

REC 200: Recreation in Society

Spring 2022

Course Syllabus

Western Kentucky University
College of Health & Human Services
School of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport

Instructor: Eric Knackmuhs, Ph.D., Assistant Professor

Office Hours: MWF: 9 am - 11 am, TR: 8 am – 9 am, 2 pm - 3 pm, or by appointment.

Office Location: DA 2023

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Office Telephone: (270) 745-4680

Classroom: DA 2029

Class Meetings: Online

COVID STATEMENT

*All students are strongly encouraged to [get the COVID-19 vaccine](#). Out of respect for the health and safety of the WKU community and in adherence with CDC guidelines and practices of all public universities and colleges in [Kentucky](#), **the University requires that a cloth face covering (reusable or disposable) that covers both the nose and mouth must be worn at all times when in public areas within all buildings.** Students must properly wear face coverings while in class regardless of the room size or the nature of the classroom activities. Students who fail to wear a face covering as required will be in violation of the WKU Student Code of Conduct and will be asked to comply or will face disciplinary action, including possible dismissal from the University. Accommodations can be requested in special cases through the Student Accessibility and Resource Center ([SARC](#)): [270-745-5004](#) (voice), [270-745-3030](#) (TTY), or [270-288-0597](#) (video).*

All students must immediately report a positive Covid-19 test result or close contact with a person who has tested positive to the Covid-19 Assistance Line at 270-745-2019. The assistance line is available to answer questions regarding any Covid-19 related issue. This guidance is subject to change based on requirements set forth by public health agencies or the office of the governor. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website for the most current information. www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill

Wise Words on Recreation

“Leave all the afternoon for exercise and recreation, which are as necessary as reading. I will rather say more necessary because health is worth more than learning.” -Thomas Jefferson

“In our leisure, we reveal what kind of people we are.” -Ovid

Catalog Description

REC 200 introduces the student to recreation, parks and leisure history, philosophical concepts, and trends with attention to recreation sectors and employment opportunities.

General Education and Course Goals

The course helps fulfill the requirement for Category C: Social and Behavioral Sciences in Western Kentucky University's General Education programs. This course will help you better understand the concepts and relationships between leisure, recreation, play, and work from a historical, sociocultural, and individual perspective. The course will provide you with opportunities to explore personal and societal values associated with leisure and recreation; the impact of work and economics on recreation and leisure in contemporary society; the relationship between leisure behavior and the natural environment; leisure and equity; ethical questions associated with the use of leisure as a social good; and the similarities and differences of how society views leisure, recreation, and play from a regional, national, and international perspective. This course is designed to encourage students to think critically, understand contexts, reflect, and take action.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course each student should be able to demonstrate the following:

1. Identify and define the terminology and fundamental concepts associated with leisure and recreation.
2. Analyze theories and philosophies of play, recreation and leisure.
3. Formulate a healthy personal philosophy of leisure.
4. Understand the concept of the leisure profession and professional organizations, and the responsibilities of professionals in leisure and human services.
5. Identify potential career paths in recreation.
6. Identify, compare and analyze leisure service delivery systems.
7. Explore, analyze, and reflect upon motivations behind and outcomes of leisure behavior in various contexts.
8. Define and describe social functions of community recreation.
9. Discuss recreation's role in achieving social equity.
10. Identify and discuss significant events, individuals and concepts inherent in the historical development of leisure.
11. Discuss, analyze, and reflect upon the influence of travel, sports, technology, and pop culture on leisure behavior, well-being, and quality of life.
12. Recognize international perspectives on recreation and leisure.
13. Identify trends and issues and explain their implications to the recreation field.

Course Readings

Required:

McLean, D., & Hurd, A. R. (2017). *Kraus' recreation and leisure in modern society* (11th ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett. (eBook)

Strongly Recommended (especially if considering Recreation Administration major):

Schwab et al. (2014). *A career with meaning: Recreation, parks, sport management, hospitality, and tourism* (2nd ed.).

*Additional outside readings (where applicable) will be posted to Blackboard.

Important info on e-textbook:

This course participates in The WKU Store's Day One Access program. This program is designed to provide immediate access to required materials for all students at prices cheaper than any other option.

Required materials will be delivered to you automatically by enrolling in this course unless you choose to opt-out. By participating in this program, The WKU Store will bill your Student Billing account, and you will see a charge appear under this Term along with Tuition and Fees ("Account Summary by Term" under the Student Services tab) labelled as "The WKU Store Purchases" after the Add/Drop period. For more information on this program or to opt-out of participation, go to our information page, <http://www.wkustore.com/t-day-one-access.aspx>.

Course Policies and Expectations

Professionalism

A major part of college is preparing to enter the full-time workforce. Each course you take should equip you with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to secure a good internship, a good job, and a fulfilling career. Therefore, it is important you be professional in all you do. This includes, but is not limited to, attendance, punctuality, preparation, attitude, attention, body language, communication, and digital citizenship.

Syllabus Check

This is to check if you are reading the syllabus. Email me a picture of Milhouse, a character from my favorite TV show, *The Simpsons* and you will get five extra credit points. Due March 24 at 11:59 pm.

Technology Policy

Laptops, tablets, and/or smartphones will sometimes be used in class to access the e-textbook, conduct research in small groups, and to use polling and other learning apps. **Use of laptops, tablets, and/or smartphones for any other purpose is not allowed.** Similarly, **no ear buds, EVER!**

Communication

The best way to get in touch with me is to come to my office hours. This is time that each instructor sets aside for answering student questions and concerns. It is also a resource that is

severely underutilized, so please take advantage.

Outside of office hours, the easiest way to get in touch is via email. However, please keep in mind that, like everyone else, I receive hundreds of emails over the course of the semester. To help me out and get your question answered quickly please utilize all these resources, in roughly this order, to answer any questions you may have:

- a. your brain
- b. the syllabus
- c. course page on Blackboard
- d. the textbook or other readings
- e. your class notes
- f. a classmate
- g. email your instructor

In communicating via email remember our focus on practicing professionalism. While others may use email similarly to texting I expect your emails to be more like formal letters. Emails with informal language, slang, spelling and grammar errors, will not be taken as seriously as those that are professionally written. **Please include REC 200 in the subject line.**

Blackboard

This course uses Blackboard to communicate with students as well as post important documents (i.e., announcements, assignments, etc.). It is your responsibility to check Blackboard on a regular basis for updates. If you ever encounter difficulty using Blackboard contact the IT Helpdesk at <https://www.wku.edu/it/chat/> or 270-745-7000.

Assignments

Detailed instructions and guidelines for each assignment will be given in class and posted to Blackboard. Below is a brief overview of each assignment.

Engagement

To promote an engaging classroom experience and enhance learning, students will complete graded in-class activities. These may include but are not limited to **quizzes**, small group work, discussion board questions, individual writing, and class presentations. Occasionally, an “in-class” activity may be assigned as a **short homework assignment** due at the beginning of the next class period. **In addition, the instructor will evaluate each student’s level of engagement throughout the semester based on the criteria established as a class on the first day.**

Job Analysis

To learn more about the career options in the recreation field students will analyze a job announcement for a recreation job of their choosing.

Discussion Questions

Students will reflect upon six different questions throughout the semester in these short essays.

So...that's a thing?

As a condition of being human, leisure is experienced across all cultures in time and space. Often, people express themselves through leisure in obscure and surprising ways. Sometimes such behavior is documented online through social media and video sites. For this assignment, students will find one example of an obscure leisure activity and prepare a report on its history, motivations, and outcomes.

History Exam

This will be the only exam this semester and will cover the foundational background knowledge central to the field of recreation.

International Perspectives: Destination Showcase

In this assignment students will research what people do for recreation in another country and what type of tourist activity and attractions are popular there.

Site Visit Report & Presentation

Students will visit a recreation site, interview a manager there, and articulate the purpose, the scope of services, the objectives of programming, the sources of funding, and the population groups served by the agency. A written report will be turned in and an oral presentation delivered in class.

Personal Philosophy of Recreation and Leisure

Students will write their personal philosophy at the end of the semester. This assignment is designed to have students reflect on how their understanding of recreation and leisure may have evolved during the course.

Grading

Engagement	200 pts
Job Analysis	20 pts
Discussion Questions (5 x 20 pts)	100 pts
“So...that's a thing?”	25 pts
History Exam	100 pts
International Perspectives: Destination Showcase	25 pts
Site Visit Report	100 pts
Site Visit Presentation	25 pts
Personal Philosophy of Recreation & Leisure Paper	25 pts
TOTAL	615 pts

Grading Scale

A 90% B 80% C 70% D 60% F 59% and below

Late Assignments

All assignments are due in Blackboard (except in-class activities). Late assignments will be accepted with a 10% deduction per day late. However, any assignment more than three days late

will not be accepted. Please make note of all deadlines. If you are having difficulty with a deadline, please discuss the matter prior to the assigned due date. If you are having difficulty submitting an assignment via Blackboard contact the IT Helpdesk at <https://www.wku.edu/it/chat/> or 270-745-7000.

Writing-style Requirements

All formal written assignments requiring citations should follow APA (6th edition) guidelines for writing. The APA Publication Manual (6th edition) is available at the library or on Amazon. A good online resource for APA guidelines can also be found at <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>.

University Policies / Information

ADA Accommodation

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-512. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

Academic Integrity

The maintenance of academic integrity is of fundamental importance to the University. Thus, it should be clearly understood that acts of plagiarism or any other form of cheating will not be tolerated and that anyone committing such acts risks punishment of a serious nature.

Academic Dishonesty

Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the course work in which the act is detected or a failing grade in a course

without possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the Office of Judicial Affairs for disciplinary sanctions. A student who believes a faculty member has dealt unfairly with him/her in a course involving academic dishonesty may seek relief through the Student Complaint Procedure.

<https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-dishonesty.php/>

Writing Center Assistance

The Writing Center has locations in Cherry Hall 123 and in the Commons at Cravens Library. The Writing Center also offers online consultations for students who live at a distance or who cannot visit during our operating hours. Our writing tutors have been trained to provide helpful feedback to students at all phases of a writing project: they can *help you* brainstorm ideas, structure your essay, clarify your purpose, strengthen your support, and edit for clarity and correctness. But they will not revise or edit the paper *for you*. See instructions on the website (www.wku.edu/writingcenter) for making online or face-to-face appointments. Or call (270) 745-5719 during our operating hours (also listed on our website) for help scheduling an appointment.

WKU Center for Literacy Assistance

The WKU Center for Literacy is located in Gary A. Ransdell Hall 2066. At the Center for Literacy, students can receive assistance in developing strategies for **reading/studying to learn** and **writing for evidence and argument**. The Center for Literacy offers both individual and small group sessions throughout the semester. More information about the WKU Center for Literacy can be found on the website: <http://www.wku.edu/literacycenter/>

REC 200 Spring 2022 Schedule
(Subject to change)

Week	Date	Topic(s)	What's due this week?
1	3/21 to 3/27	Foundations of Recreation and Leisure	EdPuzzle: Welcome to REC 200 Read: Ch. 1 EdPuzzle: Key Terms Blackboard: Discussion Question #1: Theories of Play
2	3/28 to 4/3	Motivations, Serious and Deviant Leisure	Read: Ch. 2 EdPuzzle: Serious & Deviant Leisure Motivations Blackboard: Discussion Question #2: Serious and Deviant Leisure
3	4/4 to 4/10	The Leisure-Service System: Public, Nonprofit, and Commercial Agencies	Read: Ch. 6 EdPuzzle: Public Agencies pt. 1 Public Agencies pt. 2 Nonprofit + Commercial Agencies Read: Rec. Admin. Career Guide: Nonprofit and Commercial Rec. Sections Blackboard: Job Analysis
4	4/11 to 4/17	Social Functions of Community Recreation	Read: Ch. 3 and Ch. 5 EdPuzzle: Social Functions of Community Recreation pt. 1 Social Functions of Community Recreation pt. 2 Blackboard: Personal Philosophy Paper
5	4/18 to 4/24	Future Trends	Read: Ch. 11 EdPuzzle: Future Trends Blackboard: Site Visit Report

Week	Date	Topic(s)	What's due this week?
6	4/25 to 5/1	History of Recreation and Leisure	<p>Read: Ch. 4</p> <p>EdPuzzle: History pt. 1 of 2 - Schole or Ludi? History pt. 2 of 2 - Colonial Recreation Public Rec. Movement pt. 1 of 3 Public Rec. Movement pt. 2 of 3 Public Rec. Movement pt. 3 of 3</p> <p>Blackboard: Discussion Question #3: Schole or Ludi?</p>
7	5/2 to 5/5	<i>Final Exams Week.</i>	<p><i>Blackboard: History Exam</i> <u>Due Thursday, May 5 at 5 pm</u> <i>(Covers Ch. 4 and EdPuzzle videos from Week 6)</i></p>