

## ABSTRACT

**CREATIVE PROJECT:** CHALLENGE COURSE - RESEARCH, DESIGN, AND PLAN

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**DEGREE:** Master of Arts

**COLLEGE:** Sciences and Humanities

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Ball State University offers an extensive variety of recreational and leadership opportunities but no challenge course. Administrators have determined that there is a need and interest in the challenge course facility and its curriculum. The BSU challenge course will be available for students to use as an educational, developmental, recreational, and therapeutic medium to enhance both personal and professional growth (Attarian, 2005). The course will provide an environment for students to strengthen skills such as: problem solving, self-efficacy, self-concept, trust, teamwork, and communication.

The purpose of this creative project is to research, plan, and design a challenge course that meets the needs of the Indiana region and could be implemented at BSU. The

Hults Farm that is managed by the Field Station and Environmental Education Center at BSU has been chosen to propose the site design. The project objectives were to: (1) designate appropriate land for construction; (2) research a variety of challenge course elements; (3) research factors that are unique to the Indiana region; (4) assess budget concerns and constraints. BSU has been presented a working document with designs and management plans of a potential challenge course that may one day be implemented at BSU or used for other areas in the state of Indiana.