

FOR 335: Recreational Use of Forests and Parks

Fall 2019

Course Description and Objectives

The immense popularity of recreation in forests and parks is reflected in the more than 450 million visits made to U.S. national forests and national parks each year. Nature-based recreation – on federal, state, local, and private lands – provides countless benefits to people and society, including opportunities to improve physical health, restore mental well-being, spend quality time with family and friends, and reconnect with nature. Moreover, these experiences can foster support for the protection of these places. However, growing enthusiasm for recreation in forests and parks is not without consequence. Too much or inappropriate recreational use can degrade the natural environment and impact the quality of recreation experiences. Fortunately, these impacts can be minimized through careful planning and management.

These issues will be explored through the following course objectives:

1. Study recreational use and users in forests and parks, including past, current, and projected activities and participation
2. Introduce major providers of forest-based recreation, with a focus on U.S. agencies and organizations
3. Examine social and ecological impacts of recreation in forested environments
4. Outline management frameworks and alternative strategies and practices to manage recreational use of forests and parks
5. Review theories, concepts, and tools for understanding and managing nature-based recreation
6. Explore forest recreation career opportunities, application procedures, and job qualifications
7. Consider a diverse array of contemporary forest and park recreation management issues

Instructor

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Office Hours: Wednesdays, 9:00 am – 10:50 am; other times by chance or appointment

Class Location & Meeting Time

TNR 320

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 2:00 pm – 2:50 pm

Required Texts

Moore, R., & Driver, B. (2005). *Introduction to outdoor recreation – Providing and managing natural resource based opportunities*. State College, PA: Venture Publishing, Inc.

Manning, R. (2011). *Studies in outdoor recreation – Search and research for satisfaction*. Corvallis, OR: Oregon State University Press.

Additional readings as posted on Canvas.

Specific reading assignments are listed in the course schedule, and additional readings may be announced in class. Readings not in the texts above will be posted on the course website throughout the semester.

Quizzes:

To help facilitate learning of course material – and preparation for the exams – five quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes will cover material presented in each section of the course and are worth 10 points each. Quiz questions and answers (to be reviewed in class) should be used as study guides for the exams. Quizzes must be taken in class on the day that they are scheduled.

Exams:

There will be two written exams during the semester, each worth 100 points. Exams will be based on lectures, assigned readings, class discussions, and class presentations and may contain true/false, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, and/or essay questions.

Additionally, there will be an optional comprehensive final exam. The final will be based on material covered on the first two exams and will be worth up to 100 points. If the final exam is taken, the lowest of the three exam scores will be dropped when calculating the final course grade. The final must be taken in class on the day it is scheduled.

Recreation Issue Presentation:

Throughout the semester, we will explore a variety of contemporary outdoor recreation issues and trends through short in-class student presentations. Topics will be randomly assigned during the first week of class, and you will have one week to trade topics or to propose a new topic. Your assignment will be to present the multiple dimensions of your issue in relation to materials from class sessions, course readings, and other sources. Additional instructions for the presentation will be provided during class.

Participation:

Our exploration of forest recreation in Wisconsin and beyond will be greatly enhanced through the active participation of everyone. “Active participation” includes completing readings before class, contributing to class discussions, engaging in class activities, and asking questions after presentations. Twenty-five of the 50 points will be allocated for attendance and participation during classes following the second exam.

Grading

		<u>Grade Scale</u>	
Quizzes (5 @ 10 pts each)	50 pts	A: 93+	C: 73-76
Exams (2 @ 100 pts each)	200 pts	A-: 90-92	C-: 70-72
Presentation	50 pts	B+: 87-89	D+: 67-69
<u>Participation</u>	<u>50 pts</u>	B: 83-86	D: 60-66
Total	350 pts	B-: 80-82	F: <60
		C+: 77-79	

Academic Honesty

Please refer to the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities for policies and expectations regarding academic honesty.

Learning Resources

Students are encouraged to seek help from the instructor regarding any academic concerns or questions. Writing assistance is available in the Mary K. Croft Tutoring-Learning Center. Accommodation for learning or physical disabilities can be arranged through the Disability Services Office.

Course Website

Please check Canvas frequently for announcements, reading assignments, project instructions, and other materials.

Course Schedule

Section	Wk	Day	Topic	Reading Assignment
Recreational Use and Users	1	Sep 3	Introduction & overview	--
		Sep 5	Key concepts	Moore, Ch. 1
	2	Sep 9	Benefits of outdoor recreation	Moore, Ch. 2
		Sep 10	History of outdoor recreation	Moore, Ch. 3
		Sep 12	Participation trends	Canvas
	3	Sep 16	Nature deficit disorder	Canvas
		Sep 17	Reaching diverse audiences	Canvas
		Sep 19	Untold stories; <u>QUIZ ONE</u>	--
	Recreation Providers	4	Sep 23	Federal agencies
Sep 24			National Wilderness System	Moore, p. 257-264
Sep 26			National Trails System	Moore, p. 264-270
5		Sep 30	State and local agencies	Moore, p. 101-105; D2L
		Oct 1	Private/nonprofit providers	Moore, Ch. 7 & 8
		Oct 3	Partnerships; <u>QUIZ TWO</u>	Moore, Ch. 9
6		Oct 7	Funding for fish and wildlife	Moore, p. 293-298; D2L
		Oct 8	International providers	Moore, Ch. 10
		Oct 10	<u>EXAM ONE</u>	--
Recreation Impacts	7	Oct 14	Ecological impacts	Canvas
		Oct 15	Newer concerns	Canvas
		Oct 17	Crowding	Manning, Ch. 5
	8	Oct 21	Conflict	Manning, Ch. 9
		Oct 22	Depreciative behavior	Canvas
		Oct 24	Untold stories; <u>QUIZ THREE</u>	--

Management Practices	9	Oct 28	Overview	Manning, p. 273-279
		Oct 29	Information/education	Manning, p. 279-292
		Oct 31	Rationing/allocation	Manning, p. 292-306
	10	Nov 4	Rules/regulations/law enforcement	Manning, p. 306-315
		Nov 5	Zoning/site design	Canvas
		Nov 7	Early leaders; <u>QUIZ FOUR</u>	--
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Recreation Research	11	Nov 11	Carrying capacity	Manning, Ch. 4
		Nov 12	Social norms	Canvas
		Nov 14	Indicators & standards	Manning, Ch. 6
	12	Nov 18	Recreation specialization	Manning, Ch. 11
		Nov 19	Substitutability; Place attachment	Manning, Ch. 10 & 12
		Nov 21	Recreation Jeopardy (<u>QUIZ FIVE</u>)	--
		Nov 25	<u>EXAM TWO</u>	--
	13	Nov 26	Take-home activity	--
		Nov 28	Thanksgiving	--
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Careers in Forest Recreation	14	Dec 2	What's a recreation professional?	Moore, p. 22-23
		Dec 3	Career activity (NFAC 215)	Canvas
		Dec 5	Presentations	--
	15	Dec 9	Presentations	--
		Dec 10	Presentations	--
		Dec 12	The Future	Moore, Ch. 20
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FINAL EXAM: Wednesday, December 18, 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm