

PLS (NRRM) 101 Introduction to Natural Resources & Recreation Management

Fall 2014, 3 Credits, SEC 101 (CRN 3825)

M/W: 01:00 – 02:15pm

Room: Morrow Library Commons

Instructor

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Office Hours: M/W: 09:50 – 11:50am, T/R: 10:50 – 11:50am

Other times by appointment

University Policies

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies listed below. Please read the full text of each policy by going to www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs and clicking on “Marshall University Policies.” Or, you can access the policies directly by going to http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/?page_id=802

Academic Dishonesty/ Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates/ Computing Services
Acceptable Use/ Inclement Weather/ Dead Week/ Students with Disabilities/ Academic
Forgiveness/ Academic Probation and Suspension/ Academic Rights and Responsibilities of
Students/ Affirmative Action/ Sexual Harassment

Required Texts, Additional Reading, and Other Materials

- 1) Main Text: Weekly reading materials will be assigned by the instructor.
- 2) Recommended, but not required:
 - Hammitt, W.E. & Cole, D.N. (1998). *Wildland Recreation: Ecology and Management* (2nd Ed.). New York: John Wiley & Sons (ISBN-10: 0471194611).

Course Description

The course is designed to help students of all disciplines to understand the principles and techniques used to manage recreation opportunities in natural resource settings. This course focuses on understanding problems that arise in natural resource settings as a result of recreational use and how these problems can be managed. The inherent problem of dual

mission, impact components, impact trends and patterns, monitoring techniques, and management alternatives including site and visitor management practices will be introduced and discussed. In addition, management frameworks such as the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) and the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) will be explored via a series of lectures. More than half of the class time will be devoted to group discussion/presentation on the basis of the instructor's weekly questions (**Pre/co-requisites:** N/A).

Natural Resources/Recreation Management Discipline-Specific Learning Outcomes

Students will **demonstrate** the ability to **identify** natural resource and or/recreation management problems, **propose** appropriate management actions to address those problems, and **evaluate** the potential implications of their proposed management actions.

Course Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Measures

Upon completion of this course, student will be able to

Course Student Learning Outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in the course	How student achievement of each outcome will be accessed in the course
Students will understand multidisciplinary characteristic of natural resources/recreation management	In-class examples/materials, student-led group discussion	Exam 1, group discussion 1-2, 13
Students will identify natural resource and/or recreation management problems (social and ecological/natural issues)	In-class examples/materials, student-led group discussion, low-stake writing	Exam 1, group discussion 3-8, article review paper
Students will understand current conceptual frameworks and mechanism of recreation resource management based on "carrying capacity" concept	In-class examples/materials, student-led group discussion	Exam 2, group discussion 9 (1 & 2)
Students will propose appropriate management actions (site vs. visitor, direct	In-class examples/materials, student-led group discussion	Exam 2, group discussion 11-12

vs. indirect management) to address natural resources and/or recreation management problems		
Students will evaluate the potential implications of their proposed management actions	In-class examples/materials, student-led group discussion	Exam 2, group discussion 10-12

Course Requirements

- 1) **Exams:** There will be two in-class exams during the semester (closed book test).
- 2) **Article Review:** Students will be required to review a research paper assigned by the instructor. The instructor will provide instructions for the expected content of assignment.
- 3) **Group Discussion/Activity:** Almost every week, students will be required to have a group discussion based on the questions that the instructor provides. The instructor will provide instructions for the group discussion, but individual students must perform the responsibilities of presenter and writer at least more than **five times**, in order to obtain full class participation point.
- 4) **Attendance & Participation:** Attendance will be part of your grade as noted below. If students miss more than 30 percent of the lectures, the instructor reserves the right to summarily assign you a failing grade for the course. In addition, 10 percent of the grade for this course is comprised of group discussions and activities, most of which will be completed in class. Student will not be allowed to make-up in class discussions and activities missed due to unexcused absences. Absences will only be excused if they have been pre-approved by the instructor or if the student is able to document a valid reason for their absence (i.e. illness, death in family, automobile accident, the Dean of Students, etc.).
- 5) **Extra Point Chance (I):** To celebrate GIS day this year (November 19, Wednesday), the IST and Geography departments will be jointly hosting a series of events (GIS/RS poster presentation, guest lecture, geocaching event, etc.) in the Memorial Student Center. All interested faculty, students and staff are invited to participate in this poster presentation and geocaching event. Any types of GIS/RS posters including your past and on-going projects will be welcomed, and a small prize will be given for best graduate and undergraduate posters. In addition, if you present your past and on-going projects, you will receive two extra points. If you attend the student poster presentation (either morning or afternoon session), you will receive one extra point.

- 6) **Extra Point Chance (II) - MU PROS Participation**: The Marshall University Park and Recreation Organization for Students (MU PROS) was created to promote active involvement in park and recreation related events on campus and in the community. Students in this course may earn up to three points of extra credit by participating in MUPROS meetings and events. A total of two points can be earned by participating in weekly MUPROS meetings (0.5 point earned per meeting). An additional one points can be earned by participating in MUPROS events (0.5 point per event).

Grading Policy

Exam 1 (30 pts.)

Exam 2 (30 pts.)

Article Review (20 pts.)

Attendance (10 pts.)

Group Discussion/Activity (10 pts.)

Total: 100 pts.

Grading Scale

100 – 90	A
89 – 80	B
79 – 70	C
69 – 60	D
59 – 0	F

Additional Policies and Expectations

- 1) ***Class participation*** is essential for the successful completion of the course. Students are expected to read the assigned papers prior to class and to come to class ready to discuss what they have read. In the absence of meaningful classroom discussions/activity, quizzes may be given to ensure that readings have been done.
- 2) ***Class materials*** can be found at MU-online (<http://www.marshall.edu/muonline>). The instructor will upload all lecture and class discussion files (pdf format) at MU-online in a timely manner. It is mandatory that students monitor the MU-online for updated class materials at least once a week.
- 3) ***Assignment*** (journal article review) is expected to be professionally presented. The instructor will provide instructions for the expected style of assignment as well as the sample of the review assignment.
- 4) ***Resources***: Students who find themselves in need of additional assistance are reminded

that the instructor is available during office hours. Again, the instructor's office hours during the fall 2014 semester are as follows: M/W: 09:50 – 11:50am, T/R: 10:50 – 11:50am.

- 5) **Course Evaluation:** Mid-semester evaluation will be done by the instructor to identify students' suggestions on the course (i.e. pace and topic/subject of the course). Final student course evaluation will be conducted during the last two weeks of the semester in a manner that maintains the integrity of the process and the anonymity of evaluators (online format).

Course Outline (Please note this is a tentative schedule and it may change upon class progress)

PLS (NRRM) 101: Natural Resources and Recreation Management		
Date	Day	Topic/Assignment
Aug. 25	M	Introduction: tragedy of dual mission
Aug. 27	W	Group discussion # 1: Dual mission in resource management
Sept. 01	M	NO CLASS – Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 03	W	Recreation and resource impact <i>Guideline for “Article Review”</i>
Sept. 08	M	Group discussion # 2: recreation and resource impact
Sept. 10	W	Impact to wildlife/water Group discussion # 3: impact to wildlife/water
Sept. 15	M	Impact to soil/vegetation
Sept. 17	W	Group discussion # 4: impact to soil/vegetation
Sept. 22	M	Recreation impact pattern
Sept. 24	W	Group discussion # 5: recreation impact pattern
Sept. 29	M	Trends in recreation use and impact
Oct. 01	W	Group discussion # 6: trends in recreation use and impact
Oct. 06	M	Impact factor I: environmental durability
Oct. 08	W	Group discussion # 7: environmental durability
Oct. 13	M	Impact factor II: visitor use Group discussion # 8: visitor use <u>Exam Review</u>
Oct. 15	W	EXAM #1 (1:00pm, lecture room)
Oct. 20	M	Strategies and concepts of management
Oct. 22	W	Group discussion # 9: recreation resource management
Oct. 27	M	Monitoring recreation impact

Oct. 29	W	Group discussion # 10: Monitoring recreation impact
Nov. 03	M	Visitor management philosophy/strategies
Nov. 05	W	Group discussion # 11: visitor management
Nov. 10	M	Site management philosophy/strategies
Nov. 12	W	Group discussion # 12: site management
Nov. 17	M	Guest Lecture I
Nov. 19	W	Guest Lecture II <u>Due for “Article Review”</u> * Note: GIS Day Event by Integrated Science/Technology & Geography: Poster Presentation & Geocaching (NOV. 19, Memorial Student Center)
Nov. 24/26	M/W	NO CLASS – Thanksgiving/Fall Break
Dec. 01	M	Multidisciplinary characteristic of natural resource management Group discussion # 13: natural resource management
Dec. 03	W	Lasting impact, conclusion and overview <u>Exam Review</u>
Dec. 08	M	EXAM #2 (2:00pm, lecture room)