REC 434G - Environmental Interpretation

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Catalog Description:
A study of nature trail design and preparation, live and inanimate exhibit design and preparation, resource inventory, building, exhibit material purchase, vandalism, and other problems related to the development of nature oriented areas and facilities.

Text/Material Requirements:
One 3-ring binder (2" rings)

Purpose:
To provide a framework for individual professional growth within the broad range of skills and philosophies of environmental interpretation. To provide opportunities for students to develop presentation skills which facilitate communication with varied populations.

Course Objectives:
REC 434 students will:

1. acquire a working knowledge of environmental interpretation principles, vocabulary, agencies, resources and current literature.
2. construct an understanding of the history of the environmental interpretation movement.
3. develop new skills related to the interpretation of the natural world.
4. be able to utilize community resources for support of environmental interpretation.
5. develop attitudes which lead to commitment to participate in environmental maintenance and improvement.
6. understand what professional interpretation organizations they may want to join to enhance their own professional development.

Attendance:
Attendance will be taken and recorded at the beginning of each class period. If a student is tardy, it is the student's responsibility to see the instructor after class to insure that the recorded absence is changed to tardy. Since the development of professional behavior is one of the
objectives of this course, attendance is stressed. Please note that some of the instructor's assigned points are earned for punctuality and attendance (minus 10 points per unexcused absence).

**Evaluation:**
All assignments are due at the beginning of the period on the date given in class or identified in the addendum to the syllabus. Late work must be pre-approved for credit. In case of extenuating circumstances it is your responsibility to contact the instructor prior to the due date and arrange for a conference. During this conference a mutually agreed upon due date will be negotiated. Work submitted for any other class will not be accepted and assignments that have been plagiarized will be assigned a grade of "F" and could result in the student failing the course. Neatness, use of correct grammar, proper format, etc., will be considered in the evaluation of written and oral products; and unless otherwise stated, all written assignments must be word processed. Tests are to be taken at the announced time. In case of extenuating circumstances, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor prior to the test and arrange for a conference to negotiate a new testing time. The final grade will be based upon the following activities and assignments that will be weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination (comprehensive, emphasis on material covered since the last test.)</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibit Development Plan</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Interpretive Events</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-class activities, written assignments, &amp; instructor-assigned points for participation</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>800 points</strong></td>
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**Grading Scale:**
Grades will be assigned on the basis of the following scale:

A: 90 - 100%
B: 80 - 89.9%
C: 70 - 79.9%
D: 60 - 69.9%
F: <60%
**Academic Offenses:**

Please refer to page 283 of the 2003-2005 Undergraduate Catalog for a description of university policies regarding academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and cheating. Student work may be checked using plagiarism detection software.