REGIONAL SILVICULTURE
FORESTRY 463/575

Instructor: Dr. Brian Oswald
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Office: FOR 201B
Office Hours: M,W,R: 9:00-10:00; M,T,W, R 1:00-2:00
In addition, open door policy and by appointment.
Department: Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture
Class Meeting time and place: T,R: 8:00-9:15, Room 225 Forestry Building

Course Description: Multiple use management of the major forest types in the United States.
Prerequisite: FOR 347 or permission of instructor.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO's):

The following course learning outcomes have been approved for the Bachelor of Science in Forestry (BSF) degree program:

PLO1: Demonstrate understanding and competency of forest ecology and biology;
PLO2: Demonstrate understanding and competency in the measurement of forest resources;
PLO3: Demonstrate understanding and competency in managing forest resources;
PLO4: Demonstrate understanding and competency of forest resource policy, economics, and administration.
PLO5: Demonstrate understanding and competency in oral and written communication skills.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1: Demonstrate knowledge of silviculture in the various regions of the United States (A, PLO1-4).
2: Demonstrate understanding of the various multiple use management techniques utilized across the US (A, PLO3).
3: Demonstrate knowledge with forestry outside the East Texas/Southeastern United States region (A, PLO2-4).
4: Demonstrate the ability to identify current problems/trends in silviculture across the United States (A, PLO3-4).
5: Demonstrate the ability to critically think about silvicultural issues as well as communicate in both written and oral forms (A, PLO4-5).

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.
References: None

Course Requirements:
2, take-home exams (20% each of final grade) First will be due before the drop deadline.
2 term papers (each 20% of final grade) on the silviculture of a timber species.
1 oral presentation on one of your term papers (10% of final grade), 15-20 minutes of the highlights of your written papers.
1 oral presentation on two of the regions we cover in class. (10% of final grade). Topic is up-to-date timber products/value for that region.

Graduate Students will produce term papers of additional 2-3 pages in length.

Course Calendar:

Section I. Weeks 1-6
Introduction.
The Forests of the United States.
The Northeastern Region.
The Lakes States Region.
The Central Region.
The Southern Appalachian Hardwood Region.
The Southern Bottomland Hardwood Region.
Term Paper 1 due by completion of this section.
Midterm due.

Section II. Weeks 7-12
The Middle and Southern Rocky Mountain Region.
The Northern Rocky Mountain Region.
The California Region.
The Pacific Northwest Region.
The Alaska Region.
Term Paper 2 due the class period by the time the Pacific Northwest Region is completed.

Grading Policy:
Make up exams must be completed within 1 week of excused absence of the test. Participation and attitude will be used on borderline cases. I will make every effort to return tests and term papers within 1 week of the due date. Because I do travel as part of my faculty responsibilities, I may not be able to reach these goals. Since the weight of each assignment is listed, a student should be able to determine their own performance in the class. Do not expect me to do this for you!

Attendance Policy:
Class attendance is expected except for valid excuses. Students are expected as part of their responsibilities to complete the on-line course evaluation via MySFA. **Failure to complete this evaluation before the closing of access to the survey, will be result in one letter grade penalty.**

**Academic Integrity (A-9.1)**
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/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

Cheating or plagiarism will result in a least a “zero” on the assignment in question, and possibly an “F” for the course. Students are urges to make sure they do their own work, make sure the papers they write use quotes only when necessary, are cited correctly, and most importantly, are in their own words!

**Cell Phones:**
Let’s make it easy- turn them off. If you are an EMT or in a Volunteer Fire Department, you must let me know. Since we know that the clocks in the classrooms are all over the place, I will have my cell phone on silent and I will check the time if needed-no reason for you to do so. If you have the cell phone on and look at it during a test, I will assume you are cheating. If you look at your cell phone while in class, I will assume you are not interested in the material being discussed and you will be asked to leave.

**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 D-34.1). 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.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)

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.

Students with Disabilities
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/.

Guidelines for term papers:

1: Length: Text (excluding Literature Cited, Cover sheet, Figures, Tables, etc.) should be 6-8 typed-written. Longer papers may be needed to cover the species, but will not earn you more credit automatically. If you come up with less than 6 pages, see me BEFORE you turn it in. They can be turned in anytime prior to the due date. You may give me a draft of your first paper anytime 5 days prior to the due date. I will then look it over and give you a tentative grade based on what you have written and I will suggest what could be done to improve the paper.

2: No duplication of topics is allowed, so it is a first come-first served choice, beginning on the first day of class. The term papers will be due at the beginning of the class period. No late papers will be accepted. Each student must send me an electronic copy of the paper on or before the due date, as well as turning in a hard copy.

3: In text-citation must be used. This means (author, year), not (author, page #). Use these same journals for proper citation method for the Literature Cited section (not works cited, references, bibliography-use of these headings will cost you points). See me if you have questions about style. The number of citations required to do a good job on these papers will vary with the species. If in doubt, ask. A minimum of 6 should get you going. If you write 6-8 pages based on 6 citations, don’t expect an “A”. Six will get you going, but not meet the requirements for an “A” paper in a junior level class.
5: Please watch the use of websites for information. Many sites are not refereed (meaning not having been reviewed by other scientists), and the information presented may be flat out wrong. There is a difference between going to the SFA Library webpage, accessing the database section and under forestry clicking on AGRICOLA, vs. Joe Bubba John’s trees webpage. Go with the first, ignore the last. Government Documents are excellent sources of forestry information, and are available in our Library.

6: The attached copy of the guideline for authors for the journal “Rangeland Ecology and Management” must be used for all technical aspects of the paper. You do not need to have the same sections as they describe since you are writing a term paper, not a research paper.

Grading Information for Term Papers/Take Home Tests for Dr. Oswald

The following will assist every student by providing them with the penalties that will be applied if they fail to include the specific item. Correct inclusion of all of these items does not guarantee the student an A, however.

1: Proper cover sheet (10 pts). This should follow the general information required in most Forestry courses, including, but not limited to: title, author, course, instructor name, date and the phrasing the begins “in partial completion of the requirements for FOR XXX....”

2: Title on top of first page of text (5 pts).

3: The use of headings and subheadings for term papers (10 pts). These should be used to help organize the paper. Make an outline, use the outline as your headings, and your paper will be well organized. This will also allow the student to develop proper paragraphs.

4: The list of literature and websites used in the paper will be called “Literature Cited”. Any other term that is used will cost you (10 pts).

5: In text citation (up to 15 pts). That means last name of author(s) and year in the text, not the literature cited section of paper. Two authors? Give both names in text. More than 2? Use et al. (in italics) or the phrase “and others” after first author name.

6: Failure to provide the proper length required for the paper. (up to 15 pts).

7: Failure to provide citations for information that is not common knowledge (up to 25 pts).

8: Failure to provide electronic copy of paper/take home test within required time (15 pts).

9: The first time you provide the common name for any species of animal or plant, you must provide the scientific name as well right after each common name. (10 pts).

10: No quotes. 10 pts off if you do.
11: In literature cited section, the order should be author(s), year. Title, source. Pages. No et al. (15 pts.)