

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: JULY, 1988

Author: DERROLL MURPHY

New: \_\_\_\_\_ Revision: X

APPROVED:  Chairperson

Date June 7/88

Course Name

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	25%
Guided hike and brochure trail	15%
Progress report of major project	5%
Major project	15%
Detail report on major project	10%
Short projects	20%
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 Interpreter's 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.
  - i) Conducting an outdoor recreation skills program.
3. Identify common flora and fauna found in Ontario parks.
4. Explain 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 and properly assess the audience's comprehensive level, cope with distractions, follow a theme, use techniques for relaxation, creating interest, and evaluating feedback.
20. List the qualities they would look for in hiring an interpreter.
21. Explain the three dimensions of interpretation.
22. Relate the provincial Visitor Services 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.
25. Explain the major happenings of this area in the geological past.
26. Explain formation of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks.
27. Explain the rock cycle.

TOPIC	PERIODS	TOPIC DESCRIPTION
1	1	Explanation of course outline Discussion of short projects Assigning of movies Assigning of Chapters
2	4	Study of Brochure trails
3	4	Field preparation of brochures
4	8	Field presentations of Voyageur Trail brochures
5	5	Movies presentation and analysis
6	1	Content test
7	4	Guided hike preparation
8	8	Guided hike presentation
9	1	Discussion of evening and campfire program tapes
10	20	Short project presentation
11	3	Text book chapter analysis
12	1	Establishing a nature centre
13	4	Major project presentations
14	1	Content test
15	4	Seney field trip. A look at a sign in place trail, auto tour trail and visitor centre

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

Grater R.K.: 1976 The Interpreter's 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 and 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.

MacFarlane John: (Ed) 1981 Bibliography of Canadian Heritage Interpretation. Interpretation & Visitor Services Division, Parks Canada.

Marsh John S.: (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 1600 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 3lpp. 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, Orgeon.

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

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 and Audio-visual Markets Division, Rochester, New York.

Ministry of Natural Resources, Visitor Services Notes, Queen's Printer Ontario