

NRES 374/482 Practicum in Environmental Interpretation & Human Dimensions of Natural Resources (Schmeckle Reserve): Syllabus for Spring 2023

Course Schedule

Regular Meetings: Mondays from 2:00-5:00pm at Schmeckle Visitor Center Meeting Room

Additional Sessions: Monday, May 1, 8:00-11:00am | Wednesday, May 3, 10:00-5:00 | Friday, May 5, 1:00-9:00

To Be Scheduled: Evening and weekend public programs and onsite program preparation

Instructors

Dr. Chris McCart	Griffin Bray	Jim Buchholz	Melissa Ruether
Assistant Professor	Schmeckle Graduate Student	Schmeckle Director	Schmeckle Outreach Coordinator
TNR 182	Schmeckle Reserve	Schmeckle Reserve	Schmeckle Reserve
715-346-2076	715-346-4992	715-346-4992	715-346-4992
cmccart@uwsp.edu	gbray324@uwsp.edu	jbuchhol@uwsp.edu	mruether@uwsp.edu

Chris McCart's Availability: Drop-in Mondays 1:00-2:00 @ Schmeckle, Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 @ TNR 320/182, Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 @ TNR 320/182, Thursdays 12:00-1:00 @ TNR 254/182 or email to schedule a zoom appointment. Email response up to 24-48 hours.

Griffin Bray's Availability: Drop-in Mondays from 12-1 @ Schmeckle or email ahead to check availability.

Course Description

Plan, present, and evaluate interpretive programs, and further your skills creating interpretive media. This capstone course allows you to demonstrate proficiency in skills and knowledge gained in previous environmental education and interpretation courses, especially NRES 368 Oral Interpretation and NRES 369 Interpretive Media.

Textbooks and Materials

Nature Journal: Any notebook you can dedicate to Schmeckle observations will suffice.

Buchholz, J., Lackey, B., Gross, M., & Zimmerman, R. (2015). *The interpreter's guidebook: Techniques for programs and presentations* (4th ed.). UW-SP Foundation Press.

Buchholz, J. (n.d.). *NRES 369 Interpretive media lab tutorials*. UWSP Schmeckle Reserve.

Gross, M., Zimmerman, R., & Buchholz, J. (2006). *Signs, trails, and wayside exhibits: Connecting people and places* (3rd ed.). UWSP Foundation Press.

Course Learning Outcomes (LO): Adapted from The National Association for Interpretation's *Interpretation Standards* (2018)

LO #1: Knowledge of Self
Demonstrate a strong awareness of self (personality, knowledge, strengths, weaknesses, etc.) and work on these skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be creative and open to trying something new• Adapt to various situations with flexibility, problem-solving, and creativity• Demonstrate a commitment to professional and personal growth.• Prioritize tasks through organizational skills and personal responsibility.• Admit when you don't know something and be willing to find the answer.• Exhibit commitment through enthusiasm and passion for Schmeckle's mission and values• Demonstrate professionalism in appearance, attendance, demeanor, and representation of Schmeckle Reserve• Accept constructive feedback and guidance
LO #2: Knowledge of Site and Visitor
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop interpretive programs and media that relate to Schmeckle Reserve's mission and are relevant to central Wisconsin natural and cultural history.• Increase your personal connection to Schmeckle Reserve and integrate that passion into your interpretive efforts to relate to your audience.• Develop interpretive programs and media for the audiences of diverse ages, backgrounds, and abilities.
LO #3: Program Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct research on your topics, develop a theme and sub-themes, incorporate a variety of creative techniques, and present professional-level interpretive programs for diverse audiences.
LO #4: Interpretive Media
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create, write, and design non-personal professional interpretive media for program marketing and interpretation.
LO #5: Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluate your peers' interpretive programs and media and critique your own work for effectiveness and quality.

Evaluation/Course Requirements:

<i>Projects: See Canvas for details</i>	<i>Possible Points</i>
Coaching	50
Indoor Interpretive Program	170
Outdoor Interpretive Hike Program	170
Program Marketing (Program Descriptions + Facebook Posts)	60
Candlelight Character Program	150
Interpretive Trail Sign Project	150
Nature Note Video	100
Total:	850

Grading Policy: Your grade for Practicum will be an average of your CWES Grade and your Schmeeckle grade.

A = 93-100% A- = 90-92%; B+ = 87-89% B = 83-86% B- = 80-82% C+ = 77-79%
 C = 73-76% C- = 70-72% D+ = 67-69% D = 60-66% F = 59-0%

Policies and Expectations

- **Schedule:** The six-credit Schmeeckle practicum is a capstone course. It consists of several **independent** projects and programs.
 - **The Monday Meetings** are for project orientations, brainstorming, planning, scheduling, dress rehearsals, peer feedback, and group project planning sessions. We can add refresher sessions on media skills like Adobe Rush or InDesign or Photoshop upon student request. Plan to meet from 2:00-5:00 p.m.
 - **Program Time:** Students lead two and assist with two other interpretive programs. You sign up for dates and times; typically, Fridays from 10-11, Saturdays from 7-8 or 10-11, or Sundays from 1-2. You may request an evening time.
 - **Project Time:** Schedule ~12-15 hours each week to work on your program preparation and media projects.
 - **On-Site Preparation Time:** A minimum of two hours on-site is required for most projects.
- **Ambassadors of Schmeeckle:** You are representatives of the Reserve. Please wear your staff shirts and dress appropriately for programs. Be a hospitable professional; see the [UWSP CNR Principles of Professionalism](#) for guidance.
- **Attendance and Participation:** We expect practicum students to attend and actively engage in all scheduled sessions.
- **Late Work:** Late work is automatically deducted -0.2% per hour late, or about -5% per day. Check that your files have been uploaded correctly in a readable file.
- **Preparation:** Be prepared for dress rehearsals. Failure to demonstrate acceptable preparation for dress rehearsals can result in cancellation of your dress rehearsal and associated project with no opportunity to make it up or earn those points.
- **Exceptions to Policy:** In general, you can plan ahead for scheduled events (concerts, vacations, athletic events). You should ask for exceptions for serious issues (funeral, accident, mono, covid, flu, etc.). Communicate ahead of time, and make sure to get the details recorded in writing (a.k.a. email) for any exceptions to policy.
- **For official accommodations,** complete the [application process](#) with the [Disability Resource Center](#). For assistance, contact them at 715-346-3365 or datctr@uwsp.edu.
- **Add-Drop Policies:** The last day to add or drop a 16-week course without a grade entry is February 1, 2023. The last day to drop a 16-week course with transcript entry is April 7, 2023. [Click here for UWSP Academic Calendar](#). Students can be dropped from the course for non-attendance.
- **Students in the 3 credit NRES 374** select either the Indoor Interpretive Program or the Outdoor Interpretive Hike, and either the Nature Note video or the Interpretive Media project while participating in all other projects and sessions.
- **CNR Student Success Center** (TNR 122) has professional advisers and peer mentors for College of Natural Resource (CNR) students. [Click here for more information](#).
- **Academic Honesty:** Academic integrity is an expectation of each UW-Stevens Point student. Campus community members are responsible for fostering and upholding an environment in which student learning is fair, just, and honest. Through your studies as a student, it is essential to exhibit the highest level of personal honesty and respect for the intellectual property of others. Academic misconduct is unacceptable. It compromises and disrespects the integrity of our university and those who study here. To maintain academic integrity, a student must only claim work which is authentic work solely of their own, providing correct citations and credit to others as needed. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and/or helping others commit these acts are examples of academic misconduct, which can result in disciplinary action. Failure to understand what constitutes academic misconduct does not exempt responsibility from engaging in it. Students suspected of academic misconduct will be asked to meet with the instructor to discuss the concerns. If academic misconduct is evident, procedures for determining disciplinary sanctions will be followed as outlined in the [University System Administrative Code, Chapter 14](#).

Tentative Course Schedule: Schmeckle Practicum Spring 2023

Week	Dates	Topics
1	Mon., Jan. 23, 2:00-5:00	Introductions; Syllabus & Textbooks; Project Orientation Advice from Fall 2022 Practicum Program Brainstorming Staff Shirts; Individual & Group Photo Nature Observation Journals
2	Mon., Jan. 30, 2:00-5:00	Orientation to Schmeckle Reserve Orientation to Program Marketing and Public Programs
3	Mon., Feb. 6, 2:00-5:00	Scheduling Program Descriptions Due Draft Theme Sheets Due
4	Mon., Feb. 13, 2:00-5:00	Candlelight Hike Orientation Dress Rehearsals Start
5	Mon., Feb. 20, 2:00-5:00	Interpretive Media Project Orientation Public Programs Start
6	Mon., Feb. 27, 2:00-5:00	Dress Rehearsals Candlelight Character Program Draft Plan Due
7	Mon., Mar 6, 2:00-5:00	Nature Note Video Orientation Dress Rehearsals
8	Mon., Mar. 13, 2:00-5:00	Dress Rehearsals & Project Workshopping Candlelight Character Program Draft Script Due
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9	Mon., Mar. 27, 2:00-5:00	Dress Rehearsals & Project Workshopping
10	Mon., Apr. 3, 2:00-5:00	Dress Rehearsals & Project Workshopping Candlelight Character Program Revised Plan Due
11	Mon., Apr. 10, 2:00-5:00	Dress Rehearsals & Project Workshopping
12	Mon., Apr. 17, 2:00-5:00	Dress Rehearsals & Project Workshopping Candlelight Character Program Final Script Due
13	Mon., Apr. 24, 2:00-5:00	Dress Rehearsals & Project Workshopping
14	Mon., May 1, 8:00-11:00 & 2:00-5:00	Candlelight Character Program Dress Rehearsal #1 @ 3:00
	Wed., May 3, 10:00-5:00	Candlelight Character Program Dress Rehearsal #2 @ 3:00
	Fri., May 5, 1:00-9:00	Candlelight Character Program Dress Rehearsal #3 @ 3:00 Pizza @ 4:30; Programs @ 6:30 & 7:30; wrap up by 9:00
15	Mon., May 8 2:00-5:00	Wrap Up: Advice Video, Evaluation, Celebration
16	No Class Meeting	Final Nature Note Video Due by Friday, May 19 @ 5:00 p.m.

Updated 01/29/23.