Text:** *Communication Skills for Conservation Professionals* (2nd Edition) by Jacobsen

Course Description

Prepares natural resource professionals for involvement with various governmental, professional, non-profit and private entities. Additional focus on public relations techniques and methods of evaluating public input used by resource professionals as part of policy formulation and implementation.

- What is natural resources social science, or human dimensions?
- What theories help us understand human behavior?
- What methods help us to measure and interpret variables related to humans and natural resources?
- What outreach methods impact human behavior, and how do we evaluate them?
- What communication methods are commonly used in Natural Resources?

Projects you will complete are designed to help you understand and apply appropriate communication, involvement, and analysis techniques in a variety of natural resource management scenarios.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Describe the importance of human dimensions in natural resource management.
2. Evaluate appropriate outreach tools.
3. Disseminate information via various communication channels.
4. Apply natural resources-based 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.
5. Critique your own and others' writing/oral presentations to provide effective and useful feedback to improve your/their communication skills

Inclusive Environment:

This course (and our university!) is an inclusive environment. This course is intended to foster discussion, with respectful exchange of ideas and opinions. Disrespect and disparagement will not be tolerated. We have a great opportunity to learn from each other, and to appreciate and understand our differences. See also the CNR principles of Professionalism.

Students with Disabilities:

The university has a legal responsibility to provide accommodations and program access as mandated by Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The university's philosophy is to not only provide what is mandated, but also convey its genuine concern for one's total well-being. If accommodations are needed, please contact the instructor as well as the Disability Services and Adaptive Technologies Center , 609 Library Resources Center, voice (715) 346-3365 or TDD (715) 346-3362

Attendance Policy:

Attendance for F2F meetings will be taken/assessed and absences will reduce your final grade. This class is primarily discussion-based and will involve a fair amount of group work. Your group-mates will depend on you and you on them. As a student, and more so as a professional, you have responsibility to attend all scheduled class meetings. Absences from discussion due to illness, family emergency, or University sponsored activities will be excused provided a written explanation, provided by the student, is given to and acknowledged by the instructor prior to the intended absence except for emergencies in which case an explanation should be turned in as soon as practical. If you are feeling ill please do stay away from our F2F meetings out of respect to the others (again, part of being a professional) – just let your instructor know in advance if possible. If unexcused absences occur on days when assignments are due, then it is your responsibility to see that the assignments are turned in by the assigned due date/time in order to receive credit. Attending a discussion section other than your registered section will not be allowed unless pre-approved by the instructor.

If you are quarantined/isolated as part of COVID protocols. It is your responsibility to inform your instructors (it will be kept confidential, have no worries there) but will allow for better delivery of course material when in quarantine/isolation. The Dean of Students Office determined that this notification is the student's responsibility.

Missing lecture and/or discussions HABITUALLY almost always results in lower grades! You are strongly encouraged to attend all scheduled class meetings.

Instructor's tips:

- (1.) Come to class willing to learn and have fun, I certainly plan to do so.
- (2.) Keep up with the readings and the assignments.

Instructor's rules:

- (1.) Discussion of assignments between students is encouraged, however all work (unless part of any group projects) must be done independently.
- (2.) Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated (see also the CNR Principles of Professionalism)
- (3.) Posting instructor-created course material onto course-sharing websites directly violates the instructor's copyright on his academic materials; permission to post instructor-created material on any such site is unequivocally denied.
- (3.) If you plan to miss an exam or one of your planned presentations, you have to let me know ahead of time and explain why you will be unable to be present at the scheduled time. Unexcused absences from exams/presentations result in zeroes.
- (4.) Assignments are due at the start of class on the respective due dates or by the posted online date/time. Late assignments will receive a score of zero.
- (5.) All written/typed work is expected to be grammatically correct, neat, and well organized. Work that is sloppy, hard to read, does not follow prescribed format, and/or contains many spelling and/or grammatical errors will be graded with a 0.
- (6.) Cell phones will be put into pockets/backpacks/bags or otherwise stowed away. Appearance of your cell phone during class (unless required for a task or during a break) will indicate your disinterest in and focus on the topic and can thus count as an absence - you will *lose attendance points*.

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point College of Natural Resources-Principles of Professionalism

The College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point prepares students for success as professionals in many fields. As a professional, there are expectations of attainment of several personal characteristics. These include:

Integrity

Integrity refers to adherence to consistent moral and ethical principles. A person with integrity is honest and treats others fairly.

Collegiality

Collegiality is a cooperative relationship. By being collegial you are respecting our shared commitment to student education through cooperative interaction. This applies to all involved in the process: students, staff, faculty, administration and involved community members. You take collective responsibility for the work performed together, helping the group attain its goals.

Civility

Civility refers to politeness and courtesy in your interactions with others. Being civil requires that you consider the thoughts and conclusions of others and engage in thoughtful, constructive discussion to express your own thoughts and opinions.

Inclusivity

Inclusivity requires you to be aware that perspective and culture will control how communication is understood by others. While many values are shared, some are quite different. These differences in values should be both considered and respected.

Timeliness

Timeliness is the habit of performance of tasks and activities, planned in a way that allows you to meet deadlines. This increases workplace efficiency and demonstrates respect for others' time.

Respect for Property

Respect for property is the appreciation of the economic or personal value an item maintains. Maintaining this respect can both reduce costs (increase the operable life of supplies and equipment) as well as demonstrate respect for others rights.

Communication

Professional norms in communication require that you demonstrate the value of your colleagues, students, professors or others. The use of appropriate tone and vocabulary is expected across all forms of communication, whether that communication takes place face to face, in writing or electronically.

Commitment to Quality

Quality is the ability to meet or exceed expectations. By having a commitment to quality, we intend to provide a learning environment that is conducive to learning. Intrinsic to this commitment to quality is defining expectation (committed to in a syllabus through learning outcomes), implementation (with quality control in place) and assessment (where meeting of learning outcomes is determined).

Commitment to Learning

Learning is a lifelong process. By being committed to learning you are providing a model for all to follow. This model is not only professor to student but involves all combinations of people within our university and broader community

Adherence to this compact is required of the faculty and staff of the College of Natural Resources and of all students enrolled in College of Natural Resources courses.

Professionalism Statement

Students in the College of Natural Resources are pursuing courses of study that prepare them for careers as natural resources professionals. Thus, CNR students and faculty/staff are expected to exhibit conduct and attitudes appropriate to professionals. Conduct and attitudes appropriate for professionals include, but are not restricted to,

1. The UWSP Student Rights and Responsibilities are available via: www.uwsp.edu/centers/rights
2. Attitudes appropriate for resource professionals of the 21st Century:
 - a. Respect for others and for their ideas;
 - b. Appreciation for ethnic and gender diversity in the workplace;
 - c. Sensitivity to environmental quality;
 - d. Adherence to professional ethics, e.g. the Society of American Foresters Code of Ethics and other professional organization's codes of ethics.

Therefore, academic misconduct will not be tolerated.

Note the following as per the Univ. of Wisc.-Stevens Point Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities:

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Note the following as per the Univ. of Wisc.-Stevens Point Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities:

UWSP 14.03 ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

(1.) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
- (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance;

or

(f) Assists other students in any of these acts.

(g) Violates electronic communication policies or standards as agreed upon when logging on initially (See uwsp.edu/it/policy).

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials; submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

UWSP 14.04 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS.

(1) The following are the disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed for academic misconduct in accordance with the procedures of s. UWSP 14.05, 14.06 or 14.07:

- (a) An oral reprimand;
- (b) A written reprimand presented only to the student;
- (c) An assignment to repeat the work, to be graded on its merits;
- (d) A lower or failing grade on the particular assignment or test;
- (e) A lower grade in the course;
- (f) A failing grade in the course;
- (g) Removal of the student from the course in progress;
- (h) A written reprimand to be included in the student's disciplinary file;
- (i) Disciplinary probation; or
- (j) Suspension or expulsion from the university.

(2) One or more of the disciplinary sanctions listed in sub. (1) may be imposed for an incident of academic misconduct.

Required Statement on Emergency Preparedness:

"In the event of a medical emergency, call 911 or use the emergency phone located outside TNR Rm 151 or 172 on the first floor; TNR 2nd floor between Rms 252 and 255 or between Rms 219 and 221; TNR 3rd floor by Rms 320 or 358 (on other side of hall). Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.

In the event of a tornado warning, stay in TNR 254 if in that room for if not, proceed to the TNR second floor or southern 1st floor hallway.

In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the TNR building in a calm manner. Meet at the northwest corner of parking lot E. Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.

Active Shooter – Run/Escapes, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Follow instructions of emergency responders.

See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Management at <https://www.uwsp.edu/emergency/Pages/default.aspx> for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point."

Know/remember that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point occupies lands of the Ho-Chunk and Menominee people. Please take a moment to acknowledge and honor the ancestral Ho-Chunk and Menominee land and the sacred land of all indigenous peoples.

Total Points Available and Course Grading

Assignment points (Total 800)

Attendance/Participation	150 (15 deducted per absence/non-participation; 50 points deducted per conflict presentation day absence)
Reading Comments/Posting tasks	80
Interview of Professional (questions)	15
Interview of Professional (answers)	50
Grant Project (group)	75
Grant Review (Individual)	25
Social Media/Website Review	50
Social Marketing (group)	60
Cliché Presentation (oral)	25
Public meeting evaluation	60
Public comment	30
Conflict Presentation (group)	80
Final exam	100

Grading:

Normally, cumulative percentages will be rounded to the nearest tenth and course grades will be assigned as follows (instructor reserves the right to curve):

92.6% or higher	A	77.6% to 79.9%	C+
90.0% to 92.5%	A-	72.6% to 77.5%	C
87.6% to 89.9%	B+	70.0% to 72.5%	C-
82.6% to 87.5%	B	67.6% to 69.9%	D+
80.0% to 82.5%	B-	62.6% to 67.5%	D
		60.0% to 62.5%	D-
		Less than 60%	F

Important information about online course materials and online course endeavors

Instructor Recording and sharing class lectures

If a lecture recording only includes the instructor, the recording is not a student record and not considered protected by FERPA. If a recording includes student interactions (questions, presentations, etc.) and those students are identifiable, the recording would be a protected educational record. The recording could only be made available to the students in that specific class and/or to university officials with legitimate educational interest in that information – a genuine need for access to perform their duties. If the instructor wishes to further share the recording outside of the class, either identifiable students would have to provide written consent to release their participation or portions of the recording would have to be changed or omitted to avoid identifying students. But again, if no students are identifiable in any way (seen, heard or named), the recording would not be FERPA protected. Additionally, recordings that include student interactions are appropriate for posting within Canvas.

Student Recording and Sharing Class Lectures

Sometimes students record lectures or copy lecture materials (including instructor's recordings) and post them outside of class on internet sites or provide them to note sharing companies. These acts can violate intellectual property rights held by the instructor and the university. UW System Board of Regent policy authorizes instructors to limit or restrict students from copying, recording or using instructional materials or lectures unless necessary to reasonably accommodate a student's disability. [[Regent Policy Document 4-1](#)] If an instructor wishes to impose restrictions, the instructor should inform students of the limitations and the potential consequences of being subject to charges of student misconduct. Notification can be made through a syllabus, a lecture, or by other means to ensure awareness

*Given the above please note that **Lecture/Lab materials and recordings for NRES 320 are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture/lab is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record lectures/labs without instructor permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.***

Course Outline

Week of 9/2

Lecture: no lecture task this week as classes start on Thursday September 2

Discussion: Get to know the class; Syllabus walkthrough; Alligator River Story; Introduction to Extemporaneous Speaking; Introduction to the Interview of Professionals Assignment.

Week of 9/6

Lecture (reading Chapter 1): Introduction to NR Communications

Discussion: Grants/Grant Applications

Week of 9/13

Lecture (Chapter 2): Behaviors/Attitudes/Norms (submit 2 comments)

Discussion: Grants/Grant Applications

Week of 9/20

Lecture (reading - Chapter 4; submit 2 comments): Quantitative Methods/Qualitative Methods

Discussion: "What do you do?"; Behavioral Interviewing exercise; Introduction to Public Meeting Attendance Assignment;

Week of 9/27

Lecture (reading - Chapter 5; submit 2 comments): Qualitative Methods

Discussion: Resumes/Grant Application work time

Week of 10/4

Lecture: Social Media considerations

Discussion: Social Media/ Public relations considerations

Week of 10/11

Lecture (reading - Chapter 3; submit 2 comments): Designing a Program/Social Marketing; online book source

Discussion: Clichés/Social Marketing Campaign

Week of 10/18

Lecture (reading – Idaho recreation [Canvas]; submit two comments): Stakeholder Involvement

Discussion: Cliché presentations; Resume (Bring a hard copy of yours to class!);

Week of 10/25

Lecture (reading – Citizen Participation [Canvas]; submit two comments): Citizen Participation/Stakeholder Involvement

Discussion: Public Comment Site and Assignment; Impact Statement Assignment; Public comment Work Time

Week of 11/1

Lecture (reading – Chapter 7 pages 207 to 224 only; bring two comments): Participation/Collaboration

Discussion: Negotiation; Stakeholder/conflict exercise; Conflict Assignment

Week of 11/8

Lecture: Stakeholder Involvement case study

Discussion: Social Marketing Presentations; Work on conflict presentations!

Week of 11/15

Lecture: World Café method

Discussion: World Café in practice

Week of 11/22

Thanksgiving week: No lecture task this week, excused time in lieu of conflict presentation work time

University is closed with no classes on Thursday and Friday (Discussion section days) of this week

Week of 11/29

Lecture: (reading – Chapter 11; bring two comments): Program Evaluation

Discussion: Conflict Presentations

Week of 12/6

Lecture: Public Meeting Discussion and Course Wrap-up

Discussion: Conflict Presentations

Week of 12/13

Asynchronous online task: due by 5pm CST on Thursday December 16, 2021