NR 12-Watershed Ecology

Section # 56436

Course Syllabus

Room FEM 12

**Lecture:** Wednesday 8:00 am to 9:50 am.

**Lab:** Wednesday 10:00 am to 12:50 pm.

**Instructor:** Louie M. Long Jr.

Office: FEM 4F, Phone (559) 638-0300, Ext. 3268

Email: louie.long@reedleycollege.edu

Office Hours: Tues. 11:00am – 12:00pm, Wed. 2:00pm – 3:00pm, Other times by appoint.

**Course Prerequisites:** None **Units:** 3

**Required Materials:**  Below is a list of required materials for this course.

**Textbooks:**

None. We will be working from power points and modules in Canvas

**Calculator:**

Students will need a scientific calculator such as a TI 30 series or similar to complete calculations while in the field or in the classroom. A phone app will work however, we will be working in or near the river quite a bit and there is always the risk that you may drop your phone in the water. I have and it can be an expensive mistake.

**Lab manual:**

All of our labs and associated data sheets can be found in the NR 12 Watershed Ecology Lab Manual. The lab manual is required for successful completion of this course. It will be provided for you.

**Course Objectives:**

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| Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:  |
| 1. Delineate the boundaries of a watershed and sub-watershed.
2. Analyze and respond to natural and human-induced disturbances to achieve the desired outcomes indicated by their supervisor.
3. Apply the necessary skills to assist the supervisor with data collection, scientific analysis, and to prepare basic reports.
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**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will recognize historic, political, and economical perspectives of aquatic resources.
2. Students will understand the effects that vegetation management such as grazing and timber harvest has on water quality and water quality.
3. Students will interpret data to determine water quality for fish habitat, potability, and agricultural utilization.
4. Students will understand the hydrologic cycle including physical processes, storage, and transport.
5. Students will operate aquatic monitoring equipment and record data in a field setting.
6. Students will describe the geomorphology and history of human influence on the Sierran Aquatic systems.

# **Essential Information:**

You are expected to treat others as you would want to be treated yourself, even if you disagree with an expressed opinion. Please refrain from using foul language. As a student in the Forestry Program, you are preparing yourself for a professional career in the natural resource field and you are expected to conduct yourself as such at all times.

Be on time! Walking into class late is distracting. Make sure you give yourself plenty of time to make it to school, find a parking spot, and walk to class. 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. Check CANVAS often!!! I recommend checking CANVAS every day and not just for this class.

If for whatever reason you cannot complete the class this semester, make sure that you officially drop the class via WebAdvisor. If you just stop showing up for class, you may not be officially dropped and end up receiving an “F” in the class when you thought you had withdrawn.

It is important for you to show up for class. While the lecture material is available on CANVAS, we will be discussing the material in depth during class. As per college policy, I have to drop you if you miss 3 or more classes.

Please turn cell phones off during class time. Using these devices during lectures is distracting to you and to students around you as well as to me. Trying to hide your phone under the table doesn’t work either. I still see you using it. Don’t make me call you out in class.

Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. You will not receive credit for an assignment if, in my opinion, you have cheated. Cheating on an exam will result in an “F” on the exam and could result in dismissal from the Forestry Program. While cheating is not tolerated, I encourage you to work together on lab assignments. This makes the lab more interesting and helps you to learn the material. Even though you are working in groups, you will each be required to submit your own lab sheet unless otherwise instructed.

Sunflower seeds and all tobacco products are **NOT** permitted in the classroom or laboratory setting. Reedley College is now a smoke free campus.

“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.”

 **Field Trips:**

There will be multiple field trips taken during the semester. These trips will generally occur during the scheduled class time. However, we may return to campus after 1:00 pm on occasion. Field trips are designed to allow for on-site observation of watershed management practices currently employed by industry. Therefore, attendance and participation is mandatory.

Field trips are designed to allow for on-site observation of watershed management techniques. Therefore, attendance and participation is mandatory. If you miss a field trip, **NO** participation points will be credited. Upon approval of the instructor, you may make up one excused field trip and report.

Field trip reports are due at the beginning of the following class meeting, **No Exceptions**. Overdue reports will be docked 10 points per day late. Reports overdue by one week or greater will receive a zero.

**Field Trips (dependent upon agency availability):**

Thorburn Spawning Channel

~~Pine Flat Dam/Hydroelectric Power Plant Tour~~

~~Terminus Dam Tour (Lake Kaweah)~~

~~Lower Kings River Tour~~

**Labs:**

Labs for this class will occur primarily outside in an in-field laboratory setting. Always come to lab prepared for outside activities. Being prepared means sturdy hiking shoes or boot, long pants, long sleeved shirt, jacket, eye protection, hearing protection, a lunch, and water. We will be suiting up in waders and wading into the Kings River on multiple occasions. You may want to bring a spare pair of socks and pants in the event that your waders have a hole or you fall in the river.

**Attendance and Grading Policy:**

Class attendance is essential for students to be successful in any course, and this is especially true for compressed schedule courses. Individual participation will be considered when assigning your final grade. **If you miss class >3 times during the semester (without a valid reason) you may be dropped from the course**.

**Holidays:**

Holidays will be observed as per the State Center Community College District Schedule.

**Drop Deadline:** November 9**,** 2020,after this date letter grade assigned.

**Final Exam: Monday, December 7, 8:00am – 9:50am**

**Grading Policy:**

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

 90-100% A

 80-89% B

 70-79% C

 60-69% D

 59% or less F

Final grades may be curved based on a percentage of the highest point total in the class. Late exams will be docked 10% per day overdue.

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Item  | Percent of Final Grade |
| Exam 1 | 10% |
| Final Exam  | 20% |
| Lab Assignments  | 60% |
| Quizzes  | 10% |
| Total  | 100% |

**Lab Assignments**

Lab assignments will vary from practical skills assessments, computer assignments, and written lab reports. All assignments are due the following class period. Makeup lab assignments will not be allowed without a valid excuse. Students must attend the lab or provide an excuse to complete a lab assignment.

Lab grades will be based on your mastery of the learning objective. I will use the scale listed below to assess your mastery of the objective.

|  |
| --- |
| Lab Assignments |
| E | Exceptional Competence |
| C | Clear Competence |
| A | Adequate Competence |
| B | Basic Competence |
| N | No Evidence of ProgressTowards the Learning Target |
| \* The points you see on Canvas are arbitrary and do not denote the valueof each lab assignment |

**Quizzes**

Students will be given unannounced quizzes at random during lectures. Quizzes will cover material and terms presented in the lecture and are designed to test student comprehension.

**COVID19 and the Spring Semester:**

**Attendance Policies**

Students should evaluate their own health daily and must complete the online health screening available daily: <https://scccd.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3IO880HybZg7ajX>

If they have any of the following symptoms, they should not attend class. Students are encouraged to contact the nurse or healthcare provider for further guidance. Common COVID-19 symptoms include, but are not limited to:

* cough
* sore throat
* shortness of breath
* runny nose (not due to seasonal allergies)
* fever (100.4 degrees or more)
* and/or chills

Students should also not attend class if they have had close contact with anyone who has had these symptoms in the last 14 days.

Students may be dropped if they miss more than two consecutive class meetings without explanation before week 4.

**COVID 19 Safety Practices**

**Facial Coverings: Students and instructors are required to wear facial coverings or masks that cover and fit the face against the nose and mouth when entering, exiting, and throughout class.** Students who have a documented medical condition that prevents them from using a snugly fitting facial covering can use face shields as an alternative.

The wearing of facial coverings is Reedley College policy. Refusal to wear facial coverings will result in you being removed from the class for the day.

“Removal from Class by Instructor Reedley College’s Student Code of Conduct Policy (Board Policy 5520 and Educational Code 76032) authorizes an instructor to remove a disruptive student from his or her class for the day of the removal and the next class meeting. The instructor shall immediately report the removal to the Vice President of Student Services. During the period of removal, a student shall not be returned to the class from which he or she was removed without the concurrence of the instructor of the class.”

Handwashing: Students are required to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer prior to class. Hand sanitizer is available in the classroom for their use.

Social Distancing: Students are required to stay at least 6 feet apart while on campus. In the classroom, maintain social distance and sit in seats as designated by the seating chart.

Classroom Cleaning: Students will wipe down their seating/work area with disinfectant before and after class.

Safety procedures are subject to update.

Tentative Class Schedule

Note: exact order of topics may vary depending upon scheduling of field trips and availability of necessary resources.

