NR 21-Forest Products

Reedley College- Fall 2009 CR#50041

Lecture Friday 8:00 to 12:50 pm.

Lab Friday 1:50 pm to 5:50 pm.

**Instructor:** Ian Stone

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Office Hours: Tues. 11:00 am to 12:00 noon and 3:00 to 4:00 pm, Thurs. 1:00 to 2:00 pm.

Other time by appointment

**Course Outcomes:**

1. Differentiate among the major logging systems used in California
2. Prepare a simplified timber appraisal.
3. Assess lumber grades.
4. Use of a portable sawmill in the manufacturing of simple wood products.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Identify the equipment used in California sawmills and know their respective functions.
2. Identify by-products and their use from primary wood manufacturing processes.
3. Recognize the major logging systems in California.
4. Recognize the major wood defects associated with the lumber industry.
5. Discuss the various laws associated with public and private lands in California.

**Attendance and Drop Policy:**

Class attendance is essential for students to be successful in any course, and this is especially true for compressed schedule courses. One missed class period in this course is equivalent to two or three missed class periods in a standard course. Therefore, it is essential that students attend all lectures and labs and labs; however, students are not graded on attendance. Due to the limited number of seats in the class, and the high demand, students who miss the first class meeting will be promptly dropped. Students must stay in class for the entire period to be counted as present. Students absent from three or more class meetings (lecture or lab) without a recognized excuse will be dropped from the course.

It is a student’s responsibility to drop the course if they no longer wish to be enrolled in the course. Failure to do so could result in a student receiving a failing grade in the course or being dropped by the instructor for failure to attend.

The following dates are important to follow to avoid receiving drop grades or a failing grade

Last day to add 10/20

Last day to drop without a drop grade 10/21

Last day to drop with a drop grade 11/18

**Absence Policy**

The only excused absences that will be recognized are personal illness, medical emergency, family emergencies, a death in the immediate family (parent, sibling, grandparent), and professional development (i.e. professional meetings, job interviews). For these excuses to be recognized students must provide appropriate documentation. Personal illness and medical emergencies requires verification by a physician (doctor’s excuse) or the college nurse. Medical issues are private, and if a student wishes he or she can provide documentation of the illness to the college nurse and have the nurse send verification to the instructor to assure medical issues remain private. For family emergency students should provide some documentation from their immediate family detailing the emergency and why the student should be excused. For a death in the immediate family students should provide the instructor with a copy of the obituary. For professional development students must provide documentation that they attended the event (for example a letter from an advisor, e-mail confirming the job interview, etc.) Recognition of the excuse is the decision of the instructor and will be based on the documentation provided. Failure to provide appropriate documentation will result in the absence being considered unexcused.

In the event that a student will be absent for an extended period of time (more than one class meeting) due to illness or similar issues must notify the instructor immediately. An extended absence in compressed schedule courses can severely impact a student’s performance in the course. Students who will have an extended absence should seek guidance from the instructor as to whether they should continue in the course or drop.

**Classroom Policies and Essential Information**

Academic Honesty

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offences and will not be tolerated. 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.

**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, in an attempt to gain an unearned academic advantage. Cheating may include, but is not limited to, copying from another’s work, supplying one’s work to another, giving or receiving copies of examinations without an instructor’s permission, using or displaying notes or devices inappropriate to the conditions of the examination, allowing someone other than the officially enrolled student to represent the student, or failing to disclose research results completely.

**Plagiarism** is a specific form of cheating: the use of another’s words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify the contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicate work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights.

Any student found to have violated academic honesty standards on an assignment, quiz, or exam will **receive immediate sanctions.** Sanction can include a failing grade on the assignment or in the course at the discretion of the instructor. Student violating academic honesty standard may also be turned over to the Vice President of Student Services for further sanctions.

Classroom Conduct

The objective of this course is for students to learn, and accomplishing this requires a structured environment. Students must remain respectful of their fellow students and the instructor at all times. Disruptive behavior of any sort will not be tolerated. Students engaging in disruptive behavior such as loud outbursts, obscene gestures or language, harassment or belittlement of fellow students or the instructor, or any other offensive and disruptive conduct will be told to stop the behavior immediately. If a student persists with the behavior they will be ejected from the class and reported to the Vice President of Student Services.

Students are not to use tobacco products (smoking or smokeless) during class or in the vans while traveling to and from labs. Students using tobacco products during class or in the vans will be told to put the product away and case using it. If students continue to violate this policy they may be ejected from class. Students are not to bring any food items into class during lecture. When working with laptops or in computer labs students are not to consume food or drink to prevent damage to the computers. During field trips students are expected to clean up after themselves in the van and remove all drink and food containers/wrappers from the van.

Students should take care to arrive to class on time. It is distracting and disruptive to other students to arrive late and interrupt the class. Students arriving more than 15 minutes late should wait until a class break before entering the room. If a student is habitually late for class they will be required to meet with the instructor concerning their tardiness. For field trips students must be on time. The bus will not wait for students who are late. Failure to arrive on time may result in the student missing the field lab, and the student will be considered absent.

Electronic Devices

All electronic devices such as cell phones, I Pods, etc. must be turned off during class. Students may use laptops during class to take notes, but the sound must be muted to prevent disturbing class. The use of any electronic devices other than a non-graphing calculator during quizzes or exams is not permitted. Students violating these policies will receive a reminder to turn off devices or silence their laptops.

Academic Accommodation

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.

**Textbooks and References**

Recommended: Schmulsky, R and P. D. Jones. 2011 *Forest Products and Wood Science* 6th ed. Wiley-Blackwell

Recommended Manuals:

Western Wood Species Book, Vol. 2, Selects-Finish/Commons-Boards, Western Wood Products Association

Western Lumber Grading Rules (Model G5), Western Wood Products Association

Western Lumber Product Use Manual (Model A), Western Wood Products Association

**Required Materials**

Students must have all required safety equipment when working with sawmills, chainsaws, and on field trips. The standard of 8” boots, gloves, pants, long sleeves, and a hard hat will be enforced. Students must furnish these items for their own use, they will not be provided.

A scientific calculator such as a TI 30 series or similar can be extremely valuable when performing calculations required in the course and on exams.

**Grading Policy:**

Grades in this course will are based on a 10 point grading scale.

90-100% A

80-89% B

70-79% C

60-69% D

Final grades will be based on lab assignments, quizzes, exams, and lab assignments. The weight of each grading component is as follows.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Total Points | Percent of Final Grade |
| Midterm Exam | 250 | 25% |
| Final Exam | 300 | 30% |
| Lab Assignments | 300 | 30% |
| Daily Quizzes | 150 | 15% |
| Total | 1,000 | 100% |

Mid-term Exam

Students will be given one mid-term exam which will cover all material covered in prior lectures and labs. Make up exams will be allowed only for students who have a valid excuse (see absence policy). Students who fail to take the mid-term and have no valid excuse will receive a 0 on the mid-term.

Final Exam

Students will be given a comprehensive final exam. The final exam is cumulative and will cover all material presented in lectures and labs. Attendance for the final exam is mandatory. If a student will be absent for the exam they may reschedule the exam time with prior notice (a minimum of 1 business day). Students failing to take the final exam will receive an automatic 0. The final exam is cumulative and will cover any and all topics presented in lectures and labs.

Lab Assignments:

Students will be required to turn in an assignment for each laboratory. Assignments will vary from work sheets to written reports. Assignments are due at the start of the next lab. Due to the nature of forestry field labs it is impossible to reproduce the field lab. In these cases students will be given a suitable make-up assignment. Students who do not provide documentation of an excused absence (see absence policy) will not be allowed to undertake a makeup assignment.

Quizzes

Students will be given a daily quiz. These quizzes will cover material presented in the lecture and are designed to test student comprehension and encourage students to study. Make up quizzes will not be given if the student does not have a valid excuse (see absence policy).

**Tentative Course Schedule**

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| Date | Lecture Topic | Lab Topic and Location: All Students Must Complete the NR 109/115 Field Trips |
| 10/21 | Introduction, History of Wood Uses, Major Western Timber Species, Wood Characteristics | Western Wood Products and Markets, Wood Defects, Trip to Reedley Lumber |
| 10/28 | Local Lumber Production: All day field trip to Sierra Forest Products at Terra Bella and John Wagy Forest Products at Springville. **Students Must Pack Lunch** | |
| 11/4 | Standing Timber Evaluation, Timber Harvesting, Mill Procurement and Raw Material Supply, Principles of Grading | Field Trip: Sequoia Lake Active Timber Harvest, Standing Volume Appraisal and Grading. |
| 11/11 | Veterans Day No Class | |
| 11/18 | Exam: 8:00 to 10:00 am.  Lecture Material (After Exam):  Moisture Content, Drying and Curing, Lumber Grades and Uses, Volume Calculations  Lab Activity:  Portable Sawmilling: Introduction and Operation | |
| 11/25 | Thanksgiving Holidays No Class | |
| 12/2 | Pulpwood Products, Composite Products, Wood Based Bioenergy and Bioproducts, and Associated Processes | Portable Sawmilling: Maximization of Value, Lumber Grading, Drying of Lumber |
| 12/9 | Environmental Impacts of Wood Uses, Polices Affecting Wood Products and Supply, Certification/Life Cycle Assessment Overview-Guest Speaker: Mason Earles UCDAVIS PhD Student | Guest Lecture Continued.  Review for Final |
| 12/12-12/16 | Finals Week | |