RECR 611
Theory of Leisure and Recreation

Catalog Course Description:

Foundations of theory and the professional organization of the field of recreation. Exploration of the social, psychological, cultural, economic, physical, and environmental determinants of leisure behavior. Critical analysis of the growing body of research and literature in the field.

Course Teaching Methods:

1. Critical readings, in-class discussions and discussion leadership
3. Class presentations of research reviews
4. Critical research reviews and analyses of topics in the course text
5. Comprehensive literature review for a graduate thesis or project

Course Core Content and Objectives:

Text readings, in-class discussions, and guest lectures provide context for course experiences.

By the end of this course students will:
1. Identify and state the main themes of the major writers, philosophers, and thinkers who have shaped our current conceptualizations of leisure, recreation and play.
2. Describe the social, physical, economic, and environmental factors that influence individuals’ attitudes toward and the consumption of recreation and leisure.
3. Identify the potential role of leisure and recreation shape and respond to current and future social and cultural changes, issues, and opportunities.
4. Understand the CSU, Chico graduate program and processes.
5. Prepare a draft of the literature review for her/his thesis or project.

Students complete:
1. Three literature reviews using current APA style guidelines.
2. Four oral presentations of current research in recreation, leisure studies, parks, tourism or hospitality.
3. A research prospectus including a refined draft of a literature review for a proposed MA thesis or project.