

A Salty Piece of Land Interim - Syllabus

Course & Instructor Information:

CLASSROOM: MSE213E **TIME:** 10 AM

FEES: \$400 additional expenses include meals on field trips

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dave Pittman, assistant professor of psychology

Office: RMSC 203E **Phone:** 597-4644 **E-mail:** pittmandw@wofford.edu

Course Description:

Inspired by the best-selling novel, "A Salty Piece of Land" written by Jimmy Buffett, this Interim project will explore the history of lighthouses specifically those along the Carolinas shoreline. We will read and discuss Jimmy Buffett's novel and a historical text on the lighthouses of North and South Carolina. In addition to the historical significance of particular lighthouses, we will learn about the original lighting techniques and practices as well as the modern use of lighthouses. The Interim project will include at least two field trips to tour lighthouses in North and South Carolina.

Course Objectives:

- Learn the historical relevance of lighthouses
- Learn the original techniques of lighting
- Learn how modern lighthouses function
- Research the history of 1 of the 19 standing North and South Carolina lighthouses
- Tour some of the NC & SC lighthouses
- Identify appropriate sources, write a research paper, and present a PowerPoint presentation.

Required Textbooks:

"A Salty Piece of Land" by Jimmy Buffett (\$10.17)

"Lighthouses of the Carolinas" by Terrance Zepke (\$10.36)

"The Ultimate Book of Lighthouses" by Samuel Crompton & Michael Rhein (\$29.95)

Course Requirements & Grading:

- Mandatory class attendance and discussion of readings.
- PowerPoint presentation on independent project.
- Peer-review of one research paper draft.
- Research paper on independent project.

Instructor assigned numeric grades for the following:

- Discussion participation (20%)
- Field trip participation (10%)
- PowerPoint presentation (20%)
- Peer-review of research paper draft (20%)
- Research paper (30%)

Final grade criteria: Honors > 88 88 > Pass > 75 Fail < 75