FOR 463 Undergraduate Research Methods  
Spring 2018

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Catalog Description:

Studies of resource management in an operational setting under the supervision of an approved organization. Must be arranged in advance and approved by the Dean’s office.

Course Description:

This course provides the opportunity for the student to learn and experience research methodology, service-learning and research in conjunction with federal and state agencies.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to -

- Develop skills in research methodology.
- Participate in a service-learning experience;
- Apply on-the-job training to an authentic situation;
- Prepare a professional document and/or presentation according to professional standards;
- Make a presentation to a class about the internship experience.

Grading:

Students successfully participating in the service-learning experience and submitting the criteria of completing a project, documentation of participation and learning, and a presentation to students at SFA will be considered passing.

Program Learning Outcomes:

1. Demonstrate understanding and competency of forest ecology and biology;
2. Demonstrate understanding and competency in the measurement of forest resources;
3. Demonstrate understanding and competency in managing forest resources;
4. Demonstrate understanding and competency of forest resource policy, economics, and administration.
5. Demonstrate understanding and competency in oral and written communication skills.

Items #1 - #4 above are required by the Society of American Foresters, the program’s accrediting agency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B.S. Forestry Program Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Proficiency Levels</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLO 1 Forest Ecology &amp; Biology</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO2 Forest Resource Measurement</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLO3 Forest Resource Management</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLO4 Forest Resource Policy, Economics, Administration</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLO5 Oral &amp; Written Communication Skills</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N /A – Not Applicable   B-Basic   I-Intermediate   A-Advanced
M-Mastery

**Definition of Rating Categories:**

1. **N/A** – Not Applicable – course does not support the Program Learning Outcome.
2. **B** – Basic – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with fundamental information, definitions, concepts, and lab activities relative to the expected outcomes.
3. **I** – Intermediate – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with topic-specific information, concepts, applications, and lab activities that increase the students’ skills in making tactical implementation decisions relative to the expected outcomes.
4. **A** – Advanced – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with transitional, high level topic-specific information, activities, and opportunities that enable the students to apply their critical thinking and tactical skills to resolved increasingly challenging strategic situations.
5. **M** – Mastery – course supports Program Learning Outcome by providing students with opportunities to independently apply tactical and strategic planning skills to successfully accomplish real-world, non-academic management objectives. Completes students’ preparedness for entry-level professional activity accomplishment.