PRT 500/700 (8.27.13)
North Carolina State University
PRT 500 “Conceptual Foundations of Recreation”
PRT 700 “Advanced Leisure Theories”
Fall 2013
(Tuesdays, 8:30-12:30 am)

Instructor: Karla A. Henderson, Professor, 4012G Biltmore
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Office Hours: By appointment — I will generally be in my office on Tuesday afternoon, but drop me an email to confirm that time and any other possible times.

General description:

PRT 500: This introductory course is designed primarily for PRTM Master of Science (MS) students. The goal is to provide introductory information that provides the background for pursuing further graduate studies in the broad fields of recreation, park, natural resources, tourism, sport, and leisure studies. We hope to raise questions in each of the units and offer ways for you to think about the relationship between history, philosophy, theory, and issues related to areas of recreation and you future careers. The purpose of this course is to get you to THINK about aspects of leisure and recreation and to develop skills that can be applied in other PRTM coursework.

PRT 700: The purpose of this course is to examine history, philosophy, and theory as it can be applied to an understanding of leisure behavior and park, recreation, sport, and tourism management. The goal is to provide an advanced foundation for identifying and evaluating philosophical and theoretical perspectives applied to leisure behavior and PRTM practice. We will address the relevance of philosophy and examine the theoretical perspectives that guide leisure studies/sciences from the past as well as into the future. As a student you will have the opportunity to explore philosophy, history, and theory in depth that pertains to your PhD interests. I hope that we will do a critical analysis of our field and progress toward a greater understanding of the perspectives that are available.

PRT 500 and 700
A primary focus of these courses is that you learn to communicate your ideas well. Thus, emphasis is placed on thinking and writing. This syllabus is your GUIDE for the course. All (or almost all) the material that you will need to complete assignments is contained here. The course is divided into five units that have broad outcomes and individual objectives. A schedule of class meetings, reading assignments, and project information enables you to meet the objectives.

Textbook:
All other readings on MOODLE or available electronically through NCSU Libraries

**Expectations:** I assume that you have a professional commitment to understanding philosophy, history, and theory regarding PRTM and leisure behavior. Although I will provide guidance for the course, the value of the class will lie in what we can learn independently and from one another. Therefore, I would like you to think of this class as a class where each of us has a responsibility for the course conduct. I am not an expert on these topics (although I have thought about them a good deal). I look forward to what I will learn from you this semester. I expect you to ask questions and to contribute in the class. I expect you to attend all classes and to come prepared. I also expect assignments turned in on time.

I will not have regular office hours but I will be available in my office at a variety of times each week. I will be happy to meet with you at a mutually agreeable time. I will respond to emails as quickly as possible if I am in town. Email is the best way to contact me. I expect you to let me know if you are unable to attend class or if you are having any difficulty with an assignment.

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

The focus of the assignments is on critical thinking and synthesizing the materials discussed in class and through the readings. I expect all papers will be written in a professional manner. I expect you to write using the *American Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA; sixth edition).

Each of the assignments will be graded using the following criteria: Assignment is followed according to the guidelines given (10%), adequacy (breadth and depth) of analysis of the assignment (50%), direct evidence that material is synthesized into the assignment from the class material and readings (30%), and professionalism (writing style, presentation, organization, and grammar) (10%). The criteria for evaluation will be further described related to each specific assignment. In addition, writing is a critical skill for a professional at your level. Therefore, through this course we hope you will be able to demonstrate evidence of your writing ability and/or improve as the semester evolves.

Because the university requires it, you will receive letter grades (including (+) or minus (-) for the PRT 500/700 course. As graduate students meeting the requirements of the course, will result in a grade of “B,” which is generally considered “average” and the standard in graduate work. Individuals who do extraordinary work on a consistent basis will get “A.” Performance below the standard will result in a grade of “C” or lower. Each of you as graduate students should strive for excellence in all that you do.

**Individual PHD assignments** will be graded on a point basis as indicated in the percentages above:

- Reaction papers 90 points (6 @ 15 points each)
- History Paper/Presentation 25 points
- Philosophy Paper/Presentation 25 points
- Theory Paper/Presentation 60 points

**TOTAL** 200 points
Individual MS assignments will be graded on a point basis as indicated in the percentages above:

- Reaction papers 75 points (5 @ 15 points each)
- Issues Presentation/Group Paper 35 points
- Creative Summary Presentation 30 points
- Theory Paper/Presentation 60 points

TOTAL 200 points

Please do not to focus on points or the letter grade but on doing your BEST in all your work and striving to improve over the course of the semester.

**Reaction Papers**—You will write a reaction paper for the readings assigned for specified days. The 3-4 page papers (**no more** than 4 pages maximum double spaced in 11-12 point font with an additional reference page) should include a brief (2-3 sentences) summary of the readings (I will also have read the readings so you do not need to elaborate in the description!); an identification of the strengths, weaknesses, and relationship of the arguments presented; a description of how these readings relate to other readings undertaken (in this class or elsewhere); and a discussion of additional questions that came to your mind as a result of reading this literature. All PHD students are expected to include at least two related outside readings that were NOT assigned for the day (MS students are optional). Note: Even when you are not assigned to WRITE a reaction paper, I expect you to come to class having analyzed the readings in this same manner.

**History Presentation**—Each PhD student will choose a different aspect of the PRTM profession (e.g., sport management, youth sports, tourism, federal land management, NC State Parks, NC State PRTM, etc.) or a specific leader in your area of interest and provide a 8-12 minute presentation to the class about the background of this particular field of study or individual. You will also write a short paper (4 pages max plus a reference page) that summarizes the history and philosophy of the particular area or individual chosen.

**Contemporary Issues**—Each MS student will explore a particular issue that is current across the spectrum of PRTM and leisure behavior. The areas open for consideration are: curriculum issues in higher education, health and well-being, sustainability, social justice, technology, and deviant/purple leisure. If you can convince me of the importance of another contemporary issue, I will be happy to consider other topics. You will each make a 10 minute presentation about the topic and write a 3-4 page paper about the topic addressing what the issue is, the different perspectives surrounding its importance and value, and suggestions about how to address the particular issue.

**Theory Proposal**—Each of you will choose a theory or theories relevant to your research interests and ongoing work in leisure, park, recreation, sport, or tourism research. You will read broadly and deeply in our literature as well as related fields to
uncover as much as you can about the strengths and weaknesses of the theory. You will write a 6-8 page paper and make a formal presentation (8-10 minutes) to the class about the theory and be prepared to discuss and (if necessary) defend its potential applied to your interests.

**Creative Group Presentation Synthesis**—MS students will work with a group of your colleagues (each student will receive the same grade) to present a creative work/activity lasting 15-20 minutes that addresses the following charge:

"Illustrate the value and importance of leisure in people’s lives and how recreation experiences (all areas including sport, tourism, natural resources, and programming) contribute to the quality of life."

**“This I Believe” Professional Philosophy**—Each PhD student will write a 3-4 page statement regarding your philosophy of leisure, professional practice in your area of interest, teaching, and scholarship. This personal philosophy will reflect your beliefs but should be grounded in the works of others who may share a similar philosophy. The discussions in this class will contribute to this paper as well as your independent scholarship regarding the broad field of PRTM. In addition to the paper, you will lead an informal (no power points) discussion (5-10 minutes) with the class regarding your philosophy.

**Academic Integrity and Reasonable Accommodation:**

**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is expected of every student. The academic integrity policy can be found at: http://www.ncsu.edu/student_affairs/osc/AIpage/acaintegrity.html

**Reasonable Accommodation:** If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodation or if you have any questions related to any accommodations such as testing, note takers, or readers, please speak with me within the first week of the course. Students may also contact the disability Services for Students office at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, Raleigh, NC 27695-7509 Voice: (919) 515-7653 or TTD: (919) 515-8830 or http://www.ncsu.edu/provost/offices/affirm_action/dss/about/index.html with questions about such services.
Course Purpose, Objectives, Assignments, and Schedule

Overall Purpose:
To explore the historical and contemporary philosophical and theoretical perspectives related to leisure and PRTM that have (and are) guided(ing) the development of the field and the body of knowledge.
To develop critical thinking within and about the field of leisure studies and PRTM.
To apply theoretical perspectives to areas of research interest.

August 27 Get-Acquainted, Exploring the Construction of Knowledge
Objectives:
To examine the relationship between theory and “ways of knowing.”
To become acquainted with one another and the backgrounds and goals each of us brings to this examination of history, philosophy, and theory.
Readings:

Unit 1 –Foundations of History, Philosophy, and Theory
Objectives:
To explicate why the study of history, philosophy, and theory are important in a field such as PRTM.
To explore the historical and philosophical roots of leisure and the PRTM profession
To examine what philosophy has to contribute to PRTM

September 3 Why Philosophy, History, and Theory are Important
Readings:
Assignment: Reaction Paper #1 (Students with last names A-I)

September 10 Philosophical Foundations of Leisure
Readings:
Text: Wellman et al. Chapter 1 and 6
Paisley, K. (2011). Is college worth more than a buck fifty in late charges at the public library? In K. Paisley & D. Dustin, Speaking up and speaking out, (pp. 3-7). Campaign, IL: Sagamore Publishing.

Guest: 10 am Mickey Fearn, Professor of Practice
Assignment: Reaction Paper #2 (Students with last names J-Z)

September 17-Nuts and Bolts of Success in Grad School
Readings:
Wellman et al. Chapters 2-5
Guests: 9:30 Karen Ciconne (CNR Library)
8:30 Myron Floyd and Anju Singh (PRTM Graduate Office)
Assignment: Reaction Paper #3 (ALL)

September 24 History of the Profession
Readings:
Assignment: PhD: Presentation and Paper
MS: Reaction Paper #4

October 1 Issues in PRTM and Leisure Studies
Readings:


Guests: PRT 700: Teaching Circle Panel (11:00 pm)—Annette Moore, Kathy Gore, Ed Lindsay, and Susanne Morais

Assignment: MS: Presentation and Paper
PhD: Reaction Paper #5

October 8 NO CLASS (NRPA)

Unit 2- Traditional Theoretical Perspectives and Leisure

Objectives:
To determine why theory is of value in both macro and micro ways
To develop a common framework for discussing the terms related to theory (theoretical perspectives, theoretical frameworks, formal theory, substantive (grounded theory)
To examine the theory that is explicit in positivism and interpretive research
To identify the disciplinary bases and perspectives of theory used in PTRM by examining sociology, economics, psychology, and social psychology perspectives

October 15 Theory and Methods

Readings:


Guests: 10:00 Jonathan Caser; 10:20 Jason Bocarro; 10:40 Carla Barbieri; 11:00 Yu-Fai Leung
Assignment: Reaction Paper #6 (Students with last names A-I)

**October 22 Psychological/Social Psychology/Sociological**

Readings:

Guests: 9:30 Gene Brothers; 9:50 Roger Moore; 10:10 Jordan Smith; 10:30 Hugh Devine

Assignment: Reaction Paper #7 (Students with last names J-Z)

**October 29 Applied Theory/ Theory to Practice**

Readings:

Guests: 9:30 Erin Seekamp; 9:50 Myron Floyd; 10:10 Aram Attarian; 10:30 Michael Kanters

Assignment: Reaction Paper #8 (Students with last names A-I)

**Unit 3—Contemporary Theoretical Perspectives**

**Objectives:**
- To critically analyze and apply theories that may guide our understanding of leisure in a postmodern society
- To critique the issues surrounding theory in the field of leisure studies/PRTM

**November 5 Critical Theory**

Readings:


Guests: 9:30 Dorothy Anderson; 9:50 Mike Edwards; 10:10 Perver Baran; 10:30 Karla Henderson
Assignment: Reaction Paper #9 (Students with last names J-Z)

November 12 Postmodern, Poststructuralism, and Other Postisms
Readings:


Guest: (Save in case re-scheduling needed)
Assignment: Reaction Paper # 10 (PhD students only)

November 19 Presentations
MS: Creative Group Summary
PhD: “This I Believe” Presentations
Assignment: Presentations and PhD Paper

Unit 4—Theory Applications

Objectives:

- To articulate the current state of research related to leisure studies.
- To enable each student to present theory/ies that may guide research in an area of study.
- To provide feedback to each student regarding the articulation of theory he/she has chosen
- To write a paper that describes a theoretical perspective and theory/ies and some of the corporeal research of the student’s interest that could use theory(ies).
November 26 NO Class (Thanksgiving Week)
Prepare for Theory Presentation

December 3 Theory Presentations
Assignment: Presentation and Theory Paper Due

NO FINAL EXAM (unless I feel it is warranted!)