AREC/ECON346 Economics of Outdoor Recreation, Fall 2019

Class meets in C144, Clark Building M-W-F 10:00am – 10:50am
Instructor: Jude Bayham Phone: 970-491-2836 Email: jbayham@colostate.edu
Office: B303 Clark Building Office hours: MW 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment

TA: Sam Koss Email: Sam.Koss@colostate.edu
Office: B302 Office hours: T 9:30 – 11:00 AM and TR 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Course Objectives:

How much should it cost to enter RMNP? It depends on many factors that range from the cost to maintain the natural resources to how much individuals are willing to pay. The objective of this course is to understand the role of economics in outdoor recreation issues and management. Economic principles will be applied to recreation management issues such as congestion, fees/pricing, evaluating investments in campgrounds and facilities, etc. You will also learn and apply economic methods to measure the benefits and costs of outdoor recreation to society. This course will contribute to the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics undergraduate outcomes: professional development, technical competence, problem-solving skills, communication skills, and leadership.

Course Materials:


I think a limited number of textbooks are available for sale at the CSU Bookstore, including some bound copies of the scanned book. I have found some used copies available online. I encourage you to find this textbook for the least cost. I will try to make chapters available online throughout the course.


Course Website: Canvas will serve as the portal for accessing course materials. Readings, class schedule, and other material will be posted on Canvas and/or CSU Google Drive, which means you will need to use your CSU email address to log in to Google in order to access the material.

Course Expectations and Policies:

I will communicate with you through your CSU email (@rams.colostate.edu) and through Canvas. Email is the best way to reach me. I will try to respond within 24 hours. When many students have the same kind of question, I may reply to the entire class or post documents to the class website. Please turn off your cell phones and put them away. Be respectful of each other, your TA, and me. This includes using laptops in distracting ways in class.

Grading:

Exams: There will be three exams each worth 20% of your grade (60% of the total). The tests will cover both lecture and readings. The final will be comprehensive and will be held on Friday,
December 13, 7:30-9:30 am in our regular classroom.

Problem Sets: There will be at least 5 problem sets (worth 25% of the total).

Project: There will be a single course project done in groups and worth 15% of the total grade. The project will involve using outdoor recreation survey data to estimate Colorado’s contribution to national estimates of economic activity associated with outdoor recreation (https://www.bea.gov/data/special-topics/outdoor-recreation). I will discuss this project in greater detail later in the semester.

Generally I will follow the usual breakdown for a final letter grade (90% or more = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79% = C, 60-69% = D, less than 60% = F).

Course Topics

- Introduction to Recreational Economics
- Overview of Recreation Resource Policy Issues
- Recreation Production and Consumption
- Empirical Measurement of Economic Values
  - Revealed Preference Approach
  - Stated Preference Approach
- Climate and Other Risks to Outdoor Recreation
- Forecasting Future Recreational Consumption
- Cost and the Supply of Recreation
- Benefit-Cost Analysis
- Regional Economic Impacts

Principles of Community

The Principles of Community support the Colorado State University mission and vision of access, research, teaching, service and engagement. A collaborative, and vibrant community is a foundation for learning, critical inquiry, and discovery. Therefore, each member of the CSU community has a responsibility to uphold these principles when engaging with one another and acting on behalf of the University

Inclusion: We create and nurture inclusive environments and welcome, value and affirm all members of our community, including their various identities, skills, ideas, talents, and contributions.

Integrity: We are accountable for our actions and will act ethically and honestly in all our interactions.

Respect: We honor the inherent dignity of all people within an environment where we are committed to freedom of expression, critical discourse, and the advancement of knowledge.

Service: We are responsible, individually and collectively, to give of our time, talents, and resources to promote the well-being of each other and the development of our local, regional, and global communities.

Social Justice: We have the right to be treated and the responsibility to treat others with fairness and equity, the duty to challenge prejudice, and to uphold the laws, policies and procedures that promote justice in all respects.
Mental Health Statement

Need Help?

CSU is a community that cares for you. If you are struggling with drugs or alcohol and/or experiencing depression, anxiety, overwhelming stress or thoughts of hurting yourself or others please know there is help available. Counseling Services has trained professionals who can help. Contact 970.491.6053 or go to http://health.colostate.edu. If you are concerned about a friend or peer, tell someone at by calling 970.491.1350 to discuss your concerns with a professional who can discreetly connect the distressed individual with the proper resources (http://supportandsafety.colostate.edu/tellsomeone). Rams take care of Rams. Reach out and ask for help if you or someone you know is having a difficult time.

Sexual Assault and Violence Elimination

CSU’s Student Sexual Harassment and Violence policy, following national guidance from the Office of Civil Rights, requires that professors follow CSU policy as a “mandatory reporter” of any personal disclosure of sexual harassment, abuse, and/or violence related experiences or incidents shared with the professor in person, via email, and/or in classroom papers or homework exercises. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of personal relational abuse, relational/domestic violence, and stalking. While professors are often able to help students locate appropriate channels of assistance on campus (e.g., see the CSU Health Network link below), disclosure by the student to the professor requires that the professor inform appropriate CSU channels to help ensure that the student’s safety and welfare is being addressed, even if the student requests that the disclosure not be shared.

For counseling support and assistance, please see The CSU HEALTH NETWORK, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: http://www.health.colostate.edu/. And, The Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential resource for students that does not have a reporting requirement and that can be of great help to students who have experienced sexual assault. The web address is http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support.

Academic Integrity

Academic misconduct (see examples below) undermines the educational experience at Colorado State University, lowers morale by engendering a skeptical attitude about the quality of education, and negatively affects the relationship between students and faculty/instructors.

Faculty/Instructors are expected to use reasonably practical means of preventing and detecting academic misconduct. Any student found responsible for having engaged in academic misconduct will be subject to academic penalty and/or University disciplinary action.

Students are encouraged to positively impact the academic integrity culture of CSU by reporting incidents of academic misconduct.

Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to):

1. Cheating – Cheating includes using unauthorized sources of information and providing or receiving unauthorized assistance on any form of academic work or engaging in any behavior specifically prohibited by the instructor in the course syllabus or class presentation.
2. Plagiarism – Plagiarism includes the copying of language, structure, images, ideas, or thoughts of another, and representing them as one’s own without proper acknowledgment, and is related only to work submitted for credit. Also included is the failure to cite sources properly; sources must always be appropriately referenced, whether the source is printed, electronic or spoken.
3. Unauthorized Possession or Disposition of Academic Materials – Unauthorized possession or disposition of academic materials includes the unauthorized selling or purchasing of examinations, term papers, or other academic work; stealing another student’s work; and using information from or possessing exams that an instructor did not authorize for release to students.

4. Falsification – Falsification encompasses any untruth, either verbal or written, in one’s academic work.

5. Facilitation of any act of Academic Misconduct – Facilitation of any act of academic misconduct includes knowingly assisting another to commit an act of misconduct.