FORS 3110-001, -002, and -003: Field Silviculture, Summer 2024

Course Details
Instructors:
Dr. Brian Oswald  
bowald@sfasu.edu  
(936) 468-2275 (office)  
(936) 645-7990 (cell)

Dr. Jeremy Stovall  
stovalljp@sfasu.edu  
(936) 468-2127 (office)

Dr. Daniel Colopietro  
daniel.colopietro@sfasu.edu  
(936) 468-3812 (office)  
(443) 617-7785 (cell)

Office hours for this week of field station will be whenever you can find us. Mornings before class, in the afternoon right after lecture, during van rides to field sites, or lunches are all good times to talk.

Class Times: Sunday, June 9 at 4:00pm – Friday, June 14
Class Location: See the tentative schedule below for meeting locations at the Forestry Building.

Course Description
FORS 3110: Field Silviculture - One semester hour. Study of regeneration techniques, thinning and intermediate cultural operations. Required field trips. Prerequisite: FORS 1311, 1352, 2305, 2309, 2319, 2240, 2351, and GISC 2324. Students must have an overall grade point average of 2.0 at the end of the fall semester prior to attending field station. Course fee required. Summer only at forestry field station.

Program Learning Outcomes
Forestry 3110 is a forestry core course required of all forestry majors and thus competency is required. A minimum grade of a “C” must be attained or the course will have to be repeated. The course is designed to address the following Program Learning Outcomes, per the BSF Program Matrix:

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.
*This is not a General Education Core Course

B.S. Forestry Program Learning Outcomes: Proficiency Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FORS 3110</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

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.

Instructors: Drs. Brian Oswald, Jeremy Stovall, and Daniel Colopietro  
Revision 04.30.2024
Student Learning Outcomes

Upon the completion of this course, successful students will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of stand dynamics, including concepts of stand structure, function, establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality (PLO 1, 2).
2. Describe forest stands in terms of structure and function (PLO 1, 2).
3. Relate current and future stand structural conditions to management actions required to meet landowner objectives (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4).
4. Explain the ecological underpinnings for common establishment, intermediate, and regeneration treatments that comprise silvicultural systems (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4).
5. Communicate technical material clearly to a variety of audiences using correct terminology (PLO 5).

Text and Materials

- No new textbooks are required. You should have already re-read and reviewed your FORS 2309 Ecology text and notes and your FORS 2319 Dendrology texts and notes.
- A hard hat (per college policy).
- Appropriate clothing and boots for the field.
- A clipboard for taking notes in the field.
- A calculator.

Class materials may be posted to the SFA Silviculture site, found by googling ‘SFA Silviculture’ or going to https://www.sfasilviculture.com/ We do not plan to use Brightspace D2L.

Supplemental Course Materials

Since this course was taught online in summer 2020 due to COVID, we now have a wealth of supplemental videos available online. These are not required for the course, but may supplement your learning for this week. Feel free to review them before, during, or after this week of field station to learn more about topics that interest you.

SFA Field Silviculture YouTube Playlist:
https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYHwEvrlN8Uzf92cQr6wij31B7s-A5bvp

David Schnake’s 360 Degree Silviculture Video Playlists (highly recommended!):
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-OsqHp8bcgYvc2BmuOHijQW/playlists

Course Requirements

One written stand description is required for each stand as assigned by the instructors. Templates will be provided. A memo on the management of a stand for red-cockaded woodpeckers and a fuel loading technical report are also major assignments. There will be several quizzes or group exercises focusing on topics ranging from dendrology to silvopasture to silvicultural treatments for wildlife habitat management to mineland reclamation to pine plantation establishment prescriptions. Additionally, other assignments may be given. Although each of these will have a relatively low value, in combination, they will constitute an important part of your grade. All written assignments will be due as noted on the schedule below, unless otherwise indicated by the instructors.
Grading Policy

Grades may be curved upward, but will not be curved downward. Professionals are expected to meet scheduled deadlines. **We will not accept assignments that are not turned in on time.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Percent Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stand Descriptions</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>&gt;89.44%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCW Memo</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>79.45 – 89.44%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel Loading Technical Report</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>69.45 – 79.44%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>So Many Dendro Quizzes!</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>59.45 – 69.44%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTG Site Prep Prescription</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>&lt;59.45%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMA &amp; Reclamation Silviculture Quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortleaf Silviculture &amp; Silvopasture Quiz</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COURSE GRADE</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University guidelines, as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, will be strictly adhered to with regard to any cheating and plagiarism. Any occurrence of cheating will result in a grade of 0 for all involved parties on that assignment, and likely reductions in overall course grade.

Attendance Policy

Failure to attend a daytime activity without prior approval of an excused absence will result in a 20% reduction of your total course grade. If you arrive after the vans have departed, you may not meet us in the field in your personal vehicle. Do not attempt to do so, as this violates University policy and you have already received the point deduction. Attending the daytime activity but failing to attend an afternoon class without prior approval of an excused absence will result in a 10% reduction of your total course grade. As stated above, we do not accept assignments late, so missing one class day could very easily result in you re-taking the course next summer. FORS 3110 is a forestry core class, meaning you need a ‘C’ or better to pass.

Class Safety and Conduct Policy

Hardhats will be worn at all times that anyone is underneath tree-cover. Appropriate clothing, including pants and boots, is required for class. **Boots must be leather; no sneakers, light hikers, or any shoe with a mesh or cloth side or top.** If you are inappropriately dressed you will not be allowed in the vans, will receive a zero for that day’s assignments, and incur the 20% course grade reduction (see attendance policy above). It is at the discretion of the instructor what appropriate dress for the field is. Please do not wear sandals, tennis-shoes, sneakers, crocs, flip-flops, slippers, etc. You may also require a jacket or rain gear and should always have plenty of drinking water with you. Make sure that you fill your water containers prior to departure each morning. We will go to the field regardless of weather conditions so come to class appropriately dressed.

Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity Policy (04-106)

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.

**Course Grades Policy (02-206)**

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 [https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/hops/02-206.pdf](https://www.sfasu.edu/docs/hops/02-206.pdf)

**Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Policy (01-302)**

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/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

**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. 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.
# Tentative Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, June 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>EVENING LECTURE AT 4:00 PM IN ROOM 117.  <em>(missing/late = -10% course grade)</em></strong>&lt;br&gt;An intro to the class, silviculture, stand descriptions, and the fuel loading exercise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, June 10</strong></td>
<td><strong>VANS ROLL OUT OF THE PARKING LOT AT 6:00 AM, MEET AT VANS</strong>&lt;br&gt;We will evaluate stands in Angelina National Forest (Zavalla/Townsend areas), with particular emphasis on the silviculture of longleaf pine, fuel loading, and management for red-cockaded woodpeckers. Pole classification will be conducted. We will tour the Stella-Jones pole mill in Jasper, Texas. Be prepared to complete stand descriptions and dendro quizzes. Dendro quizzes for days.&lt;br&gt;Afternoon activity 15 minutes after we return on disturbances in room 117.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, June 11</strong></td>
<td><strong>VANS LEAVE AT 6:30 AM, STAND DESCRIPS DUE TO STOVALL BY 6:20 AM AT VANS</strong>&lt;br&gt;We will evaluate stands near Milam with an emphasis on old-growth forest structure, stand dynamics, cove hardwoods, and basic compass and pacing. Anticipate about 2.5 miles of hiking in the humid heat through thick brush on steep terrain. We get lost 90% of the time. Bottomland hardwood stand evaluation and Baker-Broadfoot site classification will be conducted in the Pisgah area in the afternoon. There will be many mosquitoes of impressive size. Be prepared to complete stand descriptions and dendro quizzes. Free limitless dendro quizzes. So many dendro quizzes. BRING LOTS OF WATER! Opportunity to swim in Toledo Bend Reservoir (but no restrooms or facilities).&lt;br&gt;Afternoon lecture 15 minutes after we return on site prep in room 117.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, June 12</strong></td>
<td><strong>VANS LEAVE AT 7:00 AM, RCW MEMO &amp; FUEL LOADING REPORT DUE TO OSWALD BY 6:50 AM AT VANS</strong>&lt;br&gt;We will spend the day examining intensive silviculture, including mechanical site preparation on intensively managed corporate lands. Will Muncrief, John Hamilton, Jered Rhodes, Austin Morrison (ATCOFA alumni all), and others of TTG Forestry will be our hosts for most of the day. Plan to take notes sitting in a sun-drenched, scorching-hot clearcut for 1.5 hours. Several short prescriptions and quizzes may be given. If we luck out there could even be more dendro quizzes. Lunch at Beef Creek Falls, bring swimwear &amp; towel if you want to swim (FYI: there are no restrooms or other facilities).&lt;br&gt;Afternoon lecture 15 minutes after we return on mineland reclamation in room 117.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, June 13</strong></td>
<td><strong>VANS LEAVE AT 6:30 AM, STAND DESCRIPS DUE TO STOVALL BY 6:20 AM AT VANS</strong>&lt;br&gt;In the morning we will tour prescribed fire, thinning, mulching, and underplanting silvicultural treatments for wildlife management at Gus Engling and Richland Creek WMA’s with TPWD staff Matt Symmank, Ryan Assenheimer (ATCOFA alumni), and others. In the afternoon we will tour hardwood reclamation for wildlife management at Luminant’s Big Brown and Turlington mines with John Kent. Dendro quizzes in hardwood plantations? What might they have planted?&lt;br&gt;Quiz on the day’s activities 15 minutes after we return in room 117.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, June 14</strong></td>
<td><strong>LECTURE AT 7:00 AM IN 117 ON AGROFORESTRY <em>(missing/late = -10% course grade)</em></strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>VANS LEAVE AT 8:00 AM</strong>&lt;br&gt;We will examine shortleaf pine silviculture on the Fairchild State Forest with Jason Ellis of TFS (ATCOFA alumnus). We will also tour a silvopasture research and demonstration site near Carthage and possibly another at the SFA Beef Farm. Who knows, maybe we some dendro quizzes? Be prepared in the field for a quiz on the day.&lt;br&gt;Brief wrap-up 15 minutes after we return in room 117.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Dean of Students Office</td>
<td>Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents">www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents</a></td>
<td>936.468.7249</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mdos@sfasu.edu">mdos@sfasu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic</td>
<td>Human Services, Room 202</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp">www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp</a></td>
<td>936.468.1041</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Health and Wellness Hub “The Hub”</td>
<td>Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sfasu.edu/thehub">www.sfasu.edu/thehub</a></td>
<td>936.468.4008</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thehub@sfasu.edu">thehub@sfasu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**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