

NR 11 - Silviculture COURSE SYLLABUS

OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to introduce the student to basic principles and some practical techniques of sustaining long term forest productivity while ensuring continued forest health. To accomplish these ends, we will explore the basic concepts of relationships between soil, water, climate, disturbance, flora, and fauna as they relate to the productivity and health of wildland resources.

TEXTBOOK

None required; however, there will be considerable reference materials from many sources which students should avail themselves of. The reference text titled "*The Practice of Silviculture*" by David M. Smith is a good general reference. There will also be numerous handouts during the conduct of the course; use them to your advantage.

TECHNICAL PAPERS/PROJECTS

Each student will select a topic in silviculture and write a paper covering the subject chosen. All technical paper topics must be approved by the instructor in advance. Assistance will be provided and reference materials made available to students. Choose a topic early and start gathering needed data right away. Nine weeks is not a very long time to complete this assignment. A list of acceptable topics will be provided at the beginning of this course.

There will be three or four project papers assigned during the nine week period. They will be assigned in teams of two or three; however, each team member must contribute separate portions of each assignment. A like grade will be awarded to each team member. These project assignments will be practical problems in silviculture at the technical level. Each project will require considerable individual effort on the part of each student for a composite grade. Ample notice will be given for the completion of each project.

EXAMS & QUIZZES

There will be one midterm* and a final exam; however, there will be frequent unannounced quizzes of 15-25 points each on materials already covered in class. There are no make-ups for late or missed quizzes. Therefore, get to class on time. For the benefit of all student, and to save time, unit outlines will be made available as a guide to each lecture. They can be found just inside the door as you enter the classroom.

GRADING

Generally, the class is graded on a sliding curve. There will be no make-up exams, except under very unusual circumstances, and then only with prior approval from the instructor*. Being late to class will have an automatic 10 point deduction in attendance points, plus loss of quiz score. No class papers or technical reports will be accepted late, except under unusual circumstances, and then only with prior arrangement with the instructor. Remember, nine weeks passes very quickly, so we must start out in high gear and keep running hard to accomplish all of the assigned material. If we all work together, we will have a great experience and learn a lot about the art and science of silviculture.

*There is a one week grace period in which to take the exam with a 10% reduction in score; otherwise, no credit will be given after that time. In general, a passing grade of 70% is a "C". However, in order to pass the course with a "D" grade, a student must maintain an overall average of 65%. Grading is based on a sliding curve using the high total points awarded. In other words, if the highest total points received by any student is 855, the bottom of the "A" would be about 770, etc.

drop date

BREAKDOWN OF ALLOWABLE POINTS

<u>Subject/Item</u>	<u>Approx. Points</u>
Midterm	220
Final Exam	300
Quizzes (15-25 points/each)	140
Projects I, II, III	185
Attendance (10 points/each)	130
Technical Paper	<u>235</u>
Total Points	1210±

ATTENDANCE

The class will meet **PROMPTLY** at 0800 each Tuesday and Thursday, unless otherwise specified by the instructor. Regular lecture meetings will run a continuous 1 hour and 40 minutes without a break. This gives the student 20 minutes between the next two hour block of courses.

Attendance points for each class session will be awarded. Excused absences are awarded attendance points also. Only the following are considered "excused" absences: illness, medical and dental appointments, death or serious illness/injury in the immediate family, and court appearances (on a case-by-case basis). Each of the above will be considered by the instructor as to whether or not it qualifies as an excused absence.

For any absence due to the above, students must contact the instructor at 638-3641, extension 3275 or 3310. After two consecutive weeks of absence, the student will be dropped. Reinstatement at that point is by formal petition only. Students will be dropped after any four (4) absences for non-attendance. Reinstatement can occur only if extenuating circumstances can be documented. Also, two tardies constitutes one absence. **The responsibility to drop the course lies with the student.**

Because of the intense nature of a nine week course, if you arrive later than the instructor, you will find the door locked and no entry will be granted. **It is disruptive to the class to have students coming in late. Be on time or don't come at all!**

COLLEGE POLICIES

Campus code requires shoe (sandals accepted) and a shirt be worn at all times. Eating, drinking, or smoking (including use of smokeless tobacco products) is **NOT ALLOWED** in the classroom or during class activities. No children and/or pets will be allowed to "sit in" and no animals are allowed in buildings.

Also, no student may carry a knife of any kind with a blade which exceeds 3" in length. For field activities only in the forestry program, you may carry a folding knife or sheathed knife.

A student must complete the entire course (including the final exam) in order to receive a passing grade.

If a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing another's work, they will be dropped from the course with a subsequent grade of "F".

No skateboards or roller blades, etc. are allowed in class or on campus.

No bicycles will be allowed to be parked inside the forestry building at any time.

INSTRUCTOR'S POLICIES

As there is no textbook for this course, it is very important that students attend all class sessions.

There will be no talking to associate students during class time. Repeated violations of this policy will result in dismissal from class at the discretion of the instructor for the student's return.

No "horseplay" will be tolerated at any time.

Male students will remove hats while in the classroom.

No foul language will be tolerated at any time.

Anything you bring with you to class will be taken when you leave. If you have refuse to dispose of, there is a trash receptacle provided in the room for your use.

Misuse of equipment and/or supplies will be paid for by the student(s) responsible. This does not mean that equipment will not get damaged or broken through normal use, but once a student is trained properly in the use of the equipment, misuse will not be tolerated.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 1100-1200

Other times can be arranged on an individual basis if needed. My office (FEM 3) is in the short hallway next to FEM 1. My on campus telephone extension is 3275.

SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lecture/Activity</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Oct. 19	Introduction, Conduct of Course, Role of Silviculture, VUE Analysis	Technical Paper
Oct. 21	VUE Analysis: Soils, Erosion, Temperature Effects, Light Influences, Site Influences	
Oct. 26	VUE Analysis: Nutrient Cycling, Water Relationships, Stream Ecology	Project I Assigned
Oct. 28	Sequoia Lake Field Course (NR 15, Oct. 28-30)	
Nov. 2	Site Preparation, Artificial Regeneration	<u>Project I Due</u>
Nov. 4	Nursery Operations, TSI Concepts	
Nov. 9	T.S.I. Concepts	Project II Assigned
Nov. 11	Veterans' Holiday - no class	
Nov. 16	<u>Midterm Exam</u> (1 hr. 35 mins.)	
Nov. 18	Commercial Thinning, Silvicultural Systems	
Nov. 23	Silvicultural Systems	<u>Project II Due</u>
Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Holiday - no class	"Pig Out!"
Nov. 30	Insect & Disease Control, Animal Damage	<u>Project II Due</u>
Dec. 2	Wildlife Considerations & Tree Improvement	Project III Assigned
Dec. 7	Natural Control Methods vs. Pesticide Use	<u>Project III Due</u>
Dec. 9	Silvicultural Products & Environmental Issues	<u>Technical Papers Due</u>
Dec. 14	<u>0800 - 1000 Final Exam</u>	