

FOR 100 – Introduction to Forestry (3 credits) SYLLABUS – Fall Semester 2006

Section 001: TR 9:30 – 10:45 am, Room 109, Thomas Poe Cooper Forestry Building
Section 002: TR 11:00 am – 12:15 pm, Room 109, Thomas Poe Cooper Forestry Building
Section 003: TR 4:00 – 5:15 pm, Room 109, Thomas Poe Cooper Forestry Building

Instructor: Dr. David B. Wagner (Associate Professor, Department of Forestry)
E-mail Address: dwagner@uky.edu (I usually respond quickly!)
Office: 209A Thomas Poe Cooper Forestry Building
(Open the door to room 209 and step inside – there you will find a photocopier, as well as the door to my office.)
Phones: 257-3773 (office); 257-7596 (department office)
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 8 - 9 am
2:15 - 3 pm
Wednesdays 9 - 10:30 am
Also . . . please feel free to make appointments!

Teaching Assistant (for Section 001): Mr. Wade Ulrey (Graduate Research Assistant)
Contact Info: ulreyw@yahoo.com, 257-5841
Office: Room 7 (basement of Thomas Poe Cooper Building)
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-3 pm
Also . . . please feel free to make appointments!

Course Objective: Forestry is a profession that integrates multiple natural and social science disciplines. In this course you will learn how foresters attempt to maintain healthy ecosystems while simultaneously meeting society's demands for forest products. Examples of course topics include: forest regions, tree biology, soil science, ecology, insects and diseases, measurement of forest resources, forest fire, management and decision making, forest products, and historical development of forest policy. While this course will not make you an expert, I hope that you will take from it a basic understanding of some of the physical, biological, and social principles used by foresters to formulate natural resource management recommendations. Perhaps you will even decide to change your major to forestry!

Prerequisite: There is no prerequisite except an interest in learning about forestry.

Required Text:

Young, R. A. and R. L. Giese (eds.). 2003. Introduction to forest ecosystem science and management (third edition). John Wiley & Sons, Inc. ISBN 0-471-33145-7.

University Studies Program: If you intend to use this course in partial fulfillment of Requirement X (Electives) of UK's University Studies Program, you should check with your advisor to ensure that this will be acceptable in your degree program.

Course Requirements:

1. FOR 100 Web Pages: Web pages for this course contain the syllabus; lecture notes and worksheets corresponding to most of the text chapters; oral presentation instructions and checklists; exams from a previous semester; and occasional special announcements (such as schedule changes). You are expected to print the lecture notes and worksheet for each class session and bring them with you to class. You are responsible in a timely manner for all announcements posted to the *FOR 100* web pages. Thus, you should on a daily basis check the web pages for updates. The FOR 100 home page is:
<http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forestry/for100/for100.html>
2. Readings: Required text readings are listed in the “Course Schedule” on pages 7 & 8 of this syllabus. You are expected to read each designated chapter prior to the class session for which it is assigned. Adjustments in the text reading schedule, as well as supplementary additional readings, may be announced in class, by e-mail, and/or on the *FOR 100* web pages. Instructions regarding online, library reserve, or other access to supplementary readings will be provided if and when such assignments are made.
3. Worksheets: Worksheets for most of the course topics are available on the course web pages, to help you focus on relevant definitions, principles, concepts, computations, *etc.* Some (but not all) of your worksheets will be collected for grading. You will not know in advance which worksheets will be graded, so it is important that you bring the relevant worksheet(s) with you to class each day. Feel free to ask for help with your worksheets.
4. Teams: Early in the semester, you will join a team. Team activities will strengthen your understanding of our topics and may involve in-class and/or take-home discussion, written work, oral presentations, and “Forest Jeopardy.” These activities may require you to refer to assigned readings, lecture notes, and/or worksheets during class time, so please bring these to class with you. Teams with outstanding performance on Forest Jeopardy will earn extra credit points.

In addition to routine class work, your team will develop and deliver an oral presentation, to teach the class about a current forestry topic or issue. Instructions for your presentation are in a separate handout (distributed on the first day of class and available on the course web pages).

Late in the semester, your teammates will evaluate your contributions to your team’s activities (the evaluation form is on the web). This evaluation represents a significant portion of your course grade (see “*Grades*” below). Thus, you need your team and your team needs you!

IMPORTANT: In order for you to receive proper credit for your work, it is essential that you: (1) include on all work that you submit as an individual your own name ***and*** your team name, and (2) include on work that you submit as a team your team name ***and*** the individual names of all participating team members.

5. Forestry in the News: Forestry is often in the news. For example, the Bush administration recently proposed to sell national forest lands in order to help fund rural schools. Not surprisingly, this proposal has received much attention in the news.

Your “Forestry in the News” assignment is to select, read, and write about a news article regarding this proposal. **Do not choose an editorial** – although the article you select may express opinions, it must be primarily a “news” article. (If you are in doubt about what constitutes news and what constitutes an editorial, ask for approval of the article you propose to address before you begin writing your paper!)

A useful strategy for finding interesting and relevant articles is to search the LexisNexis Academic Search database, which is available through the UK Library system. One way to access this database is through UK’s Agricultural Information Center (<http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/AIC>).

Your “Forestry in the News” paper, which is due Thursday, 19 October, must:

- i. Adhere to all format and other instructions.
- ii. State the purpose of your paper. Your purpose paragraph must include a clear statement that your paper is intended to: (a) inform, or (b) persuade the reader.

HINT #1: “purpose of your paper” means the purpose of the paper that **you write** for this assignment, **NOT** the purpose of the article you address.

HINT #2: Your purpose paragraph must (in your own words) state that your paper will accomplish items iii - v below.

- iii. Summarize the article’s main point(s).
- iv. State what you learned from the article.
- v. State your personal reaction to the article.
- vi. Conclude your paper: Recap what you have written and draw it together in **an explicit statement of your intended impact on a reader**.

IMPORTANT: Do not “camouflage” your writing – be explicit about which of the above purposes (ii-vi) is addressed by each section of your paper. Section headings can be effective in this regard.

Your paper must be printed by computer or typed, its **text** may not exceed 2 pages in length, and it must be formatted with 12-point font, 1-inch margins, and double line spacing. It must have a title page, which does not count toward the 2-page text maximum. Include on your title page: a title for your paper, “Forestry in the News,” your name, your team name, the date, and “FOR 100-00X” (where X is your section number). Attach to your paper: (a) the article’s **complete** bibliographic citation, and (b) a printed copy of the article (these two items do not count toward the 2-page text maximum). Make sure that your citation is **complete**, so that a reader could actually use it to retrieve and read the article.

If, in writing your paper, you refer to (or otherwise use) source documents additional to your chosen newspaper article, you must:

- (a) provide brief citations (e.g., author(s) and year) at locations in the text where you refer to such sources, **and**
- (b) append as a separate page or pages a literature list, providing **complete** bibliographic information for each source document. This literature list will not count toward your 2-page text limit.

All “Forestry in the News” materials you submit must be stapled together or bound together in a binder – loose or paper-clipped pages will not be accepted. (Please do not assume that a stapler will be available in the classroom on the due date!)

If you submit your paper by Thursday, 28 September, it will be graded and returned to you with comments not later than Tuesday, 10 October. You may choose to accept that grade, in which case you do not need to submit the paper again on its formal due date. Or, if you wish to try to improve your grade, you may revise your paper and resubmit it on the formal due date.

IMPORTANT: If you opt to revise and resubmit, you MUST attach to your revision your complete original draft containing all of its attachments AND comments. If you do not attach **all** these items to your revision, it will not be accepted, and your original grade will stand. Also . . . if you revise and resubmit, your revision must be thoughtful and thorough. Your grade will not benefit from a revision that is merely cosmetic – please do not waste our time by being hasty.

Your “Forestry in the News” paper will be graded on content, logic, organizational structure, and writing quality. In order to have a chance to earn an “A” grade (*i.e.* $\geq 90\%$), your paper must adequately address all the points listed above. Your grade will **not** be based on your particular reaction to the article or your opinion(s) about the Bush administration proposal. Be aware that you may be asked to summarize orally the article about which you write, and we may discuss your “Forestry in the News” article in class.

6. **Examinations:** There will be one 75-minute mid-term examination and one two-hour final examination (see “*Course Schedule*” below). The final exam will **not** be cumulative. The final exam has a “take-home” portion and an in-class portion. The take-home portion appears on the final page of this syllabus, along with instructions for its completion.

You are responsible on examinations for all information addressed and/or assigned in the course, including classroom sessions, your own “Forestry in the News” article, other students’ “Forestry in the News” articles (if discussed in class), assigned readings (whether or not discussed in class), lectures, impromptu assignments, worksheets, team oral presentations, and all materials on the *FOR 100* web pages (whether or not discussed in class). You can be confident that you will be well prepared for exams if you (with some degree of attention) attend class faithfully, participate in your team’s activities, and complete all reading, worksheets, and other assignments.

7. **Attendance:** You are expected to attend all class sessions. This policy will be enforced beginning Tuesday, 5 September. The grade penalty for unexcused absences is large, and it accumulates rapidly. See below for more information.

Classroom Sessions: Except when teams are working on in-class activities, classroom sessions will ordinarily be in the lecture format. Nonetheless, please feel free to interrupt at any time with questions and discussion. The course will be more interesting and useful for you if we take the time to clarify and discuss topics of concern as they arise. This is especially important with regard to the many controversial issues that abound in forestry.

Note that discussion of controversial issues (and there are many in forestry!), while healthy for intellectual growth, can become heated. Please try to keep the following points in mind:

1. You should feel comfortable expressing your opinions in this class. You will be tested on facts and logical reasoning, not on opinions. For example, by the end of this course, you should know what the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA) is. It would also be fair to expect you to understand (a) logic that leads to support for the HFRA, **and** (b) logic that leads to opposition to the HFRA. But whether or not you personally support or oppose the HFRA is an opinion you have a right to form for yourself and that will have no impact on your grade.
2. Reasonable people can reasonably disagree. For example, even when people share the same set of values, they can logically disagree on policy decisions if they prioritize their values differently. Foresters (and forestry professors in particular!) do not have all the answers – there is ample room for debate on most issues.
3. Strive to disagree without being disagreeable, *i.e.* feel free to disagree with ideas and opinions, but don't make your criticisms personal. Similarly, try not to take it personally when people disagree with you. Instead, try to use opposing opinions as an opportunity to re-examine the logic of your own viewpoints.

Policy Statements:

1. Cheating of any form, including plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Cheating will be dealt with in accordance with University regulations and may result in failure of the course and expulsion from the University. Please take this admonition seriously. (See <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/>)
2. Punctual classroom attendance is important for your grade in this course. For example, some team activities will take place during class time, and your teammates' combined evaluation of your contributions to your team's work accounts for 15% of your course grade. Also, beginning with your second unexcused absence, each unexcused absence will result in subtraction of 2% directly from your overall course percentage score. An attendance sign-in sheet will be available at the beginning of each class session, from 5 September onwards. **It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to sign LEGIBLY on the attendance sheet at the beginning of each class session. If your signature does not appear on a sign-in sheet, you will be considered absent.** We will abide by UK's definitions and policies for excused absences (<http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/>). Note that documentation will be required for excused absences.

3. You may not submit or make up late assignments, or take make-up exams, except for reasons of excused absence or in cases of extreme hardship, in accordance with UK policy. Please be aware that it is **your responsibility** to abide by UK's timeliness requirements (<http://www.uky.edu/Student Affairs/Code/>) in contacting me to make up work missed due to excused absence. Due to the nature of the activity, extra credit points for Forest Jeopardy cannot be made up for any reason, even if an absence is excused on a Forest Jeopardy class day.
4. After one student has submitted her/his exam and left the room on an exam day, no further admission to an examination will be granted. If you arrive late for an exam, you risk a score of zero.

Grades: Your unadjusted course percentage will be computed from a weighted average of the percentage grades of individual course components, as follows:

- (1) "Forestry in the News" (10%)
- (2) Graded worksheets and other miscellaneous assignments (10%)
- (3) "Team" grade for formal oral team presentations (5%)
- (4) "Individual" grade for formal oral team presentations (10%)
- (5) Evaluations by your teammates of your contributions to your team's work (15%)
- (6) Evaluation by you of your teammates' contributions to your team's work (5%)
- (7) Midterm Exam (20%)
- (8) Final Exam (25%; 10% is for the take-home portion; 15% is for the in-class portion)

Your unadjusted course percentage will be adjusted by adding "Forest Jeopardy" extra credit points and, if necessary, by deducting unexcused-absence penalties. The resulting adjusted overall course percentage will be converted to a letter grade as follows:

A:	$\geq 90 \%$
B:	$\geq 80 \%$ and $< 90 \%$
C:	$\geq 70 \%$ and $< 80 \%$
D:	$\geq 60 \%$ and $< 70 \%$
E:	$< 60 \%$

Example: Suppose your unadjusted course percentage is 91%, you have 3 Forest Jeopardy extra credit points, and you have 4 unexcused absences. Your adjusted overall percentage is $91\% + 3\% - (4-1)2\% = 88\%$, corresponding to a "B" grade.

Please feel free to discuss anything about the course, including your course grade, at any time during the semester. Suggestions to make the course more useful and interesting for you and future FOR 100 students are always welcome. If the office hours are inconvenient for you, don't hesitate to make an appointment for a time that works for you.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment (Text Chapters)
24 August	Course Introduction	
29 August	Forest Policy	1
31 August	Forestry Careers; Forest Biomes & Regions Formation of Student Teams; Team Photos; Assignment of Oral Presentation Topics and Dates	2, 3
5 September	Tree Ecophysiology Choice of Team Names Due	4
7 September	Forest Soils	5
12 September	Forest Ecology (<i>Wade Ulrey – Section 001 only</i>)	6, 7
14 September	Forest Entomology (<i>Dr. Lynne Rieske-Kinney, Associate Professor, Department of Entomology</i>)	8
19 September	Forest Pathology	8
21 September	Forest Management and Stewardship; Nonindustrial Private Forests; Forest Measurements	9-11
26 September	Forest Measurements	11
28 September	Forest Measurements	11
3 October	Global Positioning Systems (<i>Mr. Doug McLaren, Extension Specialist, Department of Forestry</i>)	12
5 October	Remote Sensing; Geographic Information Systems; Telemetry (<i>Wade Ulrey – Section 001 only</i>)	12
10 October	Review (Forest Jeopardy)	1-12
12 October	MIDTERM EXAM	1-12
17 October	Silviculture	13
19 October	Hardwood Silviculture (<i>Dr. Jeffrey Stringer, Associate Professor, Department of Forestry</i>) Team Outlines Due from Teams Presenting 9 November; “FORESTRY IN THE NEWS” DUE	13
24 October	Timber Harvesting (<i>Dr. Jeffrey Stringer</i>) Team Outlines Due from Teams Presenting 14 November	19
26 October	Forest Wildlife Management (<i>Wade Ulrey – Section 001 only</i>) Team Outlines Due from Teams Presenting 16 November	14

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE (continued)

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment (Text Chapters)
31 October	Rangeland Management; Forest Watershed Management	15, 16
Team Outlines Due from Teams Presenting 21 November		
2 November	Forest Fire Management	18
7 November	Forest Recreation Management; Forest Economics	17, 21
9 November	TEAM ORAL PRESENTATIONS	
14 November	TEAM ORAL PRESENTATIONS	
16 November	TEAM ORAL PRESENTATIONS	
21 November	TEAM ORAL PRESENTATIONS	
23 November	<u>NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY!</u>	
28 November	Wood Properties and Products (<i>Dr. Terry Conners, Associate Professor, Department of Forestry</i>)	20
30 November	Wood Properties and Products (<i>Dr. Terry Conners</i>)	20
5 December	Urban Forestry (<i>Mr. Tim Queary, Urban Forester, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government</i>)	22
7 December	Review (Forest Jeopardy); Course / Instructor Evaluation by Students	13-22

FINAL EXAM (in 109 TP Cooper Bldg., on Chapters 13-22)

<u>Section of the Course</u>	<u>Date & Time of Final Exam</u>
001 (9:30 am – 10:45 am)	Thursday, 14 December, 8:00 am – 10:00 am
002 (11:00 am – 12:15 pm)	Tuesday, 12 December, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm
003 (4:00 pm – 5:15 pm)	Tuesday, 12 December, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Take-Home Work for the Final Exam

FIND AND READ at least 5 news articles about our “Forestry in the News” topic (*i.e.* the proposal to sell national forest lands in order to help fund rural schools). You may use your “Forestry in the News” article as one of these 5 articles. A web page will not count as one of your 5 “articles,” if it expresses the opinion(s) of an organization or individual on that entity’s own web site. A web page is acceptable as one of your 5 articles only if it is an article published by a legitimate news organization. If you are in doubt about whether or not an article is acceptable, ask for approval ahead of time. **AFTER READING** the articles, **WRITE** a paper that states and defends your point of view about the proposal to sell national forest lands. You may use web pages and other sources that do not qualify as “news articles” to support your paper, as long as you meet the requirement to read and cite appropriately at least 5 “news articles.”

In order to have a chance to earn an “A” grade (*i.e.* $\geq 90\%$), your paper must:

- i. Adhere to the format and other instructions.
- ii. State its purpose. Your purpose paragraph must include a clear statement of your viewpoint and of the fact that you will be attempting to persuade your reader to agree with you. Your purpose paragraph must also preview the content of your paper.
- iii. State what you learned from your reading that you did not know previously.
- iv. Develop a sound rationale for your viewpoint.
- v. Use information appropriately from your reading (with citations embedded in the text to indicate which information is provided by each article).
- vi. Apply substantive information from FOR 100 appropriately.
- vii. Conclude strongly. Recap what you have written and draw it together in an explicit statement of your intended persuasive impact on a reader.

Do not “camouflage” your writing – please make it obvious to the reader to which of the above purposes you direct each section of your paper.

Your paper must be printed by computer or typed, its text may not exceed 3 pages in length, and it must be formatted with 12-point font, 1-inch margins, and double line spacing. You must provide a title page, which does not count toward the 3-page text maximum. Include on your title page: a title for your paper, “FOR 100 Final Exam Essay,” your name, your team name, the date, and “FOR 100-00X” (where X is your section number). You must

- (a) provide brief citations (*e.g.*, author(s) and year) at locations in the text where you use information from your sources, **and**
- (b) append a literature list, providing **complete** reference information for each article (your literature list does not count toward the 3-page text limit).

All contents of your paper must be stapled together or bound together in a binder – loose or paper-clipped pages will not be accepted.

HINT: Your paper will be graded on content **and** organization/writing quality. If you submit an early 1st draft of your “Forestry in the News” paper, its review comments may help you avoid common structural and grammatical errors.

This paper is due at the beginning of the final exam. Your grade will **not** be based on your specific opinion about the Bush administration proposal, but it **will** depend strongly on how well you express and support that opinion.