FORS 4355 – Wetland Wildlife Management

**Description:** This course focuses on the ecology and management of wetland ecosystem and wetland wildlife. Topics that will be covered include unique characteristics of wetlands, wetland classification, biological adaptations to wetlands, wetland management and restoration, the functional roles of wetlands, and their importance to wildlife.

**Course objectives:**
- Provide students with a background of the physical and chemical properties of wetlands.
- Emphasize the major biological processes important for understanding wetland characterization.
- Provide experience in wetland classification and delineation.
- Covey wetland management strategies based on physical, chemical, and biological components of wetlands.
- Relate the aforementioned objectives to wetland wildlife and the management of wetland wildlife populations.

**Course format:** The course consists of both lecture and independent/group projects.

**Program Learning Outcomes**
FORS 2355 is part of the required coursework for students concentrating on Forest Wildlife Management. This course is designed to address the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLO’s), as given in the Bachelor of Science in Forestry (BSF) degree program:
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.

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<tr>
<th>Program Learning Outcomes: Proficiency Levels</th>
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<td>FORS 2355</td>
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**Student Learning Outcomes**
Upon completion of this course, successful students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of wetland ecosystems and wetland wildlife population ecology. Specifically, students will be able to identify wetland characteristics, habitat requirements, basic natural history, and key management concerns (PLO’s 1, 3, 4).
2. Demonstrate an understanding of current conservation and management concerns and strategies for key wetland ecosystems (PLO’s 1, 2, 3, 4).

3. Demonstrate competency in written and oral communication skills (PLO 5).

Specific learner outcomes will be defined during the following lecture and laboratory examinations; lecture exam 1 + final exam (wetland function, hydrology, soils, plants, general wetland definitions), lecture exam 2 + final exam (delineation, policy, and law, wildlife populations and adaptations, management), wetland management plan (application of aforementioned topics to real-world scenarios).

Instructor: Cord Eversole, Ph.D. Telephone: (936) 468-1332

Email: cord.eversole@sfasu.edu

Class Room: Lecture - Forestry Bldg., Room 205.

Class and Lab Hours: Lecture – 18:00 – 20:30 W

Office Hours: Tues 8:30 to 11:00 or by appointment. However, I have an open-door policy. If I am in my office, feel free to come by.

Required Texts: W.J. Mitsch, Wetlands. Wiley Publishers. 6th ed. Students who read the text usually do better on EXAMS

Lecture Exams: The two exams and final will cover notes from class and pertinent information from the textbook. Some notes may come from sources other than the text. The examinations will consist mainly of short answers, definitions, characterizations, multiple-choice and true or false questions.

Missed Exams: THERE ARE NO MAKEUPS!!! If you realize you will miss an exam for an appropriate reason, you must contact me BEFORE the exam with documentation.

Grading:

- Exam 1 ......................... 100 points
- Exam 2 ......................... 100 points
- Final Exam ..................... 200 points
- Group Presentation ........... 100 points
- Mgt Plan ........................ 100 points

Grades will be awarded according to the regulations of the undergraduate catalog (The grading scale will be the standard 90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C, 60% = D, and 59% and below = F). **It is also important to note that attendance alone does not guarantee a passing grade.**
EXTRA CREDIT: This is an upper-level college course. You are expected to devote a representative amount of time and effort to classwork studies and lab. I strongly suggest if you have the time to devote to an extra credit project then you should devote this extra time and effort to your class and lab.

General Policies: I will try to stay on track with dates, topics, chapters and activities. Unfortunately, during the semester things happen (ex. subject material and topic requires more lecture time) and an activity, exam etc. may need to be rescheduled; therefore, it is possible we may need to make adjustments as the semester progresses. I encourage questions, so please ask away. If you have a problem understanding the material being covered in class, PLEASE come see me. I am here to help you, but do not wait until the last minute. Remember, I can’t help you if you don’t keep me informed.

Other: There is no policy of required attendance. However, students usually find it difficult to earn an acceptable grade if they do not attend class regularly. It is important that you take notes of the lecture material. It is also essential that you study regularly. Reading the material in the textbook beforehand will help you better understand the lecture material. Also, after each lecture rereading the material in the textbook and rereading and/or rewriting your notes will also be of tremendous help. Talking or other disruptive behavior during lectures will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes giving, receiving, or using unauthorized aid on any academic work. This includes a person who has taken a test discussing what was on a test with a person who has not taken the test. Any student guilty of cheating or plagiarism will receive a grade of F for that exam. Please view your undergraduate catalog for information, definitions, and codes on nonacademic misconduct, academic misconduct, academic dishonesty, and sexual misconduct.

Visit: https://www.sfasu.edu/policies

*You are not permitted to use AI softwares to aid in any classroom assignments. Any use of these softwares will be viewed as academic dishonesty.*

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other
records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (5.5)
Please copy and paste the following information regarding Withheld Grades into your syllabus. Add additional information as needed to meet your departmental or course needs.
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 coursework 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 to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

Students with Disabilities
Please copy the following statement and paste it into your course syllabus.
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 promptly may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Please copy everything below and paste it into your course syllabus.

Student Wellness and Well-Being
SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
The Dean of Students Office (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936.468.1041

The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit.
Services include:
• Health Services
• Counseling Services
• Student Outreach and Support
• Food Pantry
• Wellness Coaching
• Alcohol and Other Drug Education

www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

Crisis Resources:
• Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
• National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
• Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
• johCrisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741
### Tentative Lecture Topic Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction, wetland definitions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetland functions, values, losses, status</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetland types and classification</td>
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<td>Wetland hydrology</td>
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<td>Wetland soils</td>
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<td>Wetland plants</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exam 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetland delineation, policy and law</td>
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<td>Wetland management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetland wildlife adaptations</td>
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<td>Management of wetland wildlife populations</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Management plans group activities/work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grad student lectures</td>
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<td>Student group presentations</td>
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***Final exam @6pm, 13 December 2023***

*** Last day to drop with W 8 Nov 2023***