Arthur Temple College of Forestry & Agriculture
Course Syllabus for FOR111 – Spring 2018
Lecture Section 001 and Lab Section 021

Course Number & Title
FOR 111 – Careers and Competencies in Forestry
3 Credit Hours – 2 hours lecture & 3 hours lab per week.

Lectures: Monday & Wednesday – 8:00 - 8:50am (001) Classroom: Forestry 222
Labs: Wednesday 1:00 – 3:50pm (022) Classroom: Forestry 222

Instructors
Lecture Dr. Shelby Gull Laird Office FO 204
Email: lairdsg@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: 9:00am - 12pm, M;
9:00am - 11pm, W; and
Also by appointment
Office Phone: 936-468-2014 Fax: 936-468-2489

Labs Mr. Jason Grogan Office FO 126
Email: jgrogan@sfasu.edu

Mr. Trenton Stiefel, Graduate Teaching Assistant Office FO 212A
Email: stiefelta@jacks.sfasu.edu
Office Phone: 936-468-1270

Textbook (Required)

Additional readings may be provided on D2L and/or in class.

Lab Materials (Required) –
Hard-hat (available at home improvement stores); covered clipboard; reusable water bottle; hand-held calculator; hiking/work boots that reach above the ankle (NO low-quarter shoes); ankle-length pants; shirt with sleeves; rainwear; and warm clothing for cold days. A Silva Ranger type compass is strongly recommended. For your safety absolutely NO shorts, Capri pants, flip-flops, backless shoes, or sandals will be allowed to be worn in field labs. If you come to a field lab dressed inappropriately you will be not be allowed to attend laboratory and your absence will be considered unexcused.

Course Description
Introduction to the multiple use concepts of forestry and basic techniques of forest resource management. Required field trips. Course fee required.

The desired outcome of FOR111, Careers and Competencies in Forestry, is to introduce students to an array of Forestry topics, from forest history to human interactions with forests’ natural renewable resources to technical knowledge & skills that are used in the practice and philosophy of forestry. Students should also be familiar with a variety of career options available to forestry majors.
Students will enter their subsequent Forestry courses with knowledge & skills grounded in the terminology and concepts that are universal to the practice of Forestry and that form a base for making renewable natural resource decisions.

**FOR 111 Student Learning Outcomes**

1. **Program Learning Outcomes** – The following course learning outcomes have been approved for the Bachelor of Science in Forestry (BSF) degree program and will be addressed in the course, Forestry 111 – Introduction to Forestry. During and by the end of this course students will be able to:
   a. Demonstrate understanding and competency in forest ecology and biology;
   b. Demonstrate understanding and competency in the measurement of forest resources;
   c. Demonstrate understanding and competency in managing forest resources;
   d. Demonstrate understanding and competency in forest resource policy, economics, and administration.
   e. Demonstrate understanding and competency in oral and written communication skills.

2. Furthermore, students enrolled in Introduction to Forestry will:
   a. Explore the field of Forestry in a hands-on, minds-on manner.
   b. Become familiar with renewable resource management, the objective of which is to accomplish a wide array of ecological & social goals.
   c. Be prepared to determine if forestry is the profession that they desire to pursue through a clear understanding of forestry related career options.
   d. Be prepared for successful accomplishment of subsequent forestry courses.

3. The following matrix indicates the level at which FOR 111 – Introduction to Forestry – supports the BSF Program Learning Outcomes – “B” = “BASIC”:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>PLO #1 Forest Ecology &amp; Biology</th>
<th>PLO #2 Forest Resource Measurement</th>
<th>PLO #3 Forest Resource Management</th>
<th>PLO #4 Forest Resource Policy, Economics, Administration</th>
<th>PLO #5 Oral &amp; Written Communication Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forestry Common Core</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course & Lab Policies –**

**A. Social Justice Statement**

This course and its instructors expect to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. This class will be a safe haven for the thoughts and ideals of all students. Our University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, genetic information, citizenship, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

**B. Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy (6.1)**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

*Students with documented disabilities who require course adaptations or accommodations should make an appointment to speak with the Professor.*
C. **Acceptable Student Behavior**  
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). **Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.** Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct_10.4.pdf)

D. **Responsible Use of Technology:** It is expected that all students will only use cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, MP3 players and other technology outside of class time or when appropriate in class. Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music or using a laptop computer for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class or other penalties.

E. **TESTING & GRADING**  
a. **FOR 111 – Introduction to Forestry is a Forestry Core Requirements course.** All students who are planning to earn a Bachelor of Science in Forestry (BSF), regardless of their major or concentration, must make a grade of “A”, “B”, or “C” in this course in order to graduate with the BSF degree.

   b. **The following is the grading scheme for FOR111:**

   **Lecture Assignments:** In-class assignments, quizzes, homework, online assignments, etc. 250 points
   **Midterm Exam** – from lecture notes, textbook & handouts 100 points
   **Final Exam - Comprehensive** – from lecture notes, textbook & handouts 150 points
   **Lab Assignments:** memos, technical reports, midterm exam & lab final exam during Dead Week 500 points

   **Total Course Points** 1000 points

   **LETTER GRADES**
   - A = 900+ points
   - B = 800-899 points;
   - C = 700-799 points;
   - D = 600-699 points;
   - F = 599 points or less;

   c. **Grade Appeal:** You will be allowed one week (7 calendar days) from the return of lab reports, assignments, tests, and quizzes to appeal your grade; after one week (7 calendar days), grades are final.

F. **EXAMS**
   a. FOR 111 exams will be administered according to the lecture and lab schedules that are a part of this syllabus unless a change is announced by the Professor or Graduate Teaching Assistant.

   b. Make-up exams may be given upon receipt of a documented medical excuse or an excuse provided by the office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Students who need to take an exam at other than the stated day and/or time must make arrangements with the
Professor or Graduate Teaching Assistant by the Friday before the exam is scheduled to be
given.

c. A student who wishes to make up an exam will have 7 calendar days after they return to FOR
111 class in which to do so. After 7 calendar days the student will receive a “0” for that
exam.

G. LABS & ASSIGNMENTS (See Policy 6.7 on attendance and absences)
   
a. Root Camp is Mandatory! It will be 1/27, 8-5pm, and 1/28, 1-5pm
   
i. Do not miss Root Camp. See the Professor now if you are going to miss for a
   university approved reason / absence.

b. Late penalty: Assignments are due on time. Even 1 second late, an assignment will incur a
10% penalty for each 24 hours it is late, including weekend days (no assignments will be
picked up on the weekend, so they count as being turned it at 8am on Monday). After 10
calendar days, the assignment will receive a zero.

c. Before going to the forest, labs will meet in the classroom of the Forestry Building as
assigned. Lab attendance is mandatory. Absences from lab will result in a grade of zero
for any assignments or exams due for the lab missed and a 5% reduction in total earned
points for each occurrence at the end of the semester.

d. Lab assignments will be due at the beginning of the lab period. If you are late to class,
the assignment will be marked as late and will incur a penalty.

A. Common Forestry Core Grade Policy
The faculty of the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture unanimously approved a new
Forestry Core Course grade policy that took effect on August 25, 2008 as follows:

a. The policy states that beginning with the first day of classes, August 25, 2008, all students
entering the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture for the first time in or after the
Fall 2008 semester must earn a grade of “A”, “B”, or “C” in each course in the Common Core of
Forestry & in Forestry Field Station in order to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in
Forestry.

b. This policy is different from the grade policy of Stephen F. Austin State University which
states that a student must earn a grade point average of 2.000 or higher in each of their major,
minor (if any), & overall academic work from SFA in order to earn a degree from SFA.

c. The “C or above” policy does not apply to courses taken as part of the students particular
emphasis or concentration such as Forest Management, Forest Wildlife Management, etc.
For each of those courses a student must earn a passing grade of “A”, “B”, “C”, or “D”.

d. If you have questions about this policy please contact Dr. Matt McBroom at
mcbroommatth@sfasu.edu or 936-468-2469.

B. Course Grades Policy (5.5)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic
chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work
because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from
the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If
students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be
counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. Please read the
complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf
C. **Student Academic Dishonesty Policy (4.1)**  
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism. **Definition of Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf)

**Consequences of Academic Dishonesty (Cheating) in FOR 111**  
a. The following consequences will be applied to students who are determined to have violated the Academic Integrity Policy in FOR 111:  
i. **1st time** - Students who violate the above Academic Integrity policy (cheat) on any test or assignment will be given a zero for that test or assignment.  
ii. **2nd time** – Students who violate the above Academic Integrity policy (cheat) for the second time on any test or assignment will receive an “F” as a final course grade.  
iii. **Plagiarism** is a very serious form of Academic Dishonesty and will be handled as outlined above in Items i. & ii.

D. **Attendance & Tardiness: (See Policy 6.7 on attendance and absences, linked below)**  
a. **LECTURE & LAB ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY IN FOR 111.**  
b. *For each unexcused absence over three (3), five percent (5%) may be deducted from the student’s earned points at the end of the semester. This policy will be strictly enacted.*  
c. Students are expected to be on time for each lecture and lab. Please arrive to class on time. If late entries become disruptive, students may be restricted from entering class late, or the instructor may deduct one percent (1%) from the student’s earned points at the end of the semester for each tardy.  
d. Lab assignments will be due at the beginning of the lab period in which they are due. **If you are late to class, the assignment will be marked as late and will incur a penalty.**  

E. **Seat Belts in College Vehicles:** In accord with SFA University Policy and the laws of the State of Texas, all occupants of any college vehicle will wear a seat belt when riding in that vehicle. There will be no exceptions to this policy. In accord with Texas law, any unrestrained vehicle occupant who is over the age of 15 may be issued a citation for failure to wear a seat belt.  
a. Drivers!!!! We may need drivers for some of the lab periods. **Please see one of your instructors if you would like to become a driver in the Forestry department.**

F. **Be Prepared:**  
a. Arrive on time for lecture or lab. If the door is locked when you arrive, do not knock – you’ve missed class and need to get the notes from a classmate later.  
b. Students are responsible for reading the assigned text chapter(s) **before** coming to class. That will increase your understanding of the material, improve discussions, and improve your grade in the course (plus there could always be a quiz)!
c. **Always be prepared to go into the forest for labs** by bringing the appropriate materials and being dressed for safety in the field. That includes ankle-length pants, appropriate shirt, ankle-covering boots, hardhat, calculator, and lab equipment.

G. **Professionalism:** College of Forestry & Agriculture students are expected to look and act like professionals. That includes dressing appropriately for class & lab. **Students may not wear hats in any Forestry or Ag building.**

H. **Classroom Interaction:**
   
a. **Please ask questions.** This is an interactive class and discussion is important. I welcome questions and will make every effort to get you the information that you seek. You may be helping the entire class when you ask your question.
   
b. **Classroom Behavior:** See policy above. I do not like talking while guests are talking, texting in class, and general disruptions.
   
c. **IMPORTANT!!** Handouts and course objectives will be e-mailed to you, put on D2L or handed out in lectures and labs. **For testing purposes you are responsible for all assignments and for the information in handout materials, online materials and anything discussed in class.**

I. University Policy 13.21 states that campus is tobacco and vape free. This includes all tobacco and vape related products, and includes all activities during field labs! See: [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/13.21_smoking-vaping-and-use-of-tobacco-products.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/13.21_smoking-vaping-and-use-of-tobacco-products.pdf)

J. University Policy 13.9 deals with firearms and the concealed carry policy. Students with concealed carry licenses that choose to carry on campus are required to follow all Texas laws and University policies and it is their responsibility to understand and comply accordingly. See: [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/13.9-Firearms-Explosives-and-Ammunition.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/13.9-Firearms-Explosives-and-Ammunition.pdf)

K. **A Lab Final Exam** will be given during **Dead Week – May 2, 2018** during lab time.

L. The Spring 2018 **FOR111 Final Exam** will be given on:

   **Sometime Exam Week May 7-11, 2018 from 8:00 – 10:00am** in Forestry Building Room 222
FOR 111 TENTATIVE Lecture Schedule – SPRING 2018

Lecture Schedule is subject to change in order to accommodate guest speakers and the pace of delivery of topics.

| Dates      | Topic                                      | Lecturer                          | Reading                  |
|------------|--------------------------------------------|__________________________________|--------------------------|
| Jan 17: W  | Introduction to FOR 111                   | Dr. Laird                         |                          |
| Jan 22: M  | Introduction to Forestry                  | Dr. Laird                         | Ch. 1                    |
| Jan 24: W  | Finding your career options               | Dr. Laird                         |                          |
| Jan 29: M  | TFA Introduction and Leadership           | Mr. Ron Hufford, TFA Exec. VP     | Ch. 2                    |
| Jan 31: W  | Introduction to Forestry                  | Dr. Laird                         | Ch. 3                    |
| Feb 5: M   | Major Management Issues                   | Dr. Laird                         | American Forests         |
| Feb 7: W   | Resume Building & Interviews              | Center for Career & Prof. Dev.    |                          |
| Feb 12: M  | Global Climate Change Issues Quiz on American Forests | Dr. Laird                         |                          |
| Feb 14: W  | Insects, Invasives, & Drones              | Dr. David Kulhavy                 | Ch. 6 & 7                |
| Feb 19: M  | Watershed Management Issues               | Dr. Laird                         | Ch. 10                   |
| Feb 21: W  | Finding your career options               | Dr. Laird                         |                          |
| Feb 26: M  | Forest Resources and Products             | Dr. Matt McBroom                  | Ch. 14                   |
| Feb 28: W  | Forest Ecology                            | Dr. Rebecca Kidd                  | Ch. 4                    |
| Mar 5: M   | Mid-term Exam Review Evaluation & Review  | Dr. Laird                         |                          |
| Mar 7: W   | Mid-term EXAM                              |                                    |                          |
| Mar 12-16  | No Class, SPRING BREAK HOLIDAY            |                                    |                          |
| Mar 19: M  | Silviculture/Timber Industry Careers      | TBD                                | Ch. 13                   |
| Mar 21: W  | Silviculture/Forest Ecosystem Mgmt.       | Dr. Jeremy Stovall                | Ch. 5                    |
| Mar 26: M  | TBD                                       | TBD                                |                          |
| Mar 28: W  | Student Internship Experiences            | Forestry Students                 |                          |
| Apr 2: M   | Catchup / Reminders                       | Dr. Laird                         |                          |
| Apr 4: W   | Outdoor Recreation Management / Human Dimension of NR | Dr. Laird                         | Ch. 12                   |
| Apr 9: M   | Parks Management Careers                  | US Army Corps of Engineers         |                          |
| Apr 11: W  | Careers in TX Parks & Wildlife – Game Warden | TBD                              |                          |
| Apr 16: M  | Careers in TX A&M Forest Service          | TBD                                |                          |
| Apr 18: W  | Forest Wildlife Cons. and Mgmt.           | Dr. Laird                         | Ch. 9                    |
| Apr 23: M  | Careers with TIMO/REITs                   | Mr. Jeremy Flood, Rayonier         |                          |
| Apr 25: W  | Federal, State & Private Forest Management | Dr. Laird                         | Ch. 17, 18 & 19          |
| Apr 30: M  | Careers in Commercial Arboriculture & Urban Forestry | Dr. Hans Williams | Ch. 20                   |
| May 2: W   | Final Exam Review                         | Dr. Laird                         |                          |
| May 7 - 11 | Finals Week                               |                                    |                          |
### Lab Schedule is subject to change due to weather, availability of field sites, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Assignment Due in this Lab</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/17</td>
<td>Forestry/Outdoor Lab Safety, Academic Integrity, Forestry Student Skills</td>
<td>General forestry and outdoor safety, lab rules, dress code and safety equipment. Memo format instruction.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/24</td>
<td>Introduction to Forestry Tools</td>
<td>Introduce pacing, compass, clinometer, dbh, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/27 &amp; 1/28</td>
<td>Root Camp</td>
<td>An introduction to the discipline of forestry</td>
<td>Introduce diameter tape and clinometer, basal area, teamwork, other forestry fields, etc.</td>
<td>Attendance &amp; Full Participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/31</td>
<td>Root Camp Make-up Session 1</td>
<td>Root Camp Make-up Session 1</td>
<td>Forestry Tools Memo Due</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/7</td>
<td>Forest Measurements – Campbell Properties</td>
<td>Demonstrate increment borer to age tree. Fixed radius plot, plot expansion factor, tree volume, site index and basal area.</td>
<td>Root Camp Memo Due</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/14</td>
<td>Technical Writing</td>
<td>Memo &amp; technical report writing, formatting, academic integrity. Overview of table creation with MS Excel.</td>
<td>Forestry Tools Rewrite Due</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2/28      | Lab Mid-term Exam REVIEW Session                                      | Lab Mid-term Exam REVIEW Session  
<pre><code>               | Lab Mid-term Exam Make-up Session 2                                                   | Root Camp Rewrite Due     | 15          |
</code></pre>
<p>| 3/7       | Lab Mid-term Exam                                                     | Mid-term Exam                                                                             |                            | 100         |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Assignment Due in this Lab</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/14</td>
<td>HOLIDAY – Spring Break NO LABS THIS WEEK</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/21</td>
<td>Silviculture / Forest Management Tools - Hayter Estate</td>
<td>Silvicultural treatments to influence succession.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/28</td>
<td>Human Dimensions / Professional Dress</td>
<td>How do we survey people?</td>
<td>Forest Measurements Rewrite Due</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>Wildlife Lab</td>
<td>Herpetology wildlife surveying introduction</td>
<td>Human Dimensions Letter Due</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/11</td>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>Presentation of your journal articles chosen earlier in the semester</td>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/18</td>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>Presentation of your journal articles chosen earlier in the semester</td>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/25</td>
<td>Lab Final Exam REVIEW Session Root Camp Make-up Session 3 (Sunday of Root Camp Make-up)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wildlife Lab Memo Due</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/2</td>
<td>Lab Final Exam</td>
<td>Cumulative Final Exam</td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>500</td>
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</tbody>
</table>