

Geography 326

U.S. National Parks

Chemistry Building Rm 205

M-W-F 12:30 – 1:20 pm

Professor: Dr. Carol L. Campbell

geobird@nmsu.edu

Office: Breland Hall Rm 143

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00-3:00 pm

& Wednesday 2:00-3:00 pm *and by appointment*

Graduate Assistant: Rebecca Martin

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Office: Breland Hall Rm 144

Office Phone: 646-4156

Office Hours: Friday 9:00-10:00 am

and by appointment

Course Description: This course provides an overview of the National Park System (NPS). The emphasis is on exploration of the origins, landscapes, ecosystems, management issues, and conflicts in U.S. National Parks. The regional geography of the United States is used as a tool to understand the creation and protection of biologically and culturally significant lands. We will explore the parks as commons wherein humans use, and have a duty to protect, these public lands for future generations.

This course is supported by *Canvas*. Please log-in during the first full week of classes for access to course materials, links and grading.

Objectives: Upon completion of this course you will have

- A general knowledge of the types of parks, units included and descriptive statistics of the US National Park system.
- Information about the physical landforms, biodiversity and natural processes represented and how parks are managed.
- Information about past and current conservation attitudes, research, management and use of protected lands.
- Skills to make story maps of parks using ARC GIS on-line.
- Knowledge about where to find park information for visitors and researchers.
- Knowledge of the types of jobs and career opportunities in the national parks.

Grading Specifics

Quizzes (on-line via Canvas)	100 points
Park Regional story map(s)	300 points
Discussions/reading	300 points
Organ Mtn. Desert Peaks project	400 points
Resume for USAJOBS (2 types of jobs)	200 points
Adopt-a-pixel	100 points
Participation	100 points
Total	1500 points

See NMSU policies on fractional grading

A = <93%, B = 87-80%, C = 77-73%, D = 69-60%

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Tentative schedule

Date/Day	Activity	Reading	notes
F Aug 22, 2014	Introductions/Syllabus	Syllabus/Canvas	
M Aug 25	Introduce story maps	Field Guide Regions	IMPORTANT
W Aug 27	Overview of Parks	Fun Facts/Maps	Quiz 1
F Aug 29	Park Research	Internet & Library resources	
M Sept 1	No School**	-----Labor Day-----	
W Sept 3	Discussion	Conservation/Research	Outline due
F Sept 5	Story Maps Assigned	Discussion	
M Sept 8		Search engines	
W Sept 10	Discussion		
F Sept 12	Develop rubric		
M Sept 15	Discussion		
W Sept 17	Research in parks	NPS link	
F Sept 19			
M Sept 22	Lab day	TBA	participation
W Sept 24	Discussion	TBD	
F Sept 26	Lab day	Exercise TBD	
M Sept 29	Region 1		
W Oct 1	Region 2		
F Oct 3	Region 3		
M Oct 6	Region 4		
W Oct 8	Region 5		
F Oct 10	Region 6		
M Oct 13	Region 7		*W 10/14 withdraw
W Oct 15	Literature Reviews		
F Oct 17	Resume Start	USAjobs	
M Oct 20	Region 1.1		
W Oct 22	Region 2.1		
F Oct 24	Lab day		SWAAG
M Oct 27	Region 3.1		
W Oct 29	Region 4.1		
F Oct 31	Region 5.1		
M Nov 3	Region 6.1		
W Nov 5	Region 7.1		
F Nov 7	Reviews		
M Nov 10	Resume draft		
W Nov 12	Catch-up		
F Nov 14			
M Nov 17	Planning		
W Nov 19	GIS Day OMDP story maps	Rubric	Present
F Nov 21	TBA		
24-28 Nov	Thanksgiving		
M Dec 1	Resume Finish		
W Dec 3	Goal setting		
F Dec 5	TBA		
F Dec 12	Final	1-3 pm	Pizza

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Activities Details yet to be determined.

- Quizzes earn points for knowledge of organizational information about the parks and discussions of management theory and practice.
- Students give park **presentations** that demonstrate their creativity with Story Maps that allow students to explore and learn about specific parks while practicing their mapping and creative media skills.
- In-class discussions of research from and about parks will build your knowledge of relevant issues, research needs and challenges facing the parks.
- Resume and Employment opportunities in Parks: Students register on the government **jobs** website www.usajobs.gov to demonstrate knowledge of the opportunities as a NPS employee and **prepare your resume**. Turn in the welcome page when you log-in (print screen) and descriptions of 2 jobs **IN National Parks** that may be of interest to you. Your resume will evolve over the semester.
- Participation: Get outside and get on-line to explore the new local National Monument.

Academic Policies

Quizzes/ –NO Make-up quizzes. Only verified written excuses such as serious illness, bereavement, incarceration, etc. will enable students to take an alternate exam/quiz. In all cases, if you have a conflict – you must discuss alternatives with the professor BEFORE you miss a quiz or activity.

Withdrawals/Incompletes - Withdrawals from this course are the STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY and the instructor will NOT withdraw or drop students from this class under any circumstances. Incomplete grades will NOT BE GIVEN except under extraordinary circumstances related to serious illness, bereavement, etc. Documentation will be required in these limited circumstances.

Honesty – Academic Honesty is expected of all students. Do your own work. Cite your references in the text as you write. I do and will check for plagiarisms and cheating. As stated in the University Undergraduate Catalog “*Students at NMSU are expected to observe and maintain the highest academic, ethical and professional standards of conduct. Any student found guilty of academic misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary action.*” Please refer to the following website regarding plagiarism. <http://lib.nmsu.edu/plagiarism/>

Disabilities/Special Needs - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) covers issues relating to disability and accommodations. If a student has questions or needs an accommodation in the classroom (all medical information is treated confidentially), contact:

Trudy Luken, Director

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) - Corbett Center, Rm. 244

Phone: (575) 646-6840 E-mail: sas@nmsu.edu

Website: <http://sas.nmsu.edu/>

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Discrimination- NMSU policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status. Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct: sexual violence (sexual assault, rape), sexual harassment and retaliation. For more information on discrimination issues, Title IX, Campus SaVE Act, NMSU Policy Chapter 3.25, NMSU's complaint process, or to file a complaint contact:

Gerard Nevarez, Title IX Coordinator

Agustin Diaz, Title IX Deputy Coordinator

Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) - O'Loughlin House, 1130 University Avenue

Phone: (575) 646-3635 E-mail: equity@nmsu.edu

Website: <http://www.nmsu.edu/~eeo/>

****A point of clarification:** If a student drops by 5pm on the last day to cancel a class –a “W” will not appear on his /her transcript. After the last day to cancel a class and up to the deadline to drop a course with a “W” will appear on the transcript and the student will not receive a refund of any tuition.



Map of Lewis and Clark's track across Western America, published 1814.