**Forest Interpretation (51606)**

**NR-35, Spring 2022**

**Instructor:**

Kayla Jo Rodriguez

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**Office hours:**

Tuesday 9-10 AM, Wednesday 12-1 PM, Thursday and Friday 8-9 AM, or by appointment

**Lectures and Labs:**

Tuesday’s 1-5ish PM, Room: FEM 12

**Course Overview:**

Students will learn the theory and techniques of thematic environmental interpretation. Logical organization and composition of guided and self-guided media will be learned. Practical application through public presentation including narrated walks and campfire talks will be learned. Topics covered will include development of self-guided interpretive media including signs, brochures, and interpretive center displays. Field trips will be required for this course.

**Student Learning Outcomes &Objectives**

*The primary learning outcomes for this course are*:

* NR-35 SLO1: Construct and deliver dynamic and competent presentations that are adapted to natural resources settings and audiences
* NR-35 SLO2: Construct self-guided interpretive media with consideration of theme, organization, relevance, and attraction.
* NR-35 SLO3: Demonstrate public speaking using proper voice projection, diction, inflection, and conversational style.

*The primary objectives will be to:*

* Analyze audience attitudes and evaluate audience needs in a forest environment.
* Build self-confidence in visitor interpretation employment assignments.
* Develop a conversational “style” of delivery for campfire talks and guided walks.
* Enhance vocal skills (projection, diction, inflection, volume).
* Demonstrate an understanding of thematic natural resources interpretation
* Analyze other students’ natural resources interpretive media.

**Text and references:**

*Recommended:*

* + Introduction to Forestry and Natural Resources: Grebner, Donald L., Bettinger, Pete, Siry, Jacek P., Boston, Kevin: 9780128190029: Amazon.com: Books
  + Handouts and supplemental reading made available on Canvas.

**Attendance**

You should attend every assigned class whether face-to-face or virtual- and be there on time. Arrival after roll is taken will be considered a tardy. Three tardies will count as one absence. *The success of this or any other course depends on the presence and active participation of each student****.*** It is the responsibility of the student to check on class meeting changes for the following week if a class session is missed. Contact the instructor in the event of an absence.

The responsibility to drop the course for any reason, including lack of attendance, lies with the student. Late work should be made up within one week.

**Cancelled Class Policy**

If classes must be cancelled the instructor will attempt to post the announcement on the course electronic media site (CANVAS). A notice will be posted on the door of the classroom. Be aware that schedule modifications and field trips may be announced in classes by the instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to be present during classes and pay attention to such announcements and to check announcements on CANVAS daily.

**Important Dates:**

**Jan 21** – Last day to drop full-term class for a full refund.

**Jan 28** – Last day to register for a full-term class in person.

**Jan 28** – Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a “W” in person

**Jan 30** – Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a “W” on WebAdvisor

**Feb 11** – Last day to change class to/from Pass/No Pass grading basis

**March 11** – Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grade after this date)

**Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism &Cheating:**

Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them, and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly obtained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences. Refer to the college catalog for further details surrounding actions that will be implemented regarding academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism is the adoption or reproduction of the ideas or words or statements of another person without due acknowledgment. Cheating is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating can take the form of the storing of information in graphing calculators, pagers, cell phones, and other electronic devices. Therefore, no items of any kind may be on the desktop, including water bottles, during testing. Students may not wear hats/caps during testing. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on a particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course at the discretion of the instructor and depending upon the severity and frequency of the incidents.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act please contact me as soon as possible. A formal counseling assessment to determine the appropriate accommodation is required before any accommodation(s) can be made. The counseling center facilitates the process.

**Student Required PPE for Field Trips:**

Each student must have the following items during each field trip or lab in order to be allowed to participate and earn credit for trip.

- Hardhat

- Leather Gloves

- Water

- Leather Boots (minimum 8” high uppers, nonskid soles preferably Vibram, no steel)

- Long Pants w/ Belt (no cuffs, NO HOLES)

- Long Sleeve Cotton Work Shirt (NO HOLES)

- Backpack sufficient to carry hardhat, gloves, safety glasses, water, and food

\*\*\* Details will be given during the first class meeting\*\*\*

**COVID19:**

**The College will now require that students, faculty, and staff wear a facial covering while indoors in any campus building, including classroom and lab spaces, the cafeteria (except when eating or drinking), the library, the residence hall, the gym, hallways, restrooms, elevators, and any on-campus offices with more than one occupant.**

**Reedley College will continue to sanitize each classroom and office space daily, provide hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes in classrooms, offices, and common space, and the college will continue the use of CDC-recommended air filters and 100% air intake on our HVAC systems.**

**LECTURE SCHEDULE**

**(This lecture schedule is subject to change with fair notice)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Lecture Topic** | **Lab** | **Homework** |
| **1** | Jan. 12 | Course Introduction | Campus Tour &Library Resources | Bio's to present |
| **2** | Jan. 19 | Bio Presentations | | |
| **3** | Jan. 26 | Public Speaking | In-class activities | Informative career speech |
| **4** | Feb. 2 | Informative Career Speech | | |
| **5** | Feb. 9 | History of Interpretation | The Greatest Good (on your own) |  |
| **6** | Feb. 16 | Introduction to Interpretation | Kent Kinney Trail |  |
| **7** | Feb. 23 | Natural Resources Interpretation | On-campus activities (Kings River riparian area) | Riparian resource speech |
| **8** | March 2 | Riparian resource speech | | |
| **9** | March 9 | **No Class** | | |
| **10** | March 16 | Fire History &Management | Microsoft Publisher | Interpretive Brochure |
| **11** | March 23 | **Interpretive Signs (Grant Grove, KCNP)** | | Field Trip Write Up |
| **12** | March 30 | Campfire talks | On-campus activities (Kings River riparian area) |  |
| **13** | April 6 | **Museum of the Sierra (Shaver Lake)** | | Field Trip Write Up |
| **14** | April 13 | **Spring Break** | | |
| **15** | April 20 | Interpretive Talks for Children | On-campus activities (Arboretum) | Interpretive kids speech |
| **16** | April 27 | Interpretive Talks for Children Speech | | |
| **17** | May 4 | Kent Kinney Trail work | | Final Presentation topic |
| **18** | May 11 | **No Class** | | |
| **19** | May 18 | **Final Presentation Time TBD** | | |

**Notes:**

1. ***This schedule is tentative***. Poor weather or conditions (i.e. high winds, water, and wildfire) may cause safety concerns and rescheduling to different days. Also, sometimes logistics for getting access to different sites will cause changes in the schedule.

2. Field labs require walking in sometimes rough terrain and being near water bodies.

Trails may have heavy brush. Weather may include high winds, rain, or snow on

some specific cases. Dress appropriately.

3. Attendance for field trips is required. If you cannot make it, you should by all means get field trip information because test materials are often given during labs and participation is graded.

**Student Evaluation:**

Students will need to spend many hours outside of class to review course materials in order to complete lab assignments and projects. All assignments and lab reports must be submitted one week after being assigned unless otherwise agreed upon. Late assignments and reports will receive a full grade-mark reduction per week and assignments more than 3 weeks late will be given a zero mark. Reasons other than bereavement or authenticated illness are normally not admissible justification for missing scheduled exams. Should a student miss an exam or field trip, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**This class is heavily weighted on your participation. You must attend the labs in order to participate.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Participation | 200 |
| Assignments | 400 |
| Lab Write Ups | 200 |
| Final Presentation | 200 |
| **Total** | 1000 |

**Grading Scale:**

A = 900-1000

B = 800-899

C = 700-799

D = 600-699

F = 0-599

***Please communicate with me if you will be late, absent, or have issues regarding class attendance. We can work something out- but only if you allow me to help you. Please meet me halfway this semester*. *If you have questions regarding grading, class content, or simply are having any trouble understanding something- please come talk to me. We are all here to learn and I am here to help! :)***