

Eastern Illinois University
EIU 4191G, The American Perspective, Honors

1. Catalog Description

- A. Course level: EIU 4191G
- B. Title: Leisure Time: The American Perspective, Honors
- C. Credit (4-0-4)
- D. Term to be offered (F, S, Su)
- E. Leis Time Honors
- F. Same
- G. Prerequisite: 75 semester hours and admission to University Honors Program
 Recreation Administration majors are excluded
- H. Course is writing intensive

2. Student learning objectives

- *To develop an understanding of the difference between leisure, recreation and play. CT (Critical Thinking)
- *To have students utilize effective communication tools, including written reports, oral reports and class discussion. EL -OR (Enhancing Literacy-Oral Communication)
- *To develop an understanding of leisure throughout the life cycle. CT (Critical Thinking)
- *Discuss the major issues, which focus on contemporary leisure. CT (Critical Thinking)
- *To engage in dialogue about the effects of leisure on personal relationships. EL-OC (Enhancing Literacy-Oral Communication)
- *Students will learn the value of leisure time in modern society. CT (Critical Thinking)
- *Students will learn how and why leisure is shaped by gender, class and culture. GC &CT (Global Citizenship & Critical Thinking)
- *Conduct research using both primary and secondary sources. EL (Enhancing Literacy)

3. Course Outline

This course is designed to reflect many of the current issues that have emerged in contemporary society. Leisure is seen to be constructed from a wide diversity of cultural elements. During this course students will be exposed to a variety of these contemporary issues.

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| Week 1 & 2 | Introduction to the course, evaluation, and overview of the semester.
Introduction to the concept of leisure in our modern society, its origins, various definitions and principles applied to leisure time. |
| Week 3 | Social Nature of Leisure
1. Leisure is learned behavior
2. Leisure is cultural and social
3. Leisure has roles and expectations |
| Week 4 | Leisure and the Life Course: Children and Youth
1. Childhood and play
2. Youth, recreation and leisure |
| Week 5 | Leisure and the Life Course: Adulthood and aging
1. Adulthood: Age and developmental changes |

2. Later life and aging

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| Week 6 | Leisure and work issues
1. The impacts of the industrial revolution
2. Work and leisure today
3. Vacation and holidays through-out the world |
| Week 7 | Gender, Recreation and Leisure
1. Issues of girls and boys
2. Women and men
3. The perception of women as the social organizers |
| Week 8 | Impacts of Ethnicity, Race and Social Class
1. Stereotypes and inequities of ethnic groups
2. Leisure and social class |
| Week 9 | Popular culture and Mass Media
1. Popular culture defined
2. Print, visual, and auditory media |
| Week 10 | Outdoor Recreation Resources
1. National resources providers
2. Activities in natural resource settings
3. Conflicts between users, developers, and preservers |
| Week 11 | Recreation Opportunities in the Community
1. Public parks and recreation
2. Commercial agencies
3. Not-for profit agencies in local communities |
| Week 12 | University assessment activities (not graded) |
| Week 13 | Travel and Tourism
1. Social and cultural impacts of eco-tourism
2. Styles of travelers |
| Week 14 | The World of Indulgent Leisure
1. Substance use as a social activity
2. Gambling
3. Violence in sport as a participant or spectator |
| Week 15 | The Problems, Trends and Future of Recreation
1. Impacts of technology on leisure
2. Economic and cultural globalization |

4. Evaluation of student learning

- A. 1. Students will write summaries on carefully selected readings that demonstrate key issues in the study of leisure. This course revolves more around the issues than the results of research and theory building.

should 2. A schedule of debates for the term will be drawn up. Students can then sign up for the “yes” or “no” side for at least one debate. Each team presents its side of the debate to initiate class discussion. Teams search for material and evidence outside the text.

- B. Each student will write a research paper on cultural diversity in leisure. The course evaluation indicates that over 70% of the final grade result from writing assignments.

Research paper	35%
Major issue paper	20%
Written Summaries	15%
Class participation and discussion	15%
Student debates	

15%

100%

Each student will write a research paper on cultural diversity in leisure. The research paper will be returned to the students after preliminary evaluation for further revision before it is graded.

5. Rationale

- A. General Education Segment: Senior Seminar
- B. Prerequisite: 75 hours completed
- C. Similarity to existing courses: none
- D. Course will not be required in any majors or programs other than general education senior seminar

6. Implementation

- A. Initial instructor: William A. Smith
- B. Textbook
 - *Kelly, John R., Freysinger, Valeria J., (2000) 21st Century Leisure: Current Issues. Needham Heights, Massachusetts: A Pearson Education Company.
 - *Supplemental readings will be assigned from the textbook.
- C. Additional costs: none
- D. Term first offered: Fall 2001

7. Community College Transfer: not applicable

8. Date approved by Department: 4-14-2000

9. Date approved by College Curriculum Committee: 4-24-2000

10. Date approved by Senior Seminar Advisory Committee: 11-13-2000

11. Date approved by CAA: 12-7-2000

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