



NR 1 INTRODUCTION TO FORESTRY

Spring 2010 - 50351

Tuesday 1:00 - 1:50 Lecture

Tuesday 2:00-4:50 Lab

2 Units Credit

Instructor: Jason Pinkerton
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Office Hours: W 1:00-3:00 and TH 12:00-1:00
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

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. It will serve as an orientation to the Reedley College Forestry/Natural Resources Technician Program. History of resources management, governmental and private land management entity structure, basic chainsaw operation, identification of plants, common forestry tool identification and repair, and forest measurements will be included

COURSE OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- A. Compare the difference between multiple use and preservation management.
- B. Appraise the benefits of managed versus unmanaged forests.
- C. Prepare equipment for safe operation to fell and buck trees.
- D. Distinguish characteristics resulting in defects of wood.
- E. Explain various public agencies' authority in the management of natural resources in the U.S.
- F. Recognize silvicultural methods applied to forest tree stands.
- G. Detect the presence of epidemic levels of forest insect pests.
- H. List materials that are supplied from forest products.
- I. Understand a system of timber valuation based on price per volume.
- J. Express the benefits of membership in professional resource organizations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

In the process of completing this course, students will:

- A. Identify 30 forestry tools.
- B. Report on current events in natural resources.
- C. Operate powersaws in the felling and bucking of trees.
- D. List common pests and diseases of the forest.
- E. Determine land area in acres by pacing
- F. Examine forest trees and observe indicators of forest pest damage.
- G. Determine common land and timber measurements.
- H. Use comparisons of texture, density, color and scent to identify wood species

TEXTBOOK(S):

Sharpe, G. 2003. Introduction to forests and renewable resources, Seventh Edition, McGraw Hill.

Required

Lewis, J. 2005. The greatest good, a centennial history. Forest History Society. www.foresthistory.org

Recommended

Thomas, J.W. 1998. Forty Years a Forester: 1903-1943” (Elers Koch). Press Publishing Company.

Recommended

Helms, J.A. 1998. The dictionary of forestry. The Society of American Foresters, Bethesda, MD.

Recommended

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION:

- It is your responsibility to stay informed on any changes to assignment due dates, readings, test material, etc. Missing a class doesn't excuse you from this responsibility (i.e. if a due date for an assignment changes, new assignments are given, etc.). This means you should ask a trustworthy classmate for notes if you are absent. Being absent is not an excuse for late work, late assignments, or just not knowing what is happening.
- It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from this and/or any course. Failure to do may result in a "F" grade being awarded. As an instructor, I have the option to drop students who miss more than four class periods.
- Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. No credit will be given for an assignment if in the opinion of the instructor the individual has cheated.
- "If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., 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."
- Please turn cellular phones and pagers off during class time (1 point will be deducted from your final participation grade for each cell phone ring throughout the semester). Sunflower seeds and all tobacco products are NOT permitted in the classroom or laboratory setting.

CLOTHING AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT

You will be working with equipment in an outdoor setting. Wear long pants, long sleeve shirts, (also warm clothing or rain gear when appropriate). You must also have a hardhat, leather gloves, safety glasses, and boots. This is for protection while working with chainsaws and vegetation. This personal safety equipment will be required during laboratory exercises. You may not receive credit for participation in a laboratory if you do not have the proper safety equipment.

You must have a hardhat, gloves, safety glasses and boots

ATTENDANCE:

You should come to every class, and be there on time. Arrival after roll is taken will be considered a tardy. Two tardies will count as one absence. The success of this or any other course depends on your presence and active participation. 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.

LAST DAY TO DROP THE COURSE Friday, January 29th without a "W" Friday, March 12th

PARTICIPATION AND GRADING POLICY:

Grading for this course is based on the sum of two exams, a comprehensive final, issues reports, skill demonstration, and unannounced quizzes. Both lecture and laboratory material will be covered on midterm exams and quizzes. **No early or makeup exams or quizzes will be given**, unless previously (one week – seven days) authorized by the instructor. All assignments are due at the beginning of the following class session. All late assignments will be deducted 10% for each day late and must be turned in within one week of due date to receive any credit. Final grades may be curved based on a percentile of the highest point total in the class.:

Grades

Examination I	15%
Examination II	15%
Final Exam	30%
Quizzes	10%
Issue Reports (20 points each)	20%
Laboratory Skills Demonstration	<u>10%</u>
	100%
Extra Credit	
Professional Organization Membership	5%
Forestry Club/SAF Participation	5%

Grades will be assigned based on a straight percentage system according to the following scale.

A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89
C	70 – 79
D	50 – 69
F	49 or less

Final Examination

Thursday, May 21 at 2:00 – 3:50 PM

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

DATE	Lecture	Laboratory	
			ASSIGNMENTS DUE
Week 1 Jan 12	Overview of NR Program	Tool Identification	Obtain tool for repair
Week 2 Jan 19	History of Resources (Ch 1, 2, 3, Appendix A)	History of Resources	
Week 3 Jan 26	Resources Agency Structure (Ch 17, 18)	Tool Maintenance	Need Safety Equipment
Week 4 Feb 2	Professional Organizations (Appendix F, G, H)	Trail Construction	Need Safety Equipment
Week 5 Feb 9	Exam I	Chainsaw Maintenance	Need Safety Equipment
Week 6 Feb 16	Chainsaw Safety	Chainsaw Operation	Issue Report due (Organization Research)
Week 7 Feb 23	Parliamentary Procedure	Felling and Bucking	
Week 8 Mar 2	Timber Production (Ch 13, 19)	Felling and Bucking	
Week 9 Mar 9	Pests and Disease of Forests (Ch 6, 7)	Land Measurements (Ch 16)	
Week 10 Mar 16	Slope and Height Measurement (Ch 16)	Timber Cruising (Ch 16)	Issue Report due (Historical Events; Appendix A, The Greatest Good, 100 Years a Forester)
Week 11 Mar 23	Topographic Maps (Ch 16)	Legal Land Description Maps (Ch 16)	
Week 12 Mar 30	<i>Spring Recess NO CLASS</i>		
Week 13 April 6	Data Collection and Download	GPS and Compass	
Week 14 April 20	Exam II	Plant Identification (Appendix D, E)	Issue Report due (Benefits of Forest Management)
Week 15 April 27	Forest Soil	Soil Conservation (Ch 4, 10, 15, 19)	
Week 16 May 4	Wood Species ID (Ch 14)	Lumber Characteristics (Ch 14)	
Week 17 May 11	Review	Review	
Week 18 May 18	Final Exam		