

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

HIST 35043 Basic Skills in Interpretation

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisites: ENGL 10203 Composition II or ENGL 14343 Honors Composition, and HIST 21103 United States History I or HIST 21203 United States History II

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Introduces skills and methods of interpretation, including both historical and natural interpretation.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the methodologies used in historical and natural interpretation.
2. Examine and emulate a wide body of writing pertaining to interpretation.
3. Create displays and presentations using the methodologies of historical and natural interpretation.
4. Conduct original research and present those findings to a tour group.
5. Evaluate a range of national and state parks and sites, with particular emphasis on the different challenges of interpreting each site.
6. Identify sensitive issues in historical and natural interpretation.
7. Develop strategies to handle sensitive issues in historical and natural interpretation.

B. University Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking**

Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will synthesize material from various sources to complete projects.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will create several different presentations on different topics. These presentations will be designed for general audiences of different ages in a public setting.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will learn techniques and strategies for creating presentations that embrace multicultural aspects of historical events. Students will also learn techniques for conducting effective presentations for diverse audiences

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Definition of interpretation
- B. Role of the interpreter
- C. Basic methodology and skills of interpretation
- D. Different areas of interpretation
- E. Audiences for interpretation
- F. Ethnicity, violence, religion and other sensitive issues
- G. Planning historic site interpretation
- H. Planning for natural resource conservation
- I. Presenting interpretation to the public
- J. Accumulating and evaluating sources for interpretation
- K. Updating and revising interpretation