

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Title: PARK INTERPRETATION
Code No.: FOR 309-7
Program: FORESTRY
Semester: 6
Date: MARCH 1984
Author: DERROLL MURPHY

New: _____ Revision: X

APPROVED: _____
Chairperson Date

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

PARK INTERPRETATION
Course Name

FOR 309-7
Course Number

PHILOSOPHY/GOALS:

This course emphasizes the study of the arts of human motivation and communication to ensure public understanding of natural phenomena and the optimal role of man in nature. Planning and design of audio-visual presentations and interpretation facilities such as nature trails, amphitheatres and visitor reception centres.

METHOD OF ASSESSMENT (GRADING METHOD):

Lectures and slide tests	30%
Guided hike	15%
Progress report of major project	10%
Major project	20%
Short projects	15%
Attitude and participation	10%

Pass will be 55%
B 70%
A 85%

TEXTBOOK(S):

Sharpe G.W.: 1976 Interpreting the Environment, John Wiley & Sons, New York.

Grater R.K.: 1976 The Interpreters Handbook, Southwest Parks & Monuments Association.

GOAL:

Students will be able to justify the role of the interpreter in Canadian society by a study of interpretation past, present, and future.

OBJECTIVES:

Students will be able to:

1. Explain differences between interpretation and education.
2. Carry out any of the duties normally assigned to a naturalist in a park including:
 - a) Operation and trouble shooting of audio-visual equipment including repair of cassette and film tapes.
 - b) Preparation of nature and hiking trail brochures.
 - c) Preparation of exhibits and displays of several different types.
 - d) Preparation and presentation of slide shows.
 - e) Planning and leading of a guided hike.
 - f) Conducting of a campfire program.
 - g) Conducting an evening amphitheatre program.
 - h) Campsite visitation and instructing of others in techniques of campsite visitation.
3. Identify common flora and fauna found in Ontario parks.
4. List advantages and disadvantages of leaflet, sign in place, and audio trails.
5. Describe how Park Management and Visitor Services can co-operate on park signing both administrative and interpretive.
6. Design effective signs both administrative and interpretive.
7. List advantages of roving interpretation.
8. Discuss basic techniques used in interpretation for children.
9. Discuss winter interpretation under:
 - Trends
 - Results of experiments in interpretation for skiers

10. Discuss vandalism in parks under:
 - Causes
 - Framework for dealing with vandalism
11. Explain how to carry out a successful guided canoe hike.
12. List habits and typical habitat of nuisance animals in a park.
13. Explain the role of Visitor Services in Provincial parks.
14. Discuss National Parks under:
 - History
 - Interpretation
 - Scientific uses
 - Park pressures
 - Nature preservation
15. List process for planning a nature centre including how to develop funding.
16. Give problems with planning for a Historical Reconstruction.
17. Answer typical layman questions on trail layout and construction.
18. List interpretive aids commonly used on guided hikes.
19. Give a talk in which they properly; assess the audience, cope with distractions, follow a theme, use several techniques to create interest, use techniques for relaxation, assess audience feedback.
20. List the qualities they would look for in hiring an interpreter.
21. Explain the three dimensions of interpretation.
22. Relate the Provincial Park theme and list major advantages of using themes.
23. Describe in detail at least three areas where Visitor Services and Park Management can successfully co-operate.
24. Plan, assemble and present a slide tape show.

TOPIC	PERIODS	TOPIC DESCRIPTION
1	2	Explanation of course outline Definitions of interpretation Reasons for interpretation Discussion of slide show topics Discussion of major project
2	2	Detailed look at the preparation of interpretive trail brochures Assigning of slide shows and projects
3	2	Discussion on types of trails, advantages and disadvantages of each type Leading a hike - what it involves
4	2	Exhibits and displays Amphitheatres
5	2	Hiring an interpreter Relationship of interpretation to park management Provincial thinking on interpretation Discussion on mammals and birds to be learned
6	2	Three dimensions of interpretation Problems with interpretation Presentation of slide show and brochures for Voyageur trail
7	2	Signs as an interpretive tool History of Ontario Parks and its effects on interpretation Explanation of the role of Visitor Services within M.N.R.
8	2	Problems of a naturalist The role of the naturalist within a park Closing the season Advertising

TOPIC	PERIODS	TOPIC DESCRIPTION
9	2	Research on the Natural Environment Selecting the Interpretive media
10	2	Publications National Parks history, recreation, scientific uses
11	2	Sky interpretation Historic site interpretation Planning for historical reconstruction
12	2	Interpretation for children Photography
13	2	Nature centres Energy interpretation Using the arts in interpretation Interpretation as a management tool
14	2	Winter interpretation Off-site interpretation Vandalism
15	6	Student short projects

TOPIC	PERIODS	TOPIC DESCRIPTION
1	4	Detailed look at brochures and slides of trails
2	4	Field trip to Voyageur trail
3	4	Discussion and viewing of several professional and student made slide tape shows
4	8	Field presentation of Voyageur brochures
5	4	Field preparation for guided hike
6	2	Graphics
7	2	Audio-visual equipment
8	8	Guided hike presentation
9	4	Major project presentation
10	4	A look at and discussion of park movies
11	4	Field trip to Lake Superior Park
12	8	A look at and discussion of several local interpretive projects
13	4	Listening to and discussing tapes of evening and campfire programs

TEXTBOOKS:

- Sharpe G.W.: 1976 Interpreting the Environment, John Wiley & Sons, New York.
- Grater R.K.: 1976 The Interpreters Handbook, Southwest Parks & Monuments Association.

REFERENCE TEXTS:

- Peterson R.T.: Field Guide to the Birds, Houghton Mifflin, Boston.
- Peterson R.T.: Field Guide to the Mammals, Houghton Mifflin, Boston.
- Booth E.S.: 1970 How to Know the Mammals, Brown W.C., Iowa.
- Patterson F.: 1977 Photography for the Joy of It, Van Reinhold, Toronto.
- Lewis W.J.: 1980 Interpreting for Park Visitors, Eastern Acorn Press.
- Roulet N.T.: (Ed) 1980 Studies in Snow & Ice, Trent University, Peterborough.
- Alexander Allen: 1983 An Interpretation Programme for Cross-Country Skiers in Gatineau Park, National Capital Commission, Ottawa.
- Canadian Wildlife Service Symposium, 1970 More Effective Communication, Dept. of Indian Affairs & Northern Development, Ottawa.
- Brockman C.F.: Merriam L.C.: 1979 Recreational Use of Wild Lands, McGraw Hill.
- Association of Interpretive Naturalists Workshop: 1980 AIN80 Program Papers, Association of Interpretive Naturalist, Dermood, M.D.
- Marsh John S.: (Ed) 1981 Winter Recreation & Interpretation, Workshop Papers, Ontario Section Interpretation Canada, Peterborough.
- MacFarlane John: (Ed) 1981 Bibliography of Canadian Heritage Interpretation. Interpretation & Visitor Services Division, Parks Canada.
- Association of Canadian Interpreters Workshop, 1978, Interpretation for Children of all Ages, Association of Canadian Interpreters, Ottawa.
- Kordish R.J.: Graham F.: The Community Nature Center 16pp National Audubon Society.

Canadian Wildlife Service 1981 Final Report of the Research & Development of Computer Software for the Evaluation of Interpretive Programs at Wye Marsh Wildlife Interpretation Centre, Sage Consultants, Ottawa.

Edwards Yorke: 1979 The Land Speaks. The National & Provincial Parks Association, Toronto.

Tilden Freeman: 1957 Interpreting Our Heritage, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.

Canadian Interpreters Workshop: 1975 Program Papers, Brandon Manitoba.

Pukaskwa National Park: 1978 Information, 58pp Parks Canada.

Pukaskwa National Park: 1978 Provisional Master Plan, Planning & Development Division, Parks Canada.

Jensen C.R.: Thorstenson C.T.: 1972 Issues in Outdoor Recreation, Burgers Publishing, Minnesota.

U.S. Dept. of Agriculture: 1979 Backpacking 52pp. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington.

Charlton W.H.: (Ed) 1975 M.N.R. Visitor Services Seasonal Manual, Parks Division, M.N.R. Toronto.

Files R.T.: Naturalists Notes 27pp. Forest Service U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Horn E.L.: Talk Tips 31pp. Forest Service U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Trends Magazine: April-June 1975, Trends in Environmental Education, National Park Service Washington.

Trends Magazine: April-June 1974, Trends in Interpretation, National Park Service Washington.

Wagar J.A.: 1976 Cassette Tapes for Interpretation, Pacific Northwest Forest & Range Experimental Station Oregon.

Wagar J.A.: 1972 The Recording Quizboard, Pacific Northwest Forest & Range Experiment Station Oregon.

Boulanger F.D.: Smith J.P.: Educational Principles & Techniques for Interpreters, Pacific Northwest Forest & Range Experiment Station, Oregon.

Shomon J.J.: A Nature Center for Your Community, National Audubon Society, New York, New York.

Dick, R.E.: Myklestad E.: Wagar J.A.: Audience Attention as a Basis for Evaluating Interpretive Presentations, Pacific Northwest Forest & Range Experiment Station, Oregon.

Nanni C.: Interpretive Thesis, Lakehead University, Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Shomon J.J.: (Ed) 1968 Manual of Outdoor Interpretation National Audubon Society, New York, New York.

Planning & Producing Slide Programs: 1975 69pp. Pub. No. S-30, Kodak Motion Picture & Audio-visual Markets Division, Rochester, New York.