LSRC 353: Wilderness Literature

COURSE OUTLINE

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

A review of the writings of various wilderness adventurers both past and present. The emphasis will be on assessing their experiences in the wilderness, their goals, and the methods used to achieve them.

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop an awareness of the many values derived from the wilderness by outdoor adventurers both past and present.

2. Develop an understanding of diverse cultural attitudes towards the wilderness and what impacts may result therefrom.

3. Develop an appreciation for and understanding of the need for outdoor recreation and the unique opportunities in wilderness settings.

4. Develop a wilderness ethic of appreciation and respect through the writings of various naturalists.

5. Develop an understanding of the wilderness crisis today from an international perspective.

6. Develop an understanding of how discovery of the world around us can lead to discovery of the world within us.

TEXTBOOK

Baron & Junkin. Of Discovery & Destiny. Fulcrum, Golden, Co., 1986.

EVALUATION

Book Report/Oral Presentation:40 Points1st Writing Assignment:5 points (C/NC)2nd Writing Assignment:5 points (C/NC)Quizzes (four):40 pointsParticipation:10 points

QUIZ NOTES

- 1. Best four of five count towards grade.
- 2. First quiz Wed, Mar 3. Subjects: Opening lectures and first week's readings.
- 3. Remaining quizzes unannounced. Subjects: current week's readings plus previous week's discussion.
- 4. No make-up quizzes without PRIOR approval.

BOOK/ORAL REPORT

- 1. Typed (double spaced) 6 page minimum, Oral 15-20 minutes
- 2. Typed report due on same day as oral presentation
- 3. Select any book from the recommended list of international readings. Anything else requires instructor's approval.
- 5. Themes: Summary of book Relation to class objectives (EMPHASIZE) Evaluation of book
- 6. Book selection/assignment due Wed, Feb 11
- 7. Draft book report due two weeks prior to oral presentation
- 8. Substantial penalty points will be deducted from oral reports delivered late (unless previously authorized)

1st WRITING ASSIGNMENT

- 1. Spend approximately 2 hours writing (Must be in one sitting).
- 2. Subject can be ANYTHING (and this does mean ANYTHING).
- 3. Must be submitted typed, double-spaced; NO page requirements
- 4. Due Wed, Feb 25

2nd WRITING ASSIGNMENT: To be discussed later. Due Mar 24

LSRC 353L: WILDERNESS LIT LAB

- 1. Concurrent enrollment mandatory
- 2. Field Trip Fri-Sun, Mar 12-14.
- 3. Lab will be assigned same grade as LSRC 353
- 4. There will be occasional lab meetings, Wed 6 6:50.

COURSE DATES

- Feb 4: Introduction
- Feb 11: Lecture: Basic concepts of Leisure and Recreation Book report subjects due; LAB MEETING
- Feb 18: Lecture: Nature of self-identity as expressed by Aristotle and the Buddha
- Feb 25: Lecture: Nature of self-identity as expressed by Glasser and Sartre 1st writing assignment due
- Mar 3: Readings, pp. 1-40; 1st quiz; sample presentation; LAB MEETING Discussion Topics: Early attitudes towards nature as expressed by Bernard DeVoto, Francis Parkman, and John Teal
- Mar 10: Readings, pp. 41-84; LAB MEETING

Discussion Topics: Native American attitudes towards nature

- Mar 12-14: FIELD TRIP
- Mar 17: Readings, pp. 85-125

Discussion Topics: Women writers in nature: Rachel Carson, Mary Back, Ann Zwinger, and Annie Dillard

Mar 24: Readings, pp. 126-152; 2nd Writing Assignment Due

Discussion Topics: Discovering the self in nature as expressed by Joseph Wood Krutch, Loren Eiseley, Barry Lopez and Henry David Thoreau

- Mar 31: NO CLASS (Cesar Chavez Holiday)
- Apr 7: NO CLASS (SPRING BREAK)
- Apr 14: Readings, pp. 154-194

Discussion Topics: Nature as portrayed in fiction: Willa Cather, Zane Gray, James Fenimore Cooper, and O.E. Rolvaag

- Apr 21: Readings, pp. 195-242 Discussion Topics: Late 19th century attitudes towards nature: Theodore Roosevelt, John Muir, Edward Hoagland
- Apr 28: Readings, pp. 243-289
 Discussion Topics: Discovering the self in nature as expressed by Norman Maclean, Wendell Berry, John McPhee and David Bower
- May 5: Readings, pp. 290-328

Discussion Topics: Foundations of American wilderness attitudes: Ralph Waldo Emerson, Thomas Jefferson and Frederick Jackson Turner

May 12: Readings, pp. 329-369

Discussion Topics: Contemporary Wilderness Ethics: Roderick Nash, Aldo Leopold, and John Hay

May 19: Readings, pp. 370-399

Discussion Topics: Contemporary Wilderness Ethics, continued: Edward Abbey, William O. Douglas

May 26: Makeup Day

Misc. Notes

A. Plus/minus grading will be employed

B. Grading Criteria

The CSUN criteria for grading (as outlined in CSUN catalog) will be strictly followed.

Note that: 1. An Incomplete ("I") is assigned only as specified by Instructor and upon consultation and approval of the Instructor.

2. For Credit/No Credit grading, student must be doing passing work to receive "Credit."

C. Student Discipline

Inappropriate conduct by students (such as cheating on examinations) is subject to discipline as provided in Sections 41301 through 41304 of Title 5, <u>California Administrative Code</u>. Also applies to conduct on field trip (adhering to safety guidelines, etc.). Refer to CSUN catalog for further details.