

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

HIST 35143 Interpretation Planning

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite(s): HIST 35043 Basic Skills in Interpretation

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Interpretation planning for historic sites, museums, and natural resources sites.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Differentiate between long and short range interpretive planning.
2. Describe and analyze the methodologies used in interpretive planning
3. Describe the purposes of interpretive planning.
4. Examine and emulate best practices in a wide body of writing pertaining to interpretive planning.
5. Assemble an interpretive plan.
6. Evaluate examples of interpretive plans from local, state, and national parks, museums, and sites.
7. Recognize and identify the importance of public and special interest group consultation in the planning process.
8. Evaluate inadequate interpretive plans and recommend changes.

B. University Learning Outcomes

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

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking**

Students will use critical thinking skills to 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 create 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. Determining appropriate interpretive services, programs, facilities and media
- B. Purpose, context, significance, compelling stories, themes and values in interpretive planning
- C. Long term direction setting, short term problem solving, and regular program analysis
- D. ADA and other accessibility issues
- E. Management goals and alternatives
- F. Mixing services and facilities for effective interpretation
- G. Long range interpretive planning
- H. Short range interpretive planning
- I. NPS Interpretive Database: A tool for interpretive planning