Teaching Methods: Parks as Classrooms
Course Syllabus PD894

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

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College (or sponsoring unit):	Pacific Historic Parks & National Park Service
Credit Hours:	One (1) Graduate Credit
Course Number:	PD894
Course Title:	Teaching Methods: Parks as Classrooms

DATE / TIME / PLACE

Dates:	November 16 & 17, 2015
Times:	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Location:	Meet at T. Stell Newman Visitor Center, Sumay

INTRODUCTION

At War in the Pacific National Historical Park, the former battlefields, gun emplacements, trenches, and historic structures all serve as silent reminders of the bloody World War II battles that took place on Guam in 1944. This national park was created to honor all those who participated in the campaigns of the Pacific Theater of World War II and to conserve and to interpret the natural, scenic, and historic values and objects on the island of Guam for future generations. The park also protects 1,000 acres of submerged lands at Asan Beach and Agat and habitat for over 200 species of coral. Another 800 acres of native limestone forest, mahogany forest, and savannah grasslands are conserved in the rugged inland units of Asan, Mt. Alifan, Mt. Tenjo, and Piti Guns.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Teaching Methods: Parks as Classrooms course will engage participants to use places as resources for studying local and national history (events, the impact of people on events, technological change, and political and social trends) and geography (how locale, terrain, and climate affect events and lives, and how people shape the environment for their purposes). Teachers will learn how they can work with staff to create service-learning events and activities

at the park. War in the Pacific National Historical Park sites provides the focus for a lesson in history, geography, science, and many other subjects in the school curriculum.

SAFETY PRECAUTION

Be advised that participants will spend a significant amount of time in an outdoor environment.

- You will go on guided tours at various places in the War in the Pacific National Historical Park, which will involve walking or hiking on uneven terrain.
- You will be exposed to the sun for an extended period of time. For safety purposes, you are required to dress appropriately. You must wear clothes for humid weather, tennis shoes or closed-toe shoes, and sun protection.
- You must bring water and any medications needed.
- For your comfort, you may want to bring insect repellant, sunglasses, extra snacks, a hat, raincoat, and an umbrella.

COURSE CONTENT

This course will explore how sites in the War in the Pacific National Historical Park can enrich the curriculum and can foster commitment to stewardship of national historic resources. The course will revolve around the following essential questions:

- What is the National Park Service and Pacific Historic Parks?
- What are some models of place-based learning at War in the Pacific National Historical Park?
- What resources are available to teachers at War in the Pacific National Historical Park?
- How can sites at War in the Pacific National Historical Park be used to teach a variety of subjects?
- How can we use museums and exhibits to teach students?
- How can Service-Learning projects be incorporated into teaching with War in the Pacific National Historical Park sites?

RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE

- Guam teachers will develop an appreciation for the local heritage as revealed in the sites protected by the War in the Pacific National Historical Park.
- Guam teachers will learn about the different World War II perspectives.
- Guam teachers will incorporate elements of inquiry-based teaching and learning into their curriculum.
- Guam teachers will motivate their students to help protect and preserve lands in their national park through service learning.
- Guam teachers will have more means with which to engage and excite students to learn about their local history and culture.
- Guam teachers will develop curriculum that employ sites in the War in the Pacific National Historical Park to meet the Guam K-12 Standards.
- Guam teachers will encourage students to revisit and share the sites of the War in the Pacific National Historical Park with their family and friends.

TEACHING METHODOLOGIES / CLASS ENVIRONMENT

- Field Work to War in the Pacific National Historical Park sites
- Guided Lectures
- Discussions
- Museum Exhibits
- Self-directed Research
- Assigned Readings

PARTICIPANT SKILLS/ BACKGROUND REQUIRED & ANTICIPATED CLASS SIZE

- The audience is K-12 teachers, all subjects.
- The workshop is limited to 30 participants on a first come, first serve basis.

TEXTBOOK / READING MATERIALS

Pacific Historic Parks. War in the Pacific National Historical Park: Guide to the Historic Treasures of Guam. Hong Kong: Pacific Historic Parks, 2012.

EVALUATION

In order to earn 1 graduate credit, participants must first pay a $20 administrative fee at the Professional and International Programs Office at the University of Guam. Grading will be based upon:

- Participation in classroom lectures, tours, and discussions – 25%
- Attendance – 25%
- Parks as Classrooms Assignment – 50%