



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



## COURSE SYLLABUS

**CONCEPTS OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

Environment and Natural Resources 340  
 Winter 2008  
 Credits: 3

Time and Place:  
 M-W 3:30 – 5:00 pm – 210 An. Sci. Bldg.

**INSTRUCTORS:**

Dan West                                      John Hunter  
 Email: [dan.west@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:dan.west@dnr.state.oh.us)    Email: [john.hunter@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:john.hunter@dnr.state.oh.us)

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**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the quarter, students will be able to:

- The history of parks and recreation in the U.S.
- The rationale for park designation and organized provision of recreation opportunities
- The structure and goals of agencies providing park and recreation services under various types of control: Federal, State, Local, Private
- Key issues in the management of parks and recreation services: funding, sustainability, economic and social benefits
- The terminology of field and primary sources of information for parks and recreation professionals
- How to prepare for a career in parks and recreation administration and the professional standards of the field

**NOTE:** Changes to the syllabus may be made throughout the course. Any modification will be announced in class and or posted on Carmen. If you miss a course it is your responsibility to contact a classmate for any changes announced and to obtain a copy of class notes from that class.

**In order to establish a level of professionalism throughout this course, all homework assignments and the group project will be submitted in a typed format. Handwritten documents will NOT be accepted. Students with special needs must receive pre-approval from the instructor before submitting a non typed document.**

**TEXTBOOK**

*Kraus' Recreation and Leisure in Modern Society*, 8th edition. Daniel D. McLean, Amy R. Hurd, Nancy Brattain Rogers.

**COURSE FORMAT**

Most classes will involve lectures and discussion based upon the content of the course text book. There will also be a number of guest speakers coming from various parks and recreation backgrounds. Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions and participate in class discussions. Students are expected to complete each day's reading assignment before class. To encourage timely completion of the reading assignments, students will submit a number of short homework assignments. Because critical thinking, written communication skills, and group team work are all important for successful park and recreation professionals, students will be required to participate in one group project.

**EXAMS**

Two equally weighted exams will be given during the quarter. Students will be advised of the nature of the exams in advance of the examination period.

**HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS**

There will be a total of (4) homework assignments consisting of questions from the "Questions for class Discussion or Essay Examinations" section at the end of each chapter. Students are to answer concisely, but completely. Please submit a typed hard copy of your homework to the instructor in class by the due date. (It will be your responsibility to get the hard copy to the instructor by the end of class on the due date.)

**GROUP PROJECT**

Each student will participate in one group project. The group will consist of approximately 5 students and the group selection will occur during the second week of class. Group projects will consist of an in-depth study of a particular topic. Students will be evaluated on their overall presentation and demonstrated knowledge of the subject matter. Groups will be provided some class time to work on their project, but some outside classroom time will be needed to complete the project.

The group project will be broken into two separate grading opportunities.

**Installment #1:**

Installment #1 will consist of the group identifying and selecting a topic, preparing an outline of the topic matter, and identifying how the topic will be presented. The group will identify a group project leader, as well as identifying the roles of each group member. All group project topics must be approved by the class instructors.

**Installment #2:**

Installment #2 will consist of a classroom presentation not to exceed 15 minutes in length. Each group will provide a hard copy of the project to the instructors and will be required to present their project to the class. The classroom presentation will be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes.

The group project will be graded on the following – group participation, concise summary of the main points, logical flow of presentation, relationship to concepts presented in class and overall quality of any material presented or handed out.

A number of possible group project topics will be provided within the first two weeks of class. However, the list is only a list of possible topics. If the group would like to identify a topic of their own choosing, it can do so with the permission of the class instructors.

**GRADING & IMPORTANT DATES**

COMPONENT	POINTS POSSIBLE	% FINAL GRADE	DATE
EXAM #1	100	25%	
EXAM #2	100	25%	
	Comprehensive		
GROUP PROJECT	100	25%	
	Installment 1	40 Points	
	Installment 2	60 Points	
HOMEWORK	40	10%	
CLASS PARTICIPATION	60	15%	

**MAKEUP WORK AND EXAMS**

Make-up exams will not be given without prior permission from the instructors. There will be no make-up opportunity for missed homework assignments.

**CARMEN – [carmen.osu.edu](http://carmen.osu.edu)**

Carmen is a web-based system that allows you to correspond with the instructor, obtain class assignments, and check your grades. The instructors will use this system to communicate with you about the course. You are responsible for checking the course site and your OSU email account at least weekly during the quarter for course updates. Carmen can be accessed through any computer with web access, including the computer labs on campus.

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## Course Outline

DATE	TOPIC	READING	ASSIGNMENT DUE
Friday	Jan 4	Introduction:	
Monday	Jan 7	Chapter 1	
Wednesday	Jan 9	Chapter 2	
Monday	Jan 14	Chapter 3	
Wednesday	Jan 16	Chapter 4	<i>Homework #1</i>
Wednesday	Jan 23	Chapter 5	
Monday	Jan 28	Group Presentation Class Prep time	Project Installment #1 due All Groups
Wednesday	Jan 30	Guest Speakers	
Monday	Feb 4	Chapter 6	
Wednesday	Feb 6	Chapter 7	<i>Homework #2</i>
Monday	Feb 11	Exam Review: Group Projects Update by instructors	
Wednesday	Feb 13	<b>EXAM #1</b>	
Monday	Feb 18	Guest Speaker: Group Presentation Class Prep time	
Wednesday	Feb 20	Chapter 8	Groups #1 and #2 Presentation <i>Homework #3</i>
Monday	Feb 25	Chapter 9	Groups #3 and #4 Presentation
Wednesday	Feb 27	Chapter 10	Groups #5 and #6 Presentation
Monday	March 3	Chapter 11	Groups #7 and #8 Presentation
Wednesday	March 5	Chapter 12	Groups #9 and #10 Presentation
Monday	March 5	Guest Speaker	<i>Homework #4</i>
Wednesday	March 5	Exam Review: Make up day for Presentations	
		<b>EXAM # 2</b>	
		Comprehensive	

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