SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

Sault College

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Resource Interpretation/Oral Communication

CODE NO. : NRT-301   **SEMESTER:** 5

PROGRAM: Integrated Resource Management

AUTHOR: John Clement

DATE: June 2007   **PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED:** Aug 06

APPROVED:

_____ _____
                                                      DEAN   DATE

TOTAL CREDITS: 3

PREREQUISITE(S): None

Hours/Week 3

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides students with practice and resources to enhance their interpretation and communication skills. A variety of resource communication techniques will be applied, including; abstracts, oral and poster presentation. Students will use various audiovisual devices (video, "PowerPoint", slides, etc.). Students will develop their own interpretive style, communication and presentation skills. Students will accumulate an "interpretive toolbox" of resources, references, tools and techniques. Interpretation theory will be discussed. Students will plan and deliver an interpretive program to an outside or college audience. Most projects will be integrated with assignments from other courses. The "presentation" component of the assignment will graded for this course, the "content" component will be graded for the other course.

Resource interpretation forums such as conferences, symposia, open houses, consultation and stakeholder committees, round tables, public meetings, guided hikes, etc. will be critically examined.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. **Compose a "Personal Philosophy Statement" concerning Resource Interpretation.**

   Potential Elements of the Performance:

   - Define "resource" and "interpretation"
   - Compose a personal philosophy statement about resource interpretation
   - Describe how everything in nature has intrinsic and interpretive value
   - Complete an assignment on personal connections with nature.

   This learning outcome will constitute approximately 10% of the course.

2. **Conduct several resource interpretation presentations.**
    Potential Elements of the Performance:

    - Describe the resource interpretation process
    - Explain the connection between interpreters, the visitor/audience, and the resource to be interpreted
    - Critically examine the presentation skills of self and peers using video and audio tape
    - Use techniques such as; humour, silence, pauses, intonation, gestures, dress, pre-assessment, etc.
    - Present a natural resource related lesson for the Envirothon
    - Complete a volunteer placement and critically examine one poster and one oral presentation of Sault College Woodlot
    - Present an Operational Plan for NRT-304
    - Research and conduct a lab for a first year NR course
    - Explain how your presentation skills have improved over the semester

    This learning outcome will constitute approximately 40% of the course.

3. **Produce written / oral communications related to Natural Resources interpretation.**

    Potential Elements of the Performance:
    - Describe principles of effective written communication
    - Explain the importance of proper layout and graphics in developing interpretive materials
    - Evaluate interpretive devices at the Bushplane Heritage Centre, Sault Canal N.H.S., etc.
    - Evaluate the written work of peers
    - Produce a poster for the Envirothon
    - Produce various fact sheets regarding SNR activities for SNR newsletter
    - Produce a poster for the iinterpretation of Sault College Woodlot
    - Conduct /Evaluate several Natural Resources presentations
    - Complete an Operational Plan for NRT-304. Format an "Abstract" for the same.

    This learning outcome will constitute approximately 30% of the course.

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4   **Use various interpretive tools and techniques**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Explain the sequence of steps for developing a program
- Explain the importance of pre-assessing audiences
- Use and maintain various audio visual devices including slide projectors, video cameras, digital cameras, projection units, slide and flat-bed scanners
- Use various software packages to enhance oral and written presentations (insert images, headers/footers, etc. into text)
- Use MS PowerPoint to present Integrated Project (NRT-304) Operational Plan to peers and to format the instructors oral presentation to the Old Growth Symposium
- Understand the usefulness of various resource interpretation tools including "Focus on Forests", "Project Wild", "Fish ways", etc.

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 20% of the course.

III.   **TOPICS:**

1.   **Composing a "Personal Philosophy Statement" concerning Resource Interpretation.**

2.   **Conducting resource interpretation presentations**

3.   **Producing written communications related to Natural Resources interpretation.**

4.   **Use of various interpretive tools and techniques**

5.   **The Resource Interpretation Process**

6.   **Using various audio-visual tools and techniques**

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IV.   REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Regnier, K., Gross, M. and R. Zimmerman. 1992. *The Interpreter's Guidebook*. UW-SP Foundation Press Inc. University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, WI. 101pp.   ISBN # 0-932310-17-6

Clement, J. 1996. Resource Interpretation (FOR-363) Study Guide. Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology.

V.   EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Resource Interpretation Philosophy Statement	5%
Interpretive Centre Critique	10%
In Touch With Nature	5%
Envirothon Interpretive Fact Sheet	10%
Envirothon Poster	10%
Envirothon Presentation	10%
Communications Labs	30%
Interpretive Project	10%
Final Exam	10%
	100%

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:

Grade	Definition	Grade Point Equivalent
A+	90 - 100%	4.00
A	80 - 89%	4.00
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50-59 %	1.00
F (Fail)	49% or below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
X	A temporary grade. This is used in limited situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course (see *Policies & Procedures Manual – Deferred Grades and Make-up*).	

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NR   Grade not reported to Registrar's office.
            This is used to facilitate transcript
            preparation when, for extenuating
            circumstances, it has not been possible
            for the faculty member to report grades.

VI.   SPECIAL NOTES:

Special Needs:
If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual
impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are
encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor
and/or the Special Needs office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703,
so that support services can be arranged for you.

Retention of course outlines:
It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible
future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary
institutions.

Communication:
The College considers **WebCT/LMS** as the primary channel of
communication for each course. Regularly checking this software platform
is critical as it will keep you directly connected with faculty and current
course information. Success in this course may be directly related to your
willingness to take advantage of the **Learning Management System**
communication tool.

Plagiarism:
Students should refer to the definition of "academic dishonesty" in *Student
Code of Conduct*. Students who engage in "academic dishonesty" will
receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty,
up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided
by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent
plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit
the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a
documentation format for referencing source material.

Course outline amendments:
The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in
this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the
availability of resources.

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Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

1.   All assignments must be submitted on time to pass the course, or
       be **penalized 10% of the total mark per day including
       weekends**. Check each assignment for the due date and time.
       Anything handed in past this time is late.

VII.   PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should
consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon
successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

VIII.   DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing)
should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary.
Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related
to the course in question.