NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Senior Seminar In Parks And Recreation Management

Course Number: PRM 498C

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: Parks and Recreation Management "Senior Status" in your last semester of coursework.

Course Facilitator: Judith A. Montoya **Phone:** (928) 523-8523

SBS West, room 258, PO Box 15016,

Flagstaff, AZ, 86011-5018

Judith.Montoya@nau.edu

Office Hours: T, 1:00 -3:00 p.m.; W, 9:30-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-2:30 p.m.

THIS IS A HYBRID COURSE WITH REQUIRED MEETING TIMES ON THE FOLLOWING DATES!

Wednesday, August 28 - SBS West Room 204, 12:45 to 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 11 - SBS West Room 204, 12:45 to 2:00 p.m.

Monday, October 7 - SBS West Room 204, 12:45 to 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 13 - SBS West Room 204, 12:45 to 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 19 - Senior Seminar Conference, duBois Center, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Course Description

The Senior Seminar is a capstone course for Parks and Recreation Management majors and provides for the culminating work in the program. The course focuses on 5 essential program areas: (1) preparing the parks and recreation student for their internship and for the transfer from the university environment to the professional environment, (2) assessing and refining student development related to identified program transferable skills, (3) completing and reflecting upon the student's learning portfolio, (4) continuing professional growth through professional presentation, and (5) independent student research focused on the core concepts of parks and recreation and the student's emphasis area. The coursework for PRM 498: Senior Seminar demonstrates competency in 4 essential University skills: critical thinking, the use of technology, effective oral communication, and effective written communication.

The course will include on-line lectures, self-assessment exercises, and review of the PRM Learning Portfolio and Liberal Studies curriculum, writing and presenting a professional research paper, and preparing for the PRM 408 Internship.

NAU Policy Statements

Course Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Effectively complete the process of a job application. *(COAPRT 7.01) As measured by Resume, Cover Letter, Reference Assignment.*
- Develop a professional resume and cover letter. *(COAPRT 7.01) As measured by Resume, Cover Letter, Reference Assignment.*
- Feel confident and well prepared for professional interviews. *(COAPRT 7.01) As measured by Mock Interview Assignment.*

- Acquire in-depth student-directed learning via a professional paper and professional presentation using the basic principles of parks and recreation management and based on the student's emphasis area. *(COAPRT 7.01, 7.03) As measured by Senior Research Paper Assignment.*

- Understand the requirements and procedures for PRM 408: Internship in Parks and Recreation Management. *(COAPRT 7.04)*

- Assess the Parks and Recreation Management program's transferable skills and their value and continue to development them professionally. *(COAPRT 7.01, 7.03) As measured by Liberal Studies Assessment Assignment, PRM Assessment Assignment and Research Paper Presentation.*

- Discuss the role of higher education in society and the individual's life and to assess the impact of the information industry on individual lives. *(COAPRT 7.01) As measured by Liberal Studies Assessment Assignment, PRM Assessment Assignment and Research Paper Presentation.*

- Discuss the impact of higher education and reflect upon his/her own personal PRM learning portfolio. *(COAPRT 7.01, 7.03) As measured by Liberal Studies Assessment Assignment and PRM Assessment Assignment.*

- Begin the transition from the academic setting to the work setting through individualized study into lifelong learning. *(COAPRT 7.04) As measured by Liberal Studies Assessment Assignment, PRM Assessment Assignment and Research Paper Presentation.*

Course Requirements

REQUIREMENT	**GRADE PERCENTAGE**
Introduction to Class	2%
Personality Temperament Survey	3%
Resume/Cover Letter/References	10%
Mock Interview	20%
Research Paper Topic, Question and Outline	5%
Liberal Studies Assessment Questions	10%
PRM Assessment Questions	10%
Research Paper	20%
Research Paper Presentation	20%
Total Percentage Points	**100%**

Grading Basis

A 90% - 100%

B 80% - 89%

C 70% - 79%

D 60% - 69%

F Below 60%

NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINES WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL!

Course Assignments

Personality Temperament Survey

This is a fun exercise that does not require a lot of time but tells you a lot about how to look for a career position that matches your values and gifts.

1. Go to www.AdvisorTeam.com/user/ktsintro.asp and complete the FREE online Kiersey Temperament Sorter questionnaire (takes about 10 minutes).

2. Copy the online output of your 2-character temperament type ***and*** the description or "portrait" of your personality type.

3. **Copy and Paste your information and submit directly into our class Assignment Submission box** so that the instructor may provide you with an interpretation of your results.

Resume, Cover Letter, and List of References Assignment

It is expected that this assignment will be completed in a professional manner, neatly developed and submitted on time. Your grade for this assignment will be based on Content, Format/Style, Completeness, and Professional Appearance.

1. Prepare a one page resume describing your education, work experience and job related skills using the information provided in the on-line lesson.

2. Prepare a one-page letter to accompany your resume that is in response to the mock job interview, which you have scheduled. (SEE MOCK INTERVIEW ASSIGNMENT)

3. Identify 3 references and prepare a one-page list of references to accompany your resume and cover letter using the format discussed in the on-line lesson.

4. Resume, cover letter, and list of references **should be submitted as a MS word.doc attachment into our class Assignment Submission box.**

Mock Interview Assignment

For this assignment you are required to contact a Recreation/Leisure Services Professional in your community to arrange a Mock Interview for a position under that person's supervision. You must ask them if they would be willing to conduct a "Mock Interview" keeping it as real as possible in order to facilitate the learning process for you. At the completion of the interview, the interviewer will then discuss with you the good as well as the bad points of the interview and ideally share with you some tips on what they as a "Professional" in the field would be looking for in a real interview. The interviewer will be required to complete and return an evaluation form to the instructor for verification. You are also required to **complete a self-evaluation and submit it as a MS word.doc attachment into our class Assignment Submission box.**

To summarize, your responsibilities for this assignment are:

1. Contact a Recreation/Leisure Services Professional in your community and make arrangements for a Mock Interview.

2. Once you have made these arrangements, please provide the instructor with the Name, Title, phone number and e-mail address for this person via NAU e-mail (judith.montoya@nau.edu).

3. Make any desired changes to your resume/references in preparation for the mock interview and take a copy with you to the interview**.**

4. Arrive **promptly** for the mock interview session at the pre-arranged time, dressed in a professional manner as if you were participating in an actual interview.

5. Grading will be based on your participation in the mock interview, the interviewer's evaluation, and turning in a self-evaluation form at the end of the mock interview.

Research Paper Topic, Question and Outline Assignment

TOPIC: The FIRST STEP in the development of your Research Paper/Presentation is to identify the **TOPIC OF STUDY** for your paper. For most students this will be based on your emphasis area: community recreation, commercial recreation, outdoor education, outdoor leadership, wild land recreation management, NAU minor, or an individualized program of study. (This step should be relatively easy!) Topics of study are very broad and include the potential for many different, specific research questions. Topic examples:

1. **Community –** fees, facility and activity standards, liability, constant innovation, personnel management, inclusion, etc.

2. **Commercial –** marketing, eco-tourism, technology, pricing, etc.

3. **Outdoor Education/Leadership –** minimum impact, liability, diversity, permits, outdoor education techniques, programming for outdoor education, interpretation, etc.

4. **Wildland Recreation –** carrying capacity, wilderness, agencies, law enforcement, fire, ecosystem restoration, human impacts, etc.

QUESTION: The SECOND STEP in the development of your Research Paper is to identify **A RESEARCH QUESTION within your topic of study.** Research questions are very focused and specific. Research questions should also have the scope and depth suitable for senior level study and research (this is a big step – not so easy!) **Research questions should be focused on your topic of study but have LIMITS identified for the who, what, when, where part of the research question.** These "limits" will help you identify the "current application" section of your research paper. Research Question Examples:

- How fees impact the participation of children between the ages of 6-12 in municipal based recreation programs in Flagstaff, Arizona.

- The impact of civil liability on the provision of skateboarding in the Southwest**.**

- Resort marketing techniques that increase revenue in the State of Utah.

- The implications of technology in applying the principles of Leave No Trace in southwest desert environments.

- How experiential education improves retention in elementary aged children: a case study in Prescott, AZ.
- Physical recreation impacts related to climbing in southwest environments.
- A study of the motivations and benefits of outdoor adventure recreation in PRM 331 and PRM 431 students.
- A comparison of SAR activities and training in Acadia NP and Yosemite NP.
- The effectiveness of the P-SAR program after 3 years in Grand Canyon NP.

OUTLINE: The THIRD STEP in the development of your Research Paper is to develop an **Outline** of the contents of your research paper. Your outline and paper should contain the following subtitles:

- Introduction
- Literature
- Current Application
- Future Issues or Concerns

There should be approx. 3-5 specific entries under each of the subtitles.

This assignment should be submitted directly into our class Assignment Submission box.

Research Paper

Prepare a **10-page paper,** (APA Format) using your RESEARCH TOPIC, QUESTION AND OUTLINE which you have been ask to develop in a previous assignment. The paper should use the following format and outline headings:

- Title Page
- Introduction
- Literature Review
- Current Application (with 1-2 case studies)

- Future Issues or Concerns
- References **(all reference citations should follow the APA style manual).**

Grading will be based on the following criteria:

- Submitted on time without excuses on or before the due date.
- Organization of the paper: outline, transitions, and logical paper flow.
- Readability (appropriate grammar and spelling)
- Research Question (appropriate, specific, good scope and depth, well stated in the paper and analyzed within the paper)
- Introduction (intro to research question and components, overview of the paper).
- Literature Review (background, history, what does the literature tell you.
- Current Application (1-2 SPECIFIC AND DETAILED site applications).
- Future Issues or Concerns (open to your creativity, at least 3 items related to the future issues/concerns/research of the question).
- References **(all reference citations should follow the APA style manual).**

This assignment should be submitted as a MS word.doc attachment into our class Assignment Submission box.

Liberal Studies Assessment Questions

Throughout your course of study at Northern Arizona University, you have had the opportunity to undertake a variety of Liberal Studies courses Answer the following questions based on the Liberal Studies courses you may have taken from the list below:

Liberal Studies = Math; English; University Colloquium; and Distribution Courses.

Distribution Courses: Cultural Understanding, Social and Political Worlds, Aesthetic and Humanistic Inquiry, Lab Science
and Applied Science.

1. Which Liberal Studies course was your favorite and why?

2. Which Liberal Studies course was your least favorite and why?

3. Please describe two knowledge/skills/abilities/perspectives which you gained in your Liberal Studies program that you think will make you a more effective Parks and Recreation Management professional.

4. Please indicate one of your academic strengths and how you think this will make you an effective Parks and Recreation Management professional.

5. Please indicate an academic growth area which would improve your professional skills.

6. Please indicate one future learning goal.

7. Please write a 350-500 word summary answering the following: How do the pieces in your PRM Learning Portfolio link what you have learned in your major to what you have learned in your liberal studies program?

Please submit your answers into your BbLearn assignment box.

Research Paper Professional Presentation

PLEASE NOTE: STUDENTS IN THE FLAGSTAFF AREA WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRESENT THEIR PAPER AT THE ON-CAMPUS PRM PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE at DuBois Conference Center on Tuesday, November 19! All Distance Students will post an electronic video file on YouTube or may have the option of using SKYPE to present in real time at the conference. If distance students are within driving distance, you may choose to present at the conference on campus.

Presentations of research papers for Distance Students should be in **electronic video form and posted in YouTube for the instructor to view.** A Power Point presentation to accompany the video presentation should be submitted to the instructor as a **Power Point file attachment into our class Assignment Submission box.** It is expected that your presentation will be of the very best professional quality using the following criteria:

- Utilize Power Point
- Fill the required time of 13-15 minutes
- Be presented in a professional, organized, interesting, creative and informative manner.

PRM Learning Assessment Questions

Throughout your course of study at Northern Arizona University, you have had the opportunity to undertake a variety of courses in the PRM professional core and emphasis areas. Some of the assignments in these courses have been designated to be included in your PRM Learning Portfolio. For this assignment, as the Capstone Course for Parks and Recreation Management, you will have the opportunity to reflect upon your learning experience at NAU by answering the following questions.

1. What would be your "ideal" job (title, duties, location) immediately following graduation?
2. Where would you like to be (related to your career) in 5 years?
3. Where would you like to be (related to your career) in 10 years?
4. What are three specific knowledge/skills/abilities that you have learned in your Parks and Recreation Professional Program.
5. Which professional association do you see yourself aligning with and volunteering for after graduation?
6. What “cause” or “passion” do you see yourself advocating for as a professional in the field of Parks and Recreation?
7. Please write a 350-500 word summary answering the following question: What Did I Learn in my PRM Program focus courses? (Think about knowledge/skills/abilities learned in each PRM class that you took.)

Please submit your answers into your BbLearn assignment box.

PRM 498 COURSE SCHEDULE

FALL 2013

PLEASE NOTE: NO ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE POSTED DEADLINES WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION!!

AUGUST

DATE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
28	CAMPUS STUDENTS! MEET IN ROOM 204 SBS WEST 12:45-2:00 P.M.
28-30	Get familiar with this Course Web Site by reviewing the entire site and introducing yourself in the Class Blog located in Course Tools!

SEPTEMBER

DATE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
2	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY - UNIVERSITY CLOSED!
3-6	Read Module1 -Topic 1, Job Applications
6	Personality Temperament Survey Assignment Due
11	CAMPUS STUDENTS! MEET IN ROOM 204 SBS WEST 12:45-2:00 P.M.
9-13	Read Module 1 -Topic 2, Resume/Cover Letters/References

13	**Resume/Cover Letter/Reference Assignment Due**
16-20	Read Module 1 -Topic 3, Interviews
20	**Mock Interview Appointment Information Due**
23-27	Read Module 2 -Topics 1 & 2, Research Topic & Question

OCTOBER

DATE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
9/30-4	Read Module 2 -Topic 3, Research Outline
4	**Mock Interview Self-Evaluation Form Due**
7	**CAMPUS STUDENTS! MEET IN ROOM 204 SBS WEST 12:45-2:00 P.M.**
7-11	Read Module 3 - Topic 1, Liberal Studies Courses
11	**Research Paper Topic, Question & Outline Due**
14-18	Read Module 3 - Topic 2, PRM Professional Core Courses
21	**Research Paper Due**
21-25	Read Module 4 - Topic 1, Inclusion In Recreation and Module 4 - Topic 2, Professional Ethics

NOVEMBER

DATE	ASSIGNMENT DUE
10/28-1	Read Module 4 - Topic 3, Public Speaking and Module 2 - Topic 4, Presentation
4	**Liberal Studies Questions Due**
4-8	Read Module 5 - Topic 1, Skills for Getting Started
11	**VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY - UNIVERSITY CLOSED!**
13	**CAMPUS STUDENTS! MEET IN ROOM 204 SBS WEST 12:45-2:00 P.M.**
19	**CAMPUS STUDENTS! PRM Professional Conference Senior Paper Presentation at DuBois Center (electronic file for distance students only)**
22	**PRM Learning Assessment Questions**
25-27	Read Module 5 - Topic 2, Completing the PRM 408 Internship
28-29	**HAPPY THANKSGIVING - UNIVERSITY CLOSED!**

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!