

Introduction to Heritage Resource Studies (a sample syllabus)

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Philosophy:

Introduction to Heritage Resource Studies provides an overview of the field and its relation to allied professions, such as architecture, planning, and geography. The interdependent nature of the built, natural, and social environment is emphasized through the context of student's own personal experiences, through case studies, and through practitioners (who come as guest lecturers or host site visits).

Historic preservation professionals are becoming increasingly important players in developing policy, planning, implementing, and assessing issues that affect our daily lives and communities. At the same time, 'post-modern, progressive preservation' is increasing the capacity of individuals and communities to interpret the significance of their own, immediate environment, and to affect its stewardship and change.

Therefore, this course introduces you to career opportunities and current professional practices. It enables you to become an informed, capable professional and--perhaps most importantly--helps you empower others, strengthen their capacity to participate in the preservation (both cultural and political) process; serve as a liaison between them and resources; and forge new partnerships.

Required Readings: (Available at Bookstore)

Earl, James. *Building Conservation Philosophy* (photocopied sections)

Gardner, James and Peter LaPaglia. *Public History* (photocopied sections)

Jacobs, Jane. *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*

Kunstler, James. *Geography of Nowhere*

Tyler, Norman. *Historic Preservation*

National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin #* (photocopied)

Other photocopies to be announced.

Recommended purchase:

McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*.

Murtagh, William J. *Keeping Time*

Schlereth, Thomas. *Material Culture Studies in America*

Assignments:

Course will be evaluated on five areas:

1. Participation. I feel that participation on the class is essential. Class discussions and preparation for class will account for 10 percent of the grade.
2. Class discussion leadership. You will be responsible for preparing 10-15 questions related to the topic of your assigned day. You will lead the discussion for part of the class. This will account for 5 percent of the grade.
3. Three five page papers. There will be three assigned papers for this class. The first will be a "placemaker" paper on a significant "placemaker" in your selected

community. The second will be a paper on the nature of HRS and what those in the field do. The third will be a book review and comparison of two books of your choice. Each will be worth 10 percent, for a total of 30 percent of your grade.

4. Final research paper. To finish the class you will be required to complete a fifteen page paper using articles and books, as well as physical material culture, about a topic of your choice in Heritage Resource Studies. This will be worth 30 percent of your grade.
5. Final exam. A final exam will be held with details to be announced. This will be worth 25 percent of your grade.

Schedule of class:

September	
1	Introduction: pass out syllabus, discuss class, and assign dates of class discussions. Discuss what HRS is, consider your futures in HRS.
8	First half of <i>Historic Preservation</i> . Discuss what historic preservation is. Go to library for second half of class to discuss research methods.
15	Read <i>Building Conservation Philosophies</i> . Discuss what conservation is. Second half of class will include discussion with John Vaughn, architectural conservator.
22	All of <i>Life and Death</i> . Discuss what historic preservation planning. Second half of class will include discussion with Fred Stachura, preservation planner. Book comparison assignment due.
29	Read assigned photocopies. Bristol walking tour.
October	
6	Second half of <i>Historic Preservation</i> . Discuss the role architects and allied professions play in historic preservation. Second half of class will include discussion with architect, TBA.
9	Read assigned photocopies. Field Trip to Providence
13	Read <i>National Register Bulletin</i> . Discuss documentation techniques, National Register, other federal, state, local protection techniques.
20	Read archives article from <i>Public History</i> and assigned photocopies. Discuss what an archivist does. Trip to Bristol Town Hall to see archives. Placemaker assignment due.
27	Read museums article from <i>Public History</i> and assigned photocopies. Discuss what a museum professional does. Trip to Blithewold for tour and discussion.
November	
3	Read cultural resource management from <i>Public History</i> and assigned photocopies. Discuss what a cultural resource manager does. Second half of class discussion with archaeologist, TBA.
10	All of <i>Geography of Nowhere</i> . Discuss how sprawl and modern development has changed the quality of our communities. Slide program and integration of previously discussed topics.
17	The Heritage Resource professional. Discuss how HRS professionals integrate the fields. We will discuss professional practices and ethics. Nature of HRS paper due.

Thanksgiving	No class.
December	
1	Final discussions. Final exam will be outlined.
8	Final project due. Presentations of projects and discussion.
Final Exams	Class TBA.

Paper Return Policy:

All papers are kept on file in the instructor's office during the semester. On the day a paper is handed back, students will be given the opportunity to review their performance and ask questions. Students may also review papers by coming to the instructor's office during office hours.

Computer Problems:

When completing all assignments, students are expected to allow sufficient time for computer-related problems, including printing. However, every student in the course is allotted one (1), and only one, computer "freebie" for the semester with respect to late assignments. This "freebie" will be permitted, provided that the student notifies the instructor before class and turns the assignment in within 24 hours.