

# Facilitating Place-Based Learning During COVID

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Experiential campus-fieldtrips to foster classroom community and engagement

Improved IDEA Results

Positive Responses from Students

- *“made class time fun and interesting”*
- *“Outdoor learning was very stimulating”*

# How do I Create an Engaging Classroom Community in a Large Class Online?

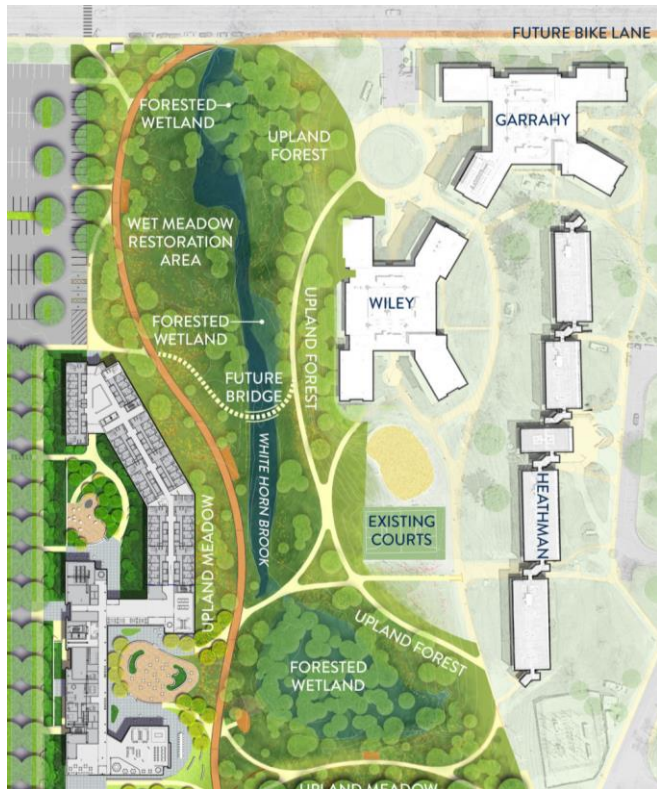
## BACKGROUND



- NRS 100: General Education, STEM A1
- Concerned about engagement/participation with students during COVID
- Fear of “losing” students with an asynchronous online course model
- Weekly Campus Fieldtrips with 65 students?

# Yes – It's Possible and it was Fun

## COURSE CHANGE



**Developed a series of campus-fieldtrips to ground the students learning with local examples of global environmental issues**

- Land Use Change
- Wildlife/Biodiversity Conservation
- Food Production and Soil Conservation
- Water Quality
- Sustainability
- Climate Change

# How Did the Students Respond to the Course Changes?

## Less Content Overall

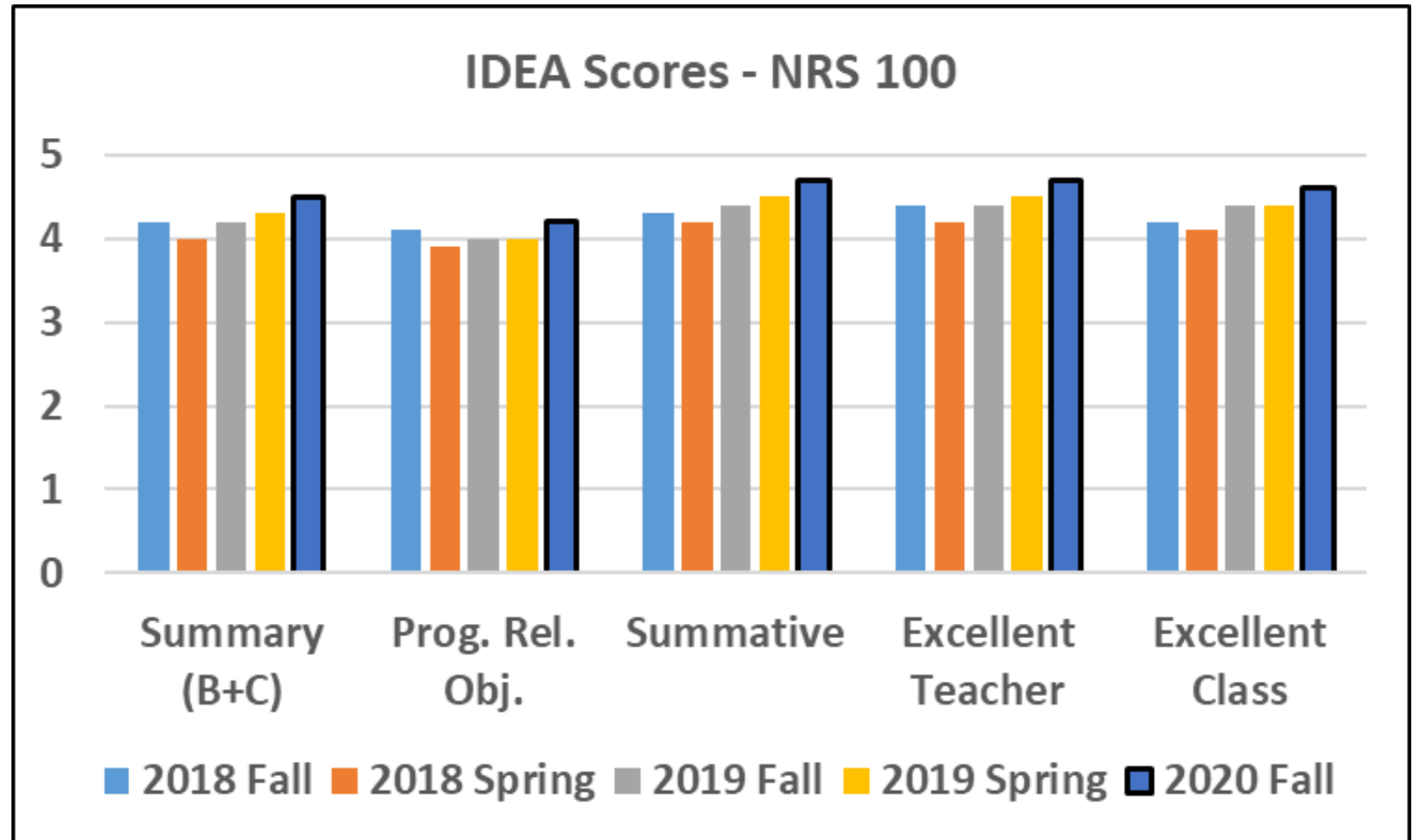
### Campus Fieldtrips

## IMPACT

*“made class time fun and interesting...”*

*“Outdoor learning was very stimulating...”*

*“I think this semester was difficult for everyone, but this class was one of my favorites.”*



# Major Take Home Messages for me

## DISCUSSION



- Ok to cover less content – be selective
- Make the class relevant for the students – provide local examples
- Be creative and step outside of comfort zone
- Continue to find ways to incorporate place-based/experiential learning into my curriculum





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# THANK YOU