

English Internship 4890, WREDE

Spring 11

Office Hours: T and TH 8-9 AM, phone hours: M 10-11 AM and W 10-12 AM and by appointment

Meetings: T, 12-1 pm (in my office)

Prerequisites: English 2010 with at least a C.

Credit Hours: 3

McDonald 212
(office) 435-652-7821 or
(home) 435-216-3865
Email: wrede@dixie.edu

The best way to contact me is to email me. Dropping by my office outside of office hours or calling me are less reliable ways to reach me.

Red Rock Outdoors Club: Building Community, Exploring the Southwest

3 Credits

Description: Students who have signed up for the English Internship will conduct research independently, complete a number of short writing assignments, and compile their research information and writings on the website for the Red Rock Outdoors Club (dixie.edu/rroc).

Red Rock Outdoors Club: The club organizes and compiles information on outdoors activities, lectures, guided hikes, and other types of environmental events in the St. George area to foster students' and community members' knowledge of and love for the area and to promote environmental responsibility. We seek to engage citizens in creating a sustainable and pleasant environment in American West.

Goals of the Internship: Students will be expected to achieve the following goals:

- Familiarize themselves with Western American and environmental literature;
- View the value and stylistic characteristics of regional writing;
- Consider the American West with its natural makeup as a region from an academic perspective;
- See the junctures between library and community research;
- Understand how academic work relates to the community;
- Engage actively in the college and St. George community.

Learning Outcomes: Students will be expected to perform the following:

Departmental Outcomes

- Create written work that meets the professional standards of academic writing in the field of literature;
- Combine and synthesize many of the aspects of literary studies to which they have been exposed in DSC's English program.

Course-Specific Outcomes

- Read and analyze literature;
- Examine Western America as a region from a literary perspective;
- Conduct scholarly research effectively and critically;
- Incorporate this research persuasively in textual analyses and adhere to current MLA citation and documentation conventions;
- Present research articulately in grammatically correct and stylistically engaging prose;
- Contribute to the website and the club effectively;
- Advertise the website and the club.

Assessment Tools: Student assessment will be based on the following:

Formative Methods of Assessment

Students will produce

- A list of local agencies involved in environmental projects. Students further provide information on the agencies, a description, and contact information.

- Written responses to their readings.
- A description and photographs of the club's outdoors activities.

Summative Methods of Assessment

- One 2-3-page book review to assess students' ability to read and critically respond to literature independently and effectively.
- A bibliography of 5-7 works on literature in the field for further reading.
- A 5-page research paper that builds on students' readings and experiences in club activities. In particular, students focus on a topic specific to the area or greater region and draw on both library and community research to deepen their understanding the topic.
- Written responses to club activities.

I. Readings

- Read at least two books from the list of works at the end of the document or find your own readings (with my approval).

II. Writing Assignments¹:

- Write book reviews.
- Write a paper abstract.
- Write a brief research paper on your topic (your choice, but with my approval) – 5 pages.
- Agencies: compile information on environmental and outdoors agencies in the area, contact information, and a brief description of the agency (2 agencies per student).
- Write a report on your club events.
- Write a report on the book club meeting.

III. Research

- Paper: choose a research topic; conduct research in the library and in the community;
- Create a 5-7 book bibliography on relevant literature (Western and environmental);
- Local Outdoors Activities: provide brief description, maps, photographs etc.

IV. Inform the community:

- Contribute to the website by composing
 - Book reviews
 - a bibliography for further readings.
 - Information on local activities (see III.d. and V.)

V. Club Activities

- Plan two club activities.
- Plan and lead a book club meeting.
- Advertise club activities at the college and in the community.
- Write a short report on your events.

Readings: Prepare your readings on time.

Book Club Discussion Leader: You will lead on book club discussion this semester. When you're not the discussion leader, you are required to attend book club meetings prepared and to participate in the discussion. Failure to either lead or participate in the discussions may result in failing the course. When you lead a discussion, you must give other participants two or three readings questions at least a week before the meeting (and send me those questions). Send me a two-page report on the discussion with outcomes immediately after the meeting.

¹ Check www.dixie.edu/rroc for samples.

Active Reading: Read when you're most awake! Read with a pencil in hand to underline important passages and interesting wording (diction) and to write down questions (in a notebook or on the margin) you might have.

Writing Assignments: You are expected to send me your work and respond to other students' work on Blackboard. To pass this course, you must hand in all assignments on time—I do not accept late homework.

Book Reviews: You will find instructions for book reviews on our Blackboard site.

Paper Abstracts: You will find instructions for paper abstracts on our Blackboard site. Your abstract is your paper in a compressed form: it outlines the key issues your essay addresses, states its thesis, and suggests the theoretical and/ or conceptual direction your paper takes. The abstract should also demonstrate that you have given your argument ample thought and consulted a number of research sources.

Papers and Drafts: Get an early start. Both hard and electronic copies of your papers are due on the date indicated on the syllabus. Anticipate problems with the computer, the Internet connection, the printer, or even Blackboard. Papers not completed, handed in and posted on the due date will be penalized. Feel free to turn in papers earlier—I will be impressed. I have scheduled two drafts for the research paper; after I read and comment on the first draft, I expect you to revise it and send a second draft to me. This one will be posted on the RROC website. *Please be aware that you are expected to complete your writing assignments in Word and submit them in rich text format. I must be able to access the writing assignments, so the files must be saved with an .rtf extension on the file name.*

Research Paper: Your paper will develop out of the work you have done in the course of the semester: choose a topic of interest to you (see also list of themes and topics at the end of this document), one that also addresses a local or regional (Southwestern) issue. Do your research in the library (peer-reviewed journals and books only) as well as in the community (by interviewing experts, conducting surveys, shadowing an employee [details below]), and possibly on the Internet and in the newspaper—the more varied your research, the more objective it tends to be. I encourage you, in particular, to get in touch with employees at local environmental and / or outdoors agencies because of their vast knowledge both in their specific field and of the community. Media outlets concerned with regional news, geopolitical issues, environmentalism, literature and poetry are, for example, *The Spectrum/ Daily News*, the *Salt Lake Tribune*, *High Country News*, *Orion Magazine*, *Mother Earth News*, *National Geographic* etc. The library has subscriptions to some of them. You should use at least five sources in your research paper.

Research: All outdoors, research, reading, and writing activities could potentially go hand-in-hand with one another in the Internship. Whenever you engage in an outdoors activity, I ask you to write a short report on it. Likewise, when you read and discuss a book for the Internship, you will also write a report. Conversely, your readings and outdoors activities can be the cornerstone for your research paper—in fact, they can constitute your research. If you see the connections among these various activities, you won't feel like you're wasting precious time with “busy work”; instead, you're conducting your own “research” at all times.

Bibliography: Find 5-7 books that deal with the region, the environment, a healthy lifestyle, urban and rural living in the West etc. There are no set requirements for the genre—fiction, poetry, essays all work. You should format these books in correct, up-to-date MLA style (for examples, see dixie.edu/rroc). Your bibliography may contain the same works you use in your research paper.

Working with a Local Environmental Organization: You may decide to work with a local environmental organization to fulfill your research requirement for the paper, website, or the planned events. You could “shadow” an employee in his or her everyday activities in the office and in the field, or you could simply interview an employee. Another option is to find out when, and if, an organization needs volunteers and organize a club event around a volunteer activity. Here are some organizations you might be interested in:

- the Virgin River Land Preservation Association (<http://www.virginriverland.org/>, contact Lori Rose),
- the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve (<http://www.redcliffsdesertreserve.com/>),

- Citizens for Dixie's Future (<http://www.citizensfordixie.org/>), and
- Southern Utah Wildlife Alliance (<http://www.suwa.org/site/PageServer>), and
- the Sierra Club (<http://utah.sierraclub.org/>).

Research on Agencies: Provide a list of local agencies involved in environmental projects.

- Interview an expert about his or her work and its purpose.
 - Accompany an expert in his or her daily routine: ask intelligent questions and write down your observations and reflections.
- ⇒ Explain to your expert what you're doing and why (purpose of internship and website). Also alert him or her that your observations and parts of the interview may be published on the website and ask for permission to do so. Always be polite and respectful and adjust to the expert's schedule and don't expect him or her to adjust to yours.

Club Activities: Organize at least two club activities this semester. The activities should take place outdoors and be guided by an expert in the field. You could, for example, ask DSC instructors or an employee of a local agency to lead such a trip or do it yourself if you have the necessary expertise. Schedule these activities at times that suit the other students doing the Internship and other interested students. Afterward, write a two-paragraph report on your club events.

Academic Honesty: Cheating in any form (plagiarism, etc.) is a serious offense and will result in automatic failure of the assignment. Plagiarism is the undocumented use of another person's ideas and/ or words, whether they come from a published source (books, magazines, the Internet etc.) or from someone else's paper. If you're unsure or have any questions, talk with me before the assignment is due. See also <http://new.dixie.edu/reg/faculty/index.php?page=Syllabus>.

Communication

Meetings and Attendance: You are obligated to attend and participate actively in this course and complete all assignments, including those you schedule.

Blackboard: We will use Blackboard for our communication and to post book reviews, papers, reports on book club meetings, and other assignments and comments to other students' work. Make sure to convert all WORD for Windows documents to RTF (rich text format). WordPad is not a word processing program and should not be used. Please avoid typing in the assignment window. You cannot format them, and I cannot make comments on them.

Dmail: You are required frequently to check your dmail account. Important class and college information will be sent to your dmail account, including DSC bills, financial aid/scholarship notices, notices of cancelled classes, reminders of important dates and deadlines, and other information critical to your success at DSC and in your courses. If you don't know how to access your dmail account, go to www.dixie.edu and select "Dmail" from the left column. To locate your dmail username and password, go to www.dixie.edu, and click on "Log in to student services" (upper right corner). You will be held responsible for information sent to your Dmail, so please check it often.

Behavioral Expectations: Respect your classmates' desire to learn and to express themselves, as we will respect your contributions. Any kind of private discussions with your neighbor is unacceptable. Cell phones or other hand-held devices, eating, Internet surfing, texting, newspaper reading, working on assignments for other classes, or any other type of behavior unrelated to the course in class are not permissible. Also be considerate and do not use offensive or disparaging language. See <http://www.dixie.edu/humanres/policy/sec3/334.html>.

This is a pass/ fail course. If you complete all the assignments within the allotted amount of time, you will pass the course.

Important Semester Dates, Spring 2011:

Jan 10	Classwork Starts
Jan 12	Last Day to Add Without Signature
Jan 17	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 18	Drop/Audit Fee Begins (\$10 per class)
Jan 25	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Jan 31	Graduation Application Deadline
Feb 1	Pell Grant Census
Feb 1	Last Day for Refund
Feb 1	Last Day to drop without receiving a "W" grade
Feb 2	Courses dropped for non-payment
Feb 4	Last Day to ADD Classes
Feb 21	President's Day
Feb 28	Mid-Term Grades Due
Mar 4	Last Day to DROP/AUDIT Classes
Mar 14-18	Spring Break
Mar 21	Summer Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Mar 22	Summer Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Mar 23	Summer Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Mar 24	Summer Registration open to all students
Apr 1	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Apr 11	Fall Registration open to Seniors (90+ credits)
Apr 12	Fall Registration open to Juniors (60+ credits)
Apr 13	Fall Registration open to Sophomores (30+ credits)
Apr 14	Fall Registration open to all students
Apr 28	Classwork Ends
Apr 29	Final Exams
May 2-5	Final Exams

See <http://new.dixie.edu/reg/?page=spring2011>

Student Resources

Technical Support: You will find technical support at <http://new.dixie.edu/academicoutreach/index.php>. This website also features important information on computer specifications, logging onto Blackboard, and where to find help.

Writing Center: The college provides a free service for students desiring additional assistance with their writing assignments in all courses. The Writing Center is located in the Browning Building. Call 652-7743 for hours and information. http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php

Online Writing Lab: You can consult this site for information on a variety of issues related to writing, and for numerous links to relevant websites. To reach the page, go to <http://dsc.dixie.edu/owl/>, or go to the DSC home page, scroll to "Academics," and select "Online Writing Lab."

- Library - <http://library.dixie.edu>
- Computer Lab - <http://new.dixie.edu/helpdesk/> <http://new.dixie.edu/reg/faculty/?page=Syllabus>
- Testing Center - <http://new.dixie.edu/testing>
- Tutoring Center - <http://dsc.dixie.edu/tutoring/>

Note: If you are a student with a medical, psychological or a learning difference and requesting reasonable academic accommodations due to this disability, you must provide an official request of accommodation to your professor(s) from the Disability Resource Center within the first two weeks of the beginning of classes. Students are to contact the center on the main campus to follow through with, and receive assistance in the documentation process to determine the appropriate accommodations related to their disability. You may call (435) 652-7516 for an appointment and further information

regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Our office is located right next to the Testing Center on the bottom floor of the Financial Aid and Career Center building.

College Withdrawal Policy:

Students are permitted to withdraw completely from Dixie State College through the twelfth week of the semester. Students will not be officially withdrawn after the twelfth week of the semester. Complete withdrawals must originate in the Registrars Office. Refunds will be available in accordance with the Student Tuition and Fee Payment Policy 5-17.

Administrative Withdrawal

Refer also to Administrative Withdrawal Policy 5-44 and Student Tuition and Fee Payment Policy 5-17. Students may be administratively withdrawn from a class or from the College for the following reasons:

- Failing to attend class on the first day of class, without receiving special permission from the teaching faculty member.
- Failing to complete orientation within the first week of the semester in self-paced computer classes. Orientation is still required after the first week of classes for a limited period.
- Registering for courses for which they have not completed the prerequisites or in which they are not properly placed. (See Academic Assessment Policy 5-6.)
- Neglecting to pay tuition and fees for any given semester by the end of the third week of the semester. This type of administrative withdrawal has been referred to previously as a "purge".
- Registering for a class without following proper procedure when a "hold" has been placed on a student's registration for unacceptable academic performance. (See Scholastic Standards Policy 5-19.)

Re-Registration After Administrative Withdrawal

All students who wish to attend class after they have been administratively withdrawn from classes must re-register in compliance with registration policy and deadlines.

Some students may need to appeal to the Admissions and Credits Committee for re-admittance. Appeal forms are located at the Advisement Office. Students wishing to re-register after the purge (administrative withdrawal due to non-payment of monies owing) must re-register for all classes in which they were registered before the purge. Select classes may be dropped or block classes added after that point. The College cannot guarantee that a student administratively withdrawn for non-attendance or unacceptable academic performance will receive the same schedules s/he had prior to withdrawal. Students who must re-register after the first week will pay a late registration fee as well as the standard cost of tuition and fees before being allowed to re-register.

Source: <http://right2know.dixie.edu/withdraw.html>.

Choose from books on the list—
Readings: Recent Publications

- Babbit, Bruce. *Cities in the Wilderness: A New Vision of Land Use in America*. Island Press, 2005.
- Baca, Jimmy Santiago. *A Glass of Water*. Grove Press, 2009.
- Ehrlich, Gretel. *Drinking Dry Clouds: Stories from Wyoming*. Bison Books, 2005.
- Klindienst, Patricia. *The Earth Knows My Name: Food, Culture, and Sustainability in the Gardens of Ethnic Americans*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2006.
- Knobloch, Frieda. *The Culture of the Wilderness: Agriculture as Colonization in the American West*. U of NC P, 1996.
- Logsdon, Gene. *The Mother of All Arts: Agrarianism and the Creative Impulse*. The UP of Kentucky, 2007.
- Minato, Amy. *Siesta Lane: A Year Unplugged, or The Good Intentions of Ten People, Two Cats, One Old Dog, Eight Acres, One Telephone, Three Cars, and Twenty Miles to the Nearest Town*. Skyhorse Publishing, 2009.
- O'Connor, Rebecca. *Lift*. Red Hen Press, 2009.
- Solnit, Rebecca. *As Eve Said to the Serpent: On Landscape, Gender, and Art*. Athens: U of Georgia P., 2001.
- Williams, Terry Tempest. *Finding Beauty in a Broken World*. Pantheon, 2008.

Readings: Classics on the Environment and / or the West

- Abbey, Edward. *Desert Solitaire*. Org. 1968.
- Limerick, Patricia Nelson. *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West*. New York: Norton, 1987.
- Leopold, Aldo. *A Sand County Almanac: And Sketches Here and There*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1949.
- Nash, Roderick Frazier. *Wilderness and the American Mind*. Fourth Edition. New Haven: Yale UP, 2001.
- Nash Smith, Henry. *Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth*.
- Slotkin, Richard. *Gunfighter Nation: The Myth of the Frontier in Twentieth-Century America*. New York: Atheneum, 1992.
- Stegner, Wallace. *Beyond the Hundredth Meridian: John Wesley Powell and the Second Opening of the West*.

Topics and themes you might be interested in discussing in your writings:

- Native Americans in the West / Southwest
- Water in the West
- The Nuclear West
- Ranching and agriculture
- Fires
- Climate change

- Outlaws
- The literary Southwest/ West
- Spirituality in the West
- The frontier and wilderness West → talk about National Parks and other wilderness reserves
- A sustainable West
- The ethnic West

Possible Club Events:

- plant a tree on Arbor Day
- natural habitat exploration with Dr. van der Merwe?
- ghost towns (Silver Reef and / or Grafton)
- poetry reading and composition in the desert
- the farmer's market with Dr. O'Brien?
- fly fishing instructions with Dr. Bywater
- Geo-caching
- moonlight in Snow Canyon (perhaps with Dr. Barry)
- Help local environmental groups → service projects
- Service projects on campus

Further Research Approaches:

- Go to the Corona Flores Latino Market or a local church with service in Spanish and interview people about their relationship to the land/ concerns etc. → discuss with me
- Multicultural/ Diversity Center on campus: find out about issues of concern, cultural festivals etc.

⇒ Please decide within the first week which activities would suit you.

Dr. Wrede

Syllabus English Internship

Assignments are due at our meetings on Tuesdays at noon. Course syllabus is tentative and subject to change based on students' needs.

Week 1: meet in my office and discuss the syllabus; schedule club events

Week 2: contact local agencies and obtain information about them;

Week 3: meet in my office; information on environmental and outdoors agencies due

Week 4: read your book and work on book review

Week 5: prepare book review

Week 6: meet in my office; book review due

Week 7: work on abstract for the research essay

Week 8: meet in my office; paper abstract due

Week 9: work on research paper

Week 10: spring break

Week 11: work on the research essay

Week 12: meet in my office; research essay due (first draft)

Week 13: work on the bibliography

Week 14: meet in my office; bibliography due

Week 15: work on the research essay

Week 16: meet in my office; research essay due (final draft); reports on club events due

Note: Schedule the book club meetings on your own.

Past experiences have shown that your two club events are best attended if held on Friday afternoons or Saturdays.