

Digging Deeper: *Jurassic Park* as a Tool for Learning

Course Time & Location

Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 – 2:50

Large Group Discussion: Osprey Room in Student Center

Small Group Discussion: Hoeft in Osprey A, Chick in Osprey B, Mofle in Blue Heron

Course Instructors, Locations, E-mail Addresses, Office Hours

Mary Hoeft	118 Meggers Hall	mhoeft@uwc.edu	MTWTh 9-10 and 1-2
Nancy Chick	121 Meggers Hall	nchick@uwc.edu	MW 2-3; TTh 1-1:45 or appt
Sue Mofle	114 Meggers Hall	smofle@uwc.edu	M-F 10-11; MW 1:30-2:30 or appt

Course Designation & Description

This interdisciplinary, humanities course introduces students to the interesting conversations, projects, and areas of research that a single novel can inspire. As students unearth the ideas contained within *Jurassic Park*, they will experience some of the adventures in critical thought that university learning has in store for them.

Objectives

- To become familiar with the concept of "multiple perspectives"
- To become familiar with time management skills
- To become familiar with and employ methods that enhance reading, writing, and critical listening skills
- To become familiar with and employ effective small group discussion strategies
- To become familiar with ways that an advisor can assist students
- To become familiar with ways in which students can serve the campus
- Ultimately, to become an engaged and successful student

Course Proficiencies or Learning Goals

- Analyze, synthesize, evaluate, and interpret information and ideas
- Construct and support hypotheses and arguments
- Read and listen with comprehension and critical perception

Attendance

Students are expected to attend every class period. Every absence will lower your class participation grade.

Determination of Course Grade

30% Engagement Passport
40% Class Attendance and Participation
30% Small Group Project

Small Group Project Description

One goal of this course is to encourage you to explore ways in which you can serve the campus. You will be assigned to a small group. Your group will be asked to choose a project related to an idea, concept, character, perspective, or issue in *Jurassic Park*.

Groups must have the ideas for their projects approved by their instructor no later than October 19. Then, between October 20 and December 13, instead of attending class, you will work with your group to complete the project. You will come together with the entire class on December 14 to discuss, with your instructors, the group presentation that will take place during the final exam period. During the final exam session, your small group will present the outcome of your project in front of the large group.

Engagement Passport Description

Another goal of this course is to encourage you to explore aspects of the university beyond the classroom. Throughout the semester, you must attend a minimum of **eight** campus-related activities, such as those listed below, from at least two different categories. If you do a single kind of activity (i.e., Student Services workshop, athletic event, play) more than once, no more than two stamps for these similar activities will be counted. **Your goal is variety.** To document this exploration, you will choose from a wide variety of activities such as the following:

Category A: Social Activities

- Attend a meeting of a campus organization
- Attend a university-sponsored athletic event
- Participate in intramural sports
- Join an athletic team (worth 2 stamps)
- Attend other university-sponsored social activities

Category B: Advising Activities

- Attend a Student Services workshop
- Discuss the College Student Inventory, mid-term grades, spring classes, or another advising issue with your advisor
- Work with an official tutor in the Learning Lab
- Seek specific help from librarians on a specific library assignment for any class

Category C: Forums, Other University-Sponsored Events, & Campus-Related Projects And Publications

- Attend a play at our university theatre
- Attend a campus event based on *Jurassic Park*
- Attend a university-sponsored forum
- Submit something to the campus literary magazine

Document each activity in your passport with a stamp, brief description, and the date next to each stamp (i.e. Study Skills workshop/Advising, 9/19).

Course Schedule

TH 9/2	Introduction to the Course, Syllabus, Professors; Explanations of Interdisciplinary Studies, Small Group Projects, and Novel (L: Chick/Hoeft/Mofle) Assign: After class, carefully read course materials and begin reading <i>Jurassic Park</i> .
T 9/7	Time Management Workshop, Assignment to Small Group (L: Chick/Hoeft/Mofle) Assign: Read <i>Jurassic Park</i> through page 42 by the time you come to class 9/7.
TH 9/9	How To Read the Novel <i>Jurassic Park</i> (L: Chick/Mofle) Assign: Read <i>Jurassic Park</i> through page 68 by the time you come to class 9/9.
T 9/14	How To Discuss the Novel (L: Hoeft) Assign: Read <i>Jurassic Park</i> through page 120 by the time you come to class 9/14.
TH 9/16	Discussion of <i>Jurassic Park</i> (S) Assign: Read <i>Jurassic Park</i> through page 177 by the time you come to class 9/16.
T 9/21	Guest Perspective from Dr. Tony Millevolte (L) Assign: Read <i>Jurassic Park</i> through page 217 by the time you come to class 9/21.
TH 9/23	Small Group Discussion of Guest Perspective (S) Assign: Read Dr. Millevolte's handout and <i>Jurassic Park</i> through page 259 by the

time you come to class 9/23.

- T 9/28 Discussion of Specific Passages in the Novel (S)
Assign: Read *Jurassic Park* through page 287 by the time you come to class 9/28.
- TH 9/30 Guest Perspective from Dr. Tracy White (L)
Assign: Read *Jurassic Park* through page 314 by the time you come to class 9/30.
- T 10/5 Small Group Discussion of Guest Perspective (S)
Assign: Read Dr. White's handout and *Jurassic Park* through page 344 by the time you come to class 10/5.
- TH 10/7 American Studies Perspectives on *Jurassic Park* (L: Chick)
Assign: Read Dr. Chick's handout and finish *Jurassic Park* by the time you come to class 10/7.
- T 10/12 Discussion of American Studies Perspective (S)
Assignment pending:
- TH 10/14 Discussion of Multiple Perspectives (L: Mofle/Hoeft/Chick)
Assignment pending:
- T 10/19 Final Discussion of Novel and Final Approval of Group Project (L: Mofle/Chick/Hoeft)
Assignment pending:

10/20 - 12/13 Groups work independently on small group projects

- T 12/14 Meet to plan the final exam session during which your group members will share what they have learned (about reading, about reading *Jurassic Park*, about a campus-wide reading experience, about working with others in a small group, about working on a campus project, etc) as a result of participating in the small group project (S).

M 12/20 (2:00 to 4:00)

Final Exam session during which groups present the successes and failures of their group projects (L).