

**RPTS 340**  
**RECREATION, PARKS AND DIVERSE POPULATIONS**  
**FALL SEMESTER 2014**  
**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 11:30 AM –12:20 AM**  
**117 KLEBERG CENTER**

Instructor: David Scott, Professor

Email: [dscott@tamu.edu](mailto:dscott@tamu.edu)

Phone: 845-5334

Office: 440 AGLS Building, 600 John Kimbrough Boulevard

Help sessions: Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (or by appointment)

Teaching Assistant: Clint Lum

Email: [clintlum@tamu.edu](mailto:clintlum@tamu.edu)

Office: 455 AGLS Building, 600 John Kimbrough Boulevard

Help sessions: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm (or by appointment)

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Course Website: <http://people.tamu.edu/~dscott/340/>

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## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will examine the impact of social class, ethnicity and race, gender, age, and a disability on the leisure/tourism patterns of people in the United States, and implications for recreation, park, and tourism delivery.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. We will understand the social, political and economic significance of recreation, park and tourism among diverse populations.
2. We will understand the major laws and court decisions protecting diverse populations and their implications for recreation, park, and tourism delivery.
3. We will understand unique leisure constraints that are experienced by diverse populations.
4. We will understand leisure preferences among diverse populations.
5. We will better understand the nature of prejudice and discrimination as it relates to the recreation, park, and tourism field.
6. We will understand major demographic changes that are occurring in the United States and what implications these changes have for recreation, park, and tourism delivery.
7. We will understand better how to go about planning and implementing recreation, park, and tourism services for diverse populations.

## **METHOD OF INSTRUCTION**

The approach of this course will include lectures by the instructor, films, discussions, and in-class exercises.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### 1. On-line Quizzes (100 points).

To ensure that you have read and made a point of understanding the assigned reading, 10 out-of-class quizzes will be administered via eCampus. To access eCampus go to the following webpage and logon: <http://ecampusprod.tamu.edu>. The calendar of activity will explain when the quizzes will be administered. Quizzes will be posted *72 hour prior to the class period* and you will have *30 minutes to complete the quiz*. If you fail to take the quizzes within 72 hours of the class, you will earn 0 points. There will be no make-up quizzes unless you have a university-recognized excuse.

### 2. In-class Work (60 points)

I expect you to come to class *fully present*. This means, first, reading assigned material, taking notes about the reading, being prepared to write reaction essays, taking lecture notes, and engaging in class exercises and discussions. Second, it means refraining from activities that will distract you, your classmates, and me from what is going on in class. To this end, I expect you to turn cell phones off (**absolutely NO text messaging**), and abstain from behaviors that are not directly related to course material (e.g., unnecessary chit chat, surfing the internet, doing crossword puzzles, doing homework for another class, and so on). Please provide me advance warning if you need to leave class early.

About half of the in-class work will be devoted to reaction essays. On occasion I will have you do a writing assignment about readings and ideas presented in class. Here you will react to and/or apply course ideas. Most of the writing will occur during class *but I reserve the right to assign the writing as homework*. In-class assignments will NOT be graded for spelling, grammar or punctuation. I am simply looking for thoughtful insights and applications. I will probably have you complete three of these writing assignments throughout the semester.

### 3. Essays of Films (120 points).

You will see three films this semester. One of the films will be shown in class; the other two will be aired outside of class and can be viewed via Media Matrix (<https://mediamatrix.tamu.edu>). After watching the movie, you are to write a brief essay (125 to 150 words) about some issue pertaining to the film. I have prepared questions (see Calendar of Activity) that will help you compose your essay. Essays will be worth **40 points each**. See the Calendar of Activity for when the films will be aired and when the essays are due.

Film summaries must be typed using 12-point font, double spaced, appropriately referenced and clearly printed. For each essay, include the number of words you wrote (excluding your name, the title of the paper, and references) at the bottom of the paper. **Points will be deducted if you do not follow this format**. See me if you have any questions.

### 4. Three in-class exams: 720 points total.

Exam 1 (240 points): Wednesday, October 1

Exam 2 (240 points): Wednesday, November 7

Exam 3 (240 points): Wednesday, December 17, 10:30 AM (final's week)

## **MISSED ASSIGNMENTS OR EXAMS**

All missed assignments and exams will be assigned a zero. The only exception to this is if you have a university approved absence. Please provide me *advanced warning* if you are unable to attend a class or turn in an assignment.

## **COURSE GRADING**

A = 900 or more points  
B = 800 - 899 points  
C = 700 - 799 points  
D = 600 - 699 points  
F = Less than 600 points

## **REQUIRED READING**

All readings are available on the Calendar of Activity on the course website. Look to the Calendar for a day-by-day summary of readings and assignments. Supplementary readings are available there as well.

## **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Disability Services in Cain Hall, call 845-1637, or e-mail [disability@tamu.edu](mailto:disability@tamu.edu).

## **SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY**

Consistent with Texas A&M University Regulations, scholastic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism and acquiring information from unauthorized sources) could result in your being given an F in the course.

As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one's own the ideas, words, writings, etc., which belong to another. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of that person. This includes (but not limited to) information collected from the World Wide Web, readings in course packets, and various in-class handouts. Plagiarism destroys *trust* among colleagues, students and faculty, thereby undermining free communication of ideas.

If you have any questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the latest issue of the *Texas A&M University Student Rules*, under the section "Scholastic Dishonesty." Here is a web link:  
<http://student-rules.tamu.edu>

## **TAMU EMAIL ACCOUNT**

Please activate your TAMU email account: <http://gateway.tamu.edu>. Periodically, I will email you class announcements.