**Introduction to Forestry (58201)**

**NR-1 – Fall 2023**

**Instructor:**

Kayla Jo Rodriguez

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**Office hours:**

Monday and Wednesday's 10-10:50 AM, and Thursday 10-11:50 AM, or by appointment

**Lectures:**

Monday's 11 AM - 12:50 PM, FNR 8

**Labs:**

Monday’s 2:00 – 4:50 PM, Room: FNR 8

**Course Overview:**

This course is an overview of natural resources management with emphasis on California forestry. It is intended for those who wish to explore career opportunities and develop entry-level skills. The course will serve as an orientation to the Reedley College Forestry and Natural Resources degrees. Topics will include historic and current resources management, public and private land management, entity structure, forest health, measurements, ecology, and restoration. Field trips will be required.

**Student Learning Outcomes & Objectives:**

*The primary learning outcomes for this course are:*

* NR-1 SLO1: Compare the difference between multiple use and preservation management.
* NR-1 SLO2: Explain specified public and private timber resource entities' authority in the management of natural resources in the United States.
* NR-1 SLO3: Prepare equipment for safe operation to fell and buck trees.

*The primary objectives will be:*

* Identify forestry tools.
* Construct a list of State and Federal agencies and explain their responsibilities in resource management.
* Determine land area by pacing.
* Compare and contrast conservation versus preservation management practices.
* Examine the effects of historical forest policy and regulations on the resources.

**Text and references:**

• *Recommended:*

* [Introduction to Forestry and Natural Resources: Grebner, Donald L., Bettinger, Pete, Siry, Jacek P., Boston, Kevin: 9780128190029: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/Introduction-Forestry-Natural-Resources-Grebner-dp-0128190027/dp/0128190027/ref%3Dmt_other?_encoding=UTF8&me=&qid=)

• Handouts and supplemental reading made available on Canvas.

**Attendance**

You should come to every assigned class whether face-to-face on virtual- and be there on time. Arrival after roll is taken will be considered a tardy. Three tardies will count as one absence. *The success of this or any other course depends on the presence and active participation of each student.* It is the responsibility of the student to check on class meeting changes for the following week if a class session is missed. Contact the instructor in the event of an absence. The responsibility to drop the course for any reason, including lack of attendance, lies with the student. Late work should be made up within one week.

**Cancelled Class Policy**

If classes must be cancelled the instructor will attempt to post the announcement on the course electronic media site (CANVAS). A notice will be posted on the door of the classroom. Be aware that schedule modifications and field trips may be announced in classes by the instructor. It is the responsibility of the student to be present during classes and pay attention to such announcements and to check announcements on CANVAS daily.

**Important Dates:**

**Aug 18** – Last day to drop full-term class for a full refund.

**Aug 25** – Last day to register for a full-term class in person.

**Aug 25** – Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a “W” in person

**Aug 27** – Last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a “W” on Self-Service

**Oct 6** – Last day to drop a full-term class (letter grade after this date)

**COVID19:**

Reedley College will continue to sanitize each classroom and office space daily, provide hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes in classrooms, offices, and common space, and the college will continue the use of CDC-recommended air filters and 100% air intake on our HVAC systems.

**Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism &Cheating:**

Students at Reedley College are entitled to the best education that the college can make available to them, and they, their instructors, and their fellow students share the responsibility to ensure that this education is honestly obtained. Because cheating, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the integrity of the college each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort in all academic endeavors. Academic dishonesty in any form is a very serious offense and will incur serious consequences. Refer to the college catalog for further details surrounding actions that will be implemented regarding academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism is the adoption or reproduction of the ideas or words or statements of another person without due acknowledgment. Cheating is the act or attempted act of taking an examination or performing an assigned, evaluated task in a fraudulent or deceptive manner, such as having improper access to answers to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating can take the form of the storing of information in graphing calculators, pagers, cell phones, and other electronic devices. Therefore, no items of any kind may be on the desktop, including water bottles, during testing. Students may not wear hats/caps during testing. Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on a particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course at the discretion of the instructor and depending upon the severity and frequency of the incidents.

**Accommodations for students with disabilities:**

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act please contact me as soon as possible. A formal counseling assessment to determine the appropriate accommodation is required before any accommodation(s) can be made. The counseling center facilitates the process.

**Student Required PPE for Field Trips:**

Each student must have the following items during each class in order to be allowed to participate for certain field trips.

- Hardhat

- Water

- Boots (minimum 8” high uppers, nonskid soles preferably Vibram, no steel)

- Long Pants w/ Belt

- Long Sleeve Cotton Work Shirt

- Backpack sufficient to carry hardhat, gloves, safety glasses, water, and food

\*\*\* Details will be given during the first class meeting\*\*\*

**COURSE SCHEDULE (tentative)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Lecture Topic** | **Lab** | **Homework** |
| **1** | Aug. 7 | Course Introduction | Campus Tour &Library Resources | canvas and student email |
| **2** | Aug. 14 | Forest Regions &Distribution | Tool ID and Demonstrations (woodlot) | CA Forest Types |
| Forest Types in California |
| **3** | Aug. 21 | Overview of Forest Management | Pacing | CA Forests &Parks |
| National &State Lands in California |
| **4** | Aug. 28 | History of Natural Resources in North America | Avenza Maps | Lab Work |
|
| **5** | Sept. 4 | **Labor Day** | **No Class** |   |
| **6** | Sept. 11 | Forest and Environmental Policy | Spotted Owl Controversy | Timber Wars |
| **7** | Sept. 18 | The "Timber Wars" |
| **8** | Sept. 25 | **Forest Conservation Days** | **No Class** | extra credit for helping |
| **9** | Oct. 2 | Basic tree Identification | Exam Review | at-home tree ID |
| **10** | Oct. 9 | **Midterm Exam** | **No Lab** |   |
| **11** | Oct. 16 | Forest Ecology and Health | Ponderosa Pine Mortality, Western Pine Beetle, & Drought/Afterburn (YouTube) | Lab Write up |
| **12** | Oct. 23 | Fire Ecology, Fuels, and Wildfire | go over exam | field trip waivers |
| **13** | Oct. 30 | **Field Trip (Sequoia Lake)** | Brown's Transect | field trip write-up |
| **14** | Nov. 6 | Silviculture and Measurements | tree height &diameter | Lab Work |
|
| **15** | Nov. 13 | **Field Trip** | **(SCE) Creek fire Restoration** | field trip write-up |
| **16** | Nov. 20 | Forest Restoration | Forest Conditions and Visualization lab | Lab work |
| **17** | Nov. 27 | **Class Presentations** | Exam Review |   |
| **18** | Dec. 4 | **Final Exam** |   |

**Notes:**

1. ***This schedule is tentative***. Poor weather or conditions (i.e. high winds, wildfires) may cause safety concerns and rescheduling to different days. Also, sometimes logistics for getting

access to different sites will cause changes in the schedule.

2. Field labs require walking in sometimes rough terrain and being near water bodies.

Trails may have heavy brush. Weather may include high winds, rain, or heat on

some specific cases. Dress appropriately.

3. Attendance for field trips is required. If you cannot make it, you should acquire field trip information because test materials are often given during labs and participation is graded.

**Student Evaluation:**

Students will need to spend time outside of class to review course materials, complete lab assignments, and to prepare for exams and presentations. All assignments and lab reports must be submitted one week after being assigned unless otherwise agreed upon. Late assignments and reports will receive a full grade-mark reduction per week and assignments more than 3 weeks late will be given a zero mark. Reasons other than bereavement or authenticated illness are normally not admissible justification for missing scheduled exams. Should a student miss an exam, it is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

**Grading Scale:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Participation | 200 |  |
| Assignments | 400 |  |
| Presentation | 100 |  |
| Midterm | 150 |  |
| Final | 150 |  |
| **Total** | 1000 |  |

A = 900-1000

B = 800-899

C = 700-799

D = 600-699

F = 0-599

***Please communicate with me if you will be late, absent, or have issues regarding class attendance. We can work something out- but only if you allow me to help you. Please meet me halfway this semester*. *If you have questions regarding grading, class content, or simply are having any trouble understanding something- please come talk to me. We are all here to learn and I am here to help! :)***