

## **NR 368/568 Oral Interpretation Methods, 3 cr.**

### **Syllabus – Fall 2020**

#### **Course Schedule**

**Lecture:** Weds. 3:00-3:50 p.m.– Zoom

**Discussions:** Thurs. 11:00 a.m.- 12:50 p.m. (sec. 1) or 2-3:50 p.m. (sec. 3)– Zoom or TNR 352

#### **Instructor**

Megan Espe

Environmental Interpretation Instructor

Schmeckle Reserve Outreach Coordinator

TNR 176

715-346-4509

[mespe@uwsp.edu](mailto:mespe@uwsp.edu)

#### **Drop-in Hours**

I am available for virtual drop-in hours from 9-10 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. See Canvas for the link to join. An RSVP is recommended in case I had a conflict arise. To arrange meetings at other times, please e-mail [mespe@uwsp.edu](mailto:mespe@uwsp.edu)

#### **Required Textbooks**

Buchholz, J., Lackey, B., Gross, M., & Zimmerman, R. (2015). *The Interpreter's Guidebook: Techniques for Programs and Presentations*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Stevens Point, WI: UW-SP Foundation. (required; provided in class)

Tilden, Freeman (2008). *Interpreting Our Heritage* (required purchase at bookstore)

#### **Course Overview**

Students will learn principles and verbal techniques to communicate the values of natural history and cultural features to visitors at parks, recreation areas, museums, and other institutions.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

1. You will be able to explain what personal interpretation is and identify the principles and concepts of effective personal interpretation programs.
2. You will be able to recognize and describe the spectrum of personal interpretation programs, the fundamental structure of any interpretive program type, and develop an effective theme and messages for use in an interpretive program.
3. You will be able to create and deliver personal interpretation programs such as interpretive talks, guided walks, and illustrated talks.
4. You will recognize the benefits of and be able to conduct effective interpretive program evaluation.

#### **Grading Procedure**

Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

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%	

## Late Policy

Assignments submitted late will be deducted 10 percent/day.

## Learning Activities

Your assignments include the following:

- Developing and presenting interpretive programs in three formats:
  - Theme sheet drafts: 10 pts/each
  - Interpretive talk: 150 pts.
  - Guided walk: 200 pts.
  - Illustrated talk: 200 pts.
- Evaluations of peer programs: Varies, depending on format
- PowerPoint Tutorial: 50 pts.
- Tilden Journal: 50 pts.
- Weekly assignments: Quizzes, Discussion posts, or smaller assignments: 10 pts/each
- Midterm and Final Exam: 50 pts/each

## Attendance and Active Class Participation

To develop as a confident, effective, and creative communicator, you must actively participate in the class learning community. We will strive to establish a supportive environment in which all students feel comfortable challenging themselves, knowing that they will receive respectful, honest, and thoughtful input from the class. You will benefit both from giving feedback to others and from reflecting upon how your classmates respond to your own work.

Attending lectures will likely be the single most important factor in determining your performance and grade in the course, so plan to attend every class. During the first eight days of the term, your instructor will take attendance. If you are not in attendance, you may be dropped from the class. You are responsible for dropping any of your enrolled classes.

Students are expected to be attend each presentation day whether they are presenting or not. Feedback and evaluation is an important part of the learning experience. **Each unexcused absence on discussion presentation days will result in a deduction of 20 points. Let your instructor know via email if you need to be excused and why. You will need to review the presentations and provide feedback after the missed class.**

## Academic Honesty

Academic integrity is an expectation of each UW-Stevens Point student. Through your studies, 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 the 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](#).

### **Professionalism and Student Conduct**

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.

The UWSP Student Affairs office provides guidelines for proper student conduct. See the following link for more information: <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Pages/Student-Conduct.aspx>

### **Cell Phone Usage**

Research supports that having visual access to a cell phone diminishes our ability to learn. Checking social media, texts, emails, and messages is unprofessional and disrespectful to our class community. Please turn off your phone during class; I will do so as well.

### **Equal Access for Students with Disabilities**

If accommodations are needed, please inform the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (DATC), [datctr@uwsp.edu](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu) or 715-346-3365.

**NRES 368: Oral Interpretation Methods Course Schedule** *Subject to change: Check Canvas for more current plan and due dates*

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Lectures:</b> Weds. 3 p.m. Zoom	<b>Disc:</b> Thurs. 11 a.m.-12:50 p.m. (sec. 1) or Thurs. 2-3:50 p.m. (sec. 3)	<b>Assignments/Readings</b>
<b>1</b>	Sept. 2-3	Introductions/Syllabus What is Interpretation? Roots of Heritage Interpretation	Intro to Interpretation, <i>cont.</i> Tilden's Principles Meaning-Centered Interpretation Interpretive Ice Breaker	<i>Interpreter's Guidebook</i> , Chs. 1 & 2 Interpreting Yourself activity
<b>2</b>	Sept. 9-10	Planning Thematic Programs	Interpretive Talks Interpretive Talk Demo	<i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 3 <i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 6 pp. 116-136
<b>3</b>	Sept. 16-17	Creative Interpretive Techniques	Creative Techniques, <i>cont.</i> Questioning Techniques Nonverbal Communication Interpretive Themes review	Tilden Journal #1 due Weds. <i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 4 pp. 74-86 <i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 5
<b>4</b>	Sept. 23-24	Interpretation for Diverse Audiences	Program Evaluation Preparation for Talks	<i>Guidebook</i> , p. 53 <i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 10 Draft theme due Weds.
<b>5</b>	Sept. 30-Oct. 1	Guided Walk & Tour Techniques	Guided Walk Demo	<i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 7 Tilden Journal #2 due Weds. Grp A talk theme sheets <i>by midnight Thursday</i>
<b>6</b>	Oct. 7-8	Communication as a Foundation/ Dealing with Distractions	Interpretive Talks: Group A	<i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 4, pp. 87-89 Readings Grp B talk theme sheets
<b>7</b>	Oct. 14-15	Persuasion as a Communication Tool Midterm Exam Review	Interpretive Talks: Group B	Tilden Journal #3 due Weds. Grp C talk theme sheets
<b>8</b>	Oct. 21-22	Midterm Exam	Interpretive Talks: Group C	Grp A walk theme sheets

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Lectures: Tues. 10 a.m. TNR 352</b>	<b>Discussion: Thurs. 10 a.m. TNR 255 or 1 p.m. TNR 254</b>	<b>Assignments/Readings</b>
<b>9</b>	Oct. 28-29	Illustrated Talk Techniques	Interpretive Walks: Group A	<i>Guidebook</i> , Ch. 6 pp. 137-151 Tilden Journal #4 due Weds. Grp B walk theme sheets
<b>10</b>	Nov. 4-5	Illustrated Talk Demo	Interpretive Walks: Group B	Grp C walk theme sheets PowerPoint Tutorial due Weds.
<b>11</b>	Nov. 11-12	Spontaneous Interpretation <i>NAI Conference Nov. 10-13</i>	Interpretive Walks: Group C	Guidebook, Ch. 8 Tilden Journal #5 due Weds. Grp A illustrated theme sheets
<b>12</b>	Nov. 18-19	Interpretation for Children	Illustrated Talks: Group A	Grp B illustrated theme sheets due by Thanksgiving Guidebook, Ch. 9
<b>13</b>	Nov. 25-26	<b>No Class:</b> Thanksgiving		
<b>14</b>	Dec. 2-3	Live Animal Programs Diversity & Interpretation	Illustrated Talks: Group B	Grp C illustrated theme sheets Readings TBD
<b>15</b>	Dec. 9-10	TBD Final Exam Review	Illustrated Talks: Group C	
<b>16</b>	Finals Week	<b>Final Exam:</b> Tues., Dec. 15, 8-10 a.m.		