PTRM 485 - Recreation Planning
Spring Semester 2016

Monday 2:10 – 5:00 PM, Room 106 Forestry

Instructor Info:
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Office Hours: Monday Noon - 2:00 PM, or by Appointment

Course Description

This course provides an introduction to and understanding of the planning, development, design, operations, and programming of park and recreation areas at a number of scales—urban, special districts, counties, regional, State, and Federal. We will investigate and gain a basic knowledge of planning theory and practices, zoning regulations and government policy, sustainable practices, and the design of parks and recreation areas. Importantly, the material covered in this class emphasizes the interaction between people and nature; indeed, we look at how recreation spaces are planned in accordance to how people behave within them, while considering environmental processes, ethics, sense of place, and social inclusion.

We are also interested in a number of influences and processes that form an integral part of recreation planning; namely, natural-based tourism, outdoor recreation, environmental education, cultural, economic, social, and environmental impacts and opportunities on spaces, and sustainable design and operations. Comprehensive and regional planning is a strategy used by a number of agencies and local municipalities for the creation and future development of river corridors, greenways and open space, wilderness areas and national parks, campgrounds, and local urban parks.

Upon completion of this course, you should have an understanding of:

1. the more contemporary theories and processes of recreational planning, incorporating public stakeholders and multidisciplinary subject matter specialists;

2. collaborative engagement tools and techniques for successful planning efforts in complex and contentious situations;

3. the policies and land-use zoning regulations that govern the design and management of parks and recreation areas at a number of scales—federal, state, and local;
4. case studies of recent planning efforts at the local, regional, state, and national levels, including public agencies, non-profit organizations, and for profit business planning; and

5. practical experience designing a park and recreation area in a complex landscape.

Course Mechanics

This course meets once a week for three hours. In addition, you are expected to complete the weekly reading assignments outside of class time, and you will be spending considerable time developing the Fort Missoula project design, both on site and utilizing remote design tools.

Policies and Procedures

The following policies allow me to teach without distractions, and it will provide each student with a pleasant atmosphere for learning:

- Please refrain from talking in class unless engaging in questions with the instructor or actively participating in group discussion. If you are disturbing the lecture, I may ask that you exit the classroom.

- No cell phones on in class! Please make sure your cell phone is off before lecture begins.

- **Be on time!** I expect everyone to be on time for class in order to not disturb the lecture. If for some reason you are late, I ask that you be extremely quiet and not disturb anyone as you enter and sit down.

- Please do not leave the class early. If you have a special reason for leaving early please contact me before class begins and sit close to the door in order to exit quietly.

- No reading of any material during class is allowed, unless I request that you do so as part of the class discussion. Please pay attention to each lecture, and participate in the discussions.

Grading

**Quizzes and Papers (200 points)**

There will a number of class assignments (both in-class and out-of-class) administered arbitrarily throughout the semester. These are exercises covering topics that we discuss in class and which are part of your readings. The purpose is to ensure that each student understands the concepts being discussed, practices and improves writing skills, completes the required reading assignments and attends each lecture.

**Exams (200 points)** Exam Dates TBD and will be posted at least 2 weeks prior to exam date
Planning Project (200 points): Fort Missoula Design Practicum

The final project involves a holistic approach to recreation planning beginning with a thorough review of pertinent literature, an understanding of policy, and finally an introduction to design concepts involved for parks and recreation areas. At the beginning of the semester, students will form into design consultant groups who, throughout the semester, will work on developing a project.

All assignments, planning project, and examinations, as well as the final grade, are based on the following scale:

A = 90 – 100%
B = 80 – 89.99%
C = 70 – 79.99%
D = 60 – 69.99%
F = 59.99% and below

Additional Information:

IMPORTANT DEADLINES FOR CHANGING COURSE OPTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Descriptions</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>Last day for students to Add classes via CyberBear without consent of instructor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>Beginning today all class registration <strong>adds</strong> must be done via the Override Form or and Electronic Override done through CyberBear. Consent of instructor is required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>Last day to withdraw from the semester (drop all courses) with a partial refund. Last day to change grading option to or from audit. Last day to Buy or Refuse health insurance coverage or add clinical health fee.</td>
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<td>February 3 (45th instructional day)</td>
<td>Dropping a course requires a drop/add form with instructor and advisor signature. There is a $10 fee at registrar’s office.</td>
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<td>March 29</td>
<td>At this point in the semester students are only allowed to drop a class under very limited and unusual circumstances. Not doing well in the class, deciding you are concerned about how the class grade might affect your GPA, deciding you did not want to take the class after all, or deciding you want to change majors are not among those limited and unusual circumstances. If you want to drop a class for these sorts of reasons, make sure you do so before March 28.</td>
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All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at: Student Conduct Code Web Page.

Please note, this class is offered for traditional letter grade only, it is not offered under the credit/no credit option.

Textbooks:

**No Required Text**

**Optional Texts**


**Class Schedule**

**Week 1 – January 25  Introduction/Defining Nature**

**Readings [Due for this week]:**


**Week 2 – February 1  Why Planning? Fort Missoula Design Practicum Overview**

**Readings [Due for this week]:**


**Guest Lecturer**

Donna Gaulkner, Director, Missoula Parks & Recreation

**Week 3 – February 8** Planning Process and Theory & Planning for the Outdoor Recreation Business Owner

**Readings [Due for this week]:**


• **Guest Lecture** Yve Bardwell, Owner, Dropstone Outfitting, Choteau, Montana

**Week 4 – February 15**

• **No Class on Monday the 15th – President’s Day**

**Readings [Due for this week]:**


**Week 5 – February 22** Case Study: Milltown Dam Removal / Two Rivers State Park Creation

**Readings [due for this week]:**


• **Guest Lecture** Kent Watson, FASLA, Owner, Kent Watson & Associates, Missoula, Montana

**Week 6 – February 29** State Policy Case Study: Montana SCORP

**Reading [due for this week]:**
• Montana State Parks Web Page


• Guest Lecture Maren Murphy, Montana State Parks Planner, Helena, MT

Week 7 – March 7 Planning in the Non-Profit Organization World

Readings [due for this week]:


• Guest Lecture Jono McKinney, Executive Director, Montana Conservation Corps, Bozeman, MT

Week 8 – March 14 National Recreation Area and Wilderness Planning Case Study: Rattlesnake NRA and Wilderness

Readings [due for this week]:


• Guest Lecture Jen Hensiek, District Ranger, Lolo NF

Week 9 – March 21 Urban Parks Design and Fort Missoula Stakeholders

Readings [due for this week]:


• Guest Panel Fort Missoula Stakeholders
Week 10 – March 28 Design Considerations and Tools
Readings [due for this week]:


- **Guest Lecture (Tentative)** Garrick Swanson, Missoula County Recreation Planner

Week 11 – April 4 Spring Break – No Class

Readings [due for this week]:


Week 12 – April 11 Site Design and Plan Evaluation

Readings [due for this week]:


Week 13 – April 18 National Park Service Case Study: Glacier National Park
Readings [due for this week]:

- **Ch2 Park System Planning Web Page**

- **Management Recreational Use Web Page**

- **Guest Lecture** Chas Cartwright, Former Superintendent Glacier National Park, Montana
Week 14 – April 25 Budgets and Financing

Readings [due for this week]:


Week 15 – May 2 Design Teams Final Project Proposals

Week 16 – May 9 Final Exam

Additional Resources:


- CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) Overview [CERCLA Overview Web Page](#)

- Brownfields and Land Revitalization [Brownfields and Land Revitalization Web Page](#)

- Missoula County Office of Planning and Grants—Brownfields [Missoula County Office of Planning and Grants Brownfields Web Page](#)