

# Playing frisbee golf a good way to see campus, scare passersby

By Paul Morgan  
Emerald Reporter

If you are walking across campus and suddenly hear someone bellow "FORE!", don't be alarmed. Chances are you have just entered one of the fairways on the University's frisbee golf course.

The frisbee golf course on campus is an 18 hole (or lamp post) trip through the corridors of trees and past the ivy covered halls - not to mention the throngs of students that work as moving obstacles (or targets, depending on the rules).

And although the sport can sometimes be as frustrating as its predecessor, it does offer players a good chance to see the campus and learn a new activity. Best of all, it's cheap.

The current course was designed by members of the Eugene Dark Star Frisbee Association, said Michael Wing, ultimate frisbee teacher for the Physical Education Department. After playing the course many times, Wing said a couple of members standardized the course that stands today.

"The first time I played it, I played something like 52 holes. I just couldn't stop playing," said Wing, who has been playing frisbee golf for seven years.

Frisbee golf is very similar to golf, without the expensive clubs or green fees. Players throw their frisbees from a tee and proceed taking shots until they can hit a designated lamp post. After each hole, players take turns adding their scores. At the end of the course, the base score (65 for this course) is subtracted from the total. A sub-par score, or negative score, means the day's outing was better than the average.

The first hole tees off from the hill between Carson Hall and the EMU and finishes on

the east end of the EMU Breezeway. The second hole is the shortest but possibly the most challenging, as players are forced to maneuver through a thicket of trees 198 feet to the post.

The rest of the course winds through campus: between Hendricks and Johnson Halls; to the southeast corner of Chapman Hall; from between Fenton and Gilbert Halls, hooking around to the north side of Gilbert; between Villard Hall and Franklin Boulevard; the par-5 seventh, Wing's favorite, which runs 566 feet between Villard, Lawrence, Deady, and Allen Halls, to a lamp post just west of Friendly Hall; from just east of Johnson Hall on 13th Avenue to a post west of Hendricks Hall; and then the ninth, a par5, 584 ft. endurance test that starts at the south end of the EMU Breezeway and veers left to finish east of Carson Hall.

The second half of the course basically follows that same pattern but in reverse.

The rules for frisbee golf vary depending on how serious the players want to make it. In some circles, Wing said, contestants must hit the lamp-post in a certain area, usually a four or five foot space between the bottom and the top; however, Wing said the way he plays is to hit the post at any point. Some play with boundaries

(going out of bounds forces a one-shot penalty) or with a three-meter rule (when the frisbee lands on any structure over three meters high the player must take a one-shot penalty).

When playing on a crowded day, Wing said, players can subtract a stroke if the frisbee hits an innocent bystander.

"We never do that on purpose though," Wing said.

Despite the variations, there is one rule that is ever present: You cannot improve your lie. Players must stand behind the spot where their previous throw landed when they attempt the next one.

Frisbee golf is becoming more advanced, with frisbee manufacturers taking advantage of its growing popularity by making special discs. Players can buy frisbees in a wide range of weights and sizes, each designed to fly at different lengths and velocities.

In 1985 the Recreation and Intramurals Department sponsored a tournament on the campus course, but Wing said it was not heavily attended.

"I don't think they really knew how to run it," he said. "But if they were to put more advertising out it would be a good event."

Maps of the campus course are available in the Recreation and Intramurals Office, Room 103 Gerlinger.



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