

NRES 105: Justin Smith Morrill Scholars Seminar

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Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to introduce you to Justin Smith Morrill and the Land-Grant College system that he founded via the Morrill Acts of 1862 and 1890, and using Morrill as a role model the course will provide you with instruction related to the value of interdisciplinary study and life-long learning, civic engagement and service, and basic principles of successful leadership.

Educational Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- (1) Embrace and engage in life-long interdisciplinary learning and education.
- (2) Exhibit and model the qualities of a successful leader, and act in a leadership role when and where needed and appropriate.
- (3) Plan and participate in civic engagement and service activities.
- (4) Value and discuss the life, experiences and accomplishments of Justin S. Morrill, author of the Land-Grant College Acts of 1862 and 1890, and inspiration for the J.S. Morrill Scholars Program.
- (5) Appreciate and articulate the importance of the Land-Grant College Acts and the role of the Land-Grant University in the modern era.

Prerequisites:

None

Note:

This course is open only to students accepted into the Justin Smith Morrill Scholars Program.

Teaching Methods:

(a) Method of Delivery

The course will meet once weekly. Assigned course material will be discussed in a roundtable setting, guided by the instructor.

(b) Evaluation of Information

Students will be evaluated based on their knowledge of the assigned material and their participation in classroom discussions.

(c) Course Evaluations

Students will evaluate the course in the last week using the standard CASNR course evaluation forms.

Materials:

The following textbook will be required reading for this course.

Cross II, Coy F., 1999, *Justin Smith Morrill – Father of the Land-Grant Colleges*, Michigan State University Press, Lansing, MI, 159 p., ISBN:0-87013-508-2

Students will be provided the book in class at no cost. Additional materials will be handed out in class to supplement the weekly discussions.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend all class meetings. If a student must miss class due to illness or an emergency, it is requested that the student contact the instructor as soon as possible to report the absence. It is the student's responsibility to acquire the respective materials for missed class periods and to meet with the instructor individually to participate in a make-up discussion of the reading material.

Fifteenth Week Policy:

This course will not meet during the 15th week.

Grading Format:

This is a Pass/Fail Course. Student grades will be based on class attendance, completion of the required reading material, and participation in the discussions. In order to receive a grade of pass, student must attend 80%, or more of the course, and participate actively in classroom discussions such that they demonstrate to the instructor completion of the assigned readings, and comprehension of the reading material. A students who does not meet these criteria, will receive a grade of Fail.

Course Outline: Fall Semester

Week	Topic	Assigned Readings From the Textbook	In-Class Resources & Additional Material
8/22	Introduction to the Justin Smith Morrill Scholars Program & Program Expectations		
8/29	Meet With The Current Scholars Via A Group or Club Meeting		
9/5	NO CLASS – MORRILL SCHOLARS VERMONT TRIP		
9/12	UNL-History		UNL Video Part I
9/19	UNL-History		UNL Video Part II
9/26	Justin Smith Morrill Overview		
10/3	The Making of Justin Morrill	Forward, Preface, & Chapter 1	
10/10	Mr. Morrill Goes to Washington	Chapter 2	
10/17	NO CLASS - FALL BREAK		
10/24	The Morrill Tariff	Chapter 3	
10/31	The Irrepressible Conflict	Chapter 4	
11/7	Morrill's Monument: The Land-Grant College Act	Chapter 5	
11/14	The Land-Grant College Acts		The 1862, 1890 Land-Grant College Act & The 1994 Native Indian Legislation
11/21	The Politician Inside the Public Servant	Chapter 6	
11/28	Senator Morrill	Chapter 7	
12/5	Beautifying Washington	Chapter 8, Epilogue	
12/12	NO CLASS - FINALS WEEK		