

NR 35 INTERPRETATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Syllabus

Course 56449 for spring 2021
Lecture Wednesday 2 - 3:50 Room FEM 12
Laboratory Monday 2 - 4:50 PM Room FEM 12
Plus Some Required Activities and Field Trips

Instructor: Darcy Brown
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Office Hours
Available upon email request

**VIRUS WARNING- BECAUSE OF SERIOUS RISK
OF COVID-19 VIRUS TRANSMISSION ALL
PERSONS ARE EXPECTED TO ABIDE BY
SAFETY PROTOCOLS AT ALL TIMES
THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER**

**DO NOT ATTEND ON-CAMPUS CLASSES IF YOU ARE ILL, IF YOU HAVE
SYMPTOMS OF INFECTION OR HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANYONE
BELIEVED TO BE INFECTED WITH COVID-19.**

You are required to wear a cloth face covering over your mouth and nose while in face-to-face portions of this class and while inside of school buildings, near the entry doors and when outside but near other people. You are required to wear facial coverings during laboratory exercises whenever other people are present in your area.

You are required to take action to sterilize equipment or other items that you handle before leaving an area and before allowing other people to touch those items.

Course Description

This class provides the opportunity to study and practice thematic environmental interpretation. Theory and techniques of public speaking with emphasis on the logical organization of information and development of ideas will be studied. Student practice will focus on public speaking and include interpretive talks, games, narrative walks, and living history.

Students will also study self-guided interpretive activities, and learn to create signs, brochures, and nature center displays, and host the FFA natural resources competition.

Students will practice environmental interpretation intended for audiences of school children and adults.

Course Objectives

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

CSLOs

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.

Textbooks (None Required):

Environmental Interpretation. 1992. Sam H. Ham, Fulcrum Pub. (*Recommended*)

Interpreting for Park Visitors. 1981, Lewis WJ. ISBN 10:0890620792 (*Recommended*)

Meaningful Interpretation. 2003, Eastern National. Edited by David Larsen. ISBN: 1-59091-019-2 (*Recommended*)

National Park Service Handles Helping Visitors to Grasp Resource Meanings

<http://www.nps.gov/idp/interp/handlesupdate.pdf>

Attendance

You should come to every assigned class whether face-to-face or virtual, and be in there on time. Arrival after roll is taken will be considered as a tardy. Two 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. Any assignment submitted after the due date will have 10% of the possible score automatically deducted.

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 during class 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.

Drop Deadline

Drop deadline is January 29 to avoid a "W".

Field Trips and Interpretive Activities

There may be several laboratory experiences required in addition to scheduled lecture times. This class is normally responsible for organizing and running the FFA Natural Resources Contest, which requires participation on a Saturday that is outside of the normal class schedule.

Public Contact Clothing

Required clothing for public contact activities (including work at the Fresno Fair) includes: a black forestry program shirt (tucked inside pants), long pants with belt, hiking boots or fire boots. You may wear a Reedley College forestry program hat. Shirts and hats may be purchased by contacting an instructor.

Reedley College Policies

To receive a grade for this course, students must complete all assigned work. Cheating or plagiarism will result in removal from the class and you will receive an "F".

Please be courteous to everyone in class. Courtesy includes an honest effort at sensitivity to others' individual characteristics or known triggers.

Please place cell phones on silent mode in class. No use of tobacco products is allowed in class or during laboratory and field trip exercises.

Accommodations

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., 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.

Grades

<u>Projects</u>	<u>40%</u>
Digital Sign	10%
Brochure	10%
Article	10%
History Report	10%
<u>Skill Demonstrations</u>	<u>20%</u>
Impromptu Speech	5%
FFA Contest Organization	5%
Thematic Statements Quiz	5%
Visitor Centers Quiz	5%
<u>Presentations</u>	<u>25%</u>
Visitor Center Presentation	10%
Campfire Talk	5%
Youth Presentation	5%
Guided Nature Walk	5%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>15%</u>
	100%

Extra credit up to 5% available for interviewing an environmental interpretation professional and turning in the interview report form.

Cumulative course grade will be based upon the following

A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
D	50 – 69
F	49 or less

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE UPON NOTICE)

	Lecture	Laboratory	Quizzes and Assignments
WEEK 1 1/11 & 1/13	Importance of communication practices in the management of natural resources	Introduction; impromptu speeches; developing a thematic statement	Impromptu speech
WEEK 2 1/18 & 1/20	Types of interpretive media and presentation styles	HOLIDAY - No class meeting	
			January 23: You are required to help with the FFA Natural Resources Contest.
WEEK 3 1/25 & 1/27	Signage; Self-guided tours; Interactive displays	Choosing and expanding on main points to support a thematic statement	
WEEK 4 2/1 & 2/3	Learning styles; Informative v. persuasive speech techniques	Digital sign creation	Quiz: Thematic statements and supporting points
WEEK 5 2/8 & 2/10	Entertainment value; Adaptation for target audience	Drafting subtext; Creating transitions	Digital sign due
WEEK 6 2/15 & 2/17	Written communication skills; Clarity and relevance	Brochure design; Speech drafting	
WEEK 7 2/22 & 2/24	Speaking skills	Brochure revision; Speech revision	
WEEK 8 3/1 & 3/3	Deliver presentation to class	Practice delivering presentations	Brochures Due Visitor center presentation
WEEK 9 3/8 & 3/10	Guided trail walks	Visitor centers; Interactive displays	
WEEK 10 3/15 & 3/17	Storytelling	Practice guided nature walks	Quiz: Visitor centers; Present nature walk
WEEK 11 3/22 & 3/24	Living history; Interpretation for regulatory purposes	Practice presenting to young audiences	Youth presentation due
WEEK 12 4/5 & 4/7	Methods and handles	History report	
WEEK 13 4/12 & 4/14	Journalism and news media	Methods and handles	History report due
WEEK 14 4/19 & 4/21	Campfire talks	Journalistic media exercise	
WEEK 15 4/26 & 4/28	Environmental education	Campfire talk	Article due
WEEK 16 5/3 & 5/5	Project Learning Tree	NO CLASS MEETING in consideration of effort to organize FFA contest	Optional: Interview report form due for extra credit
WEEK 17 5/10 & 5/12	Careers in environmental interpretation	Final Exam Preparation ONLINE	
WEEK 18 5/19	Final Exam	No Lab Class	