

Human Dimension of Forestry and Natural Resources: FOR 400
Fall 2013

Course Syllabus

Instructor:

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Course Description:

In an issues based format, students will study and write about societal trends and their impact on natural systems, the disconnect between society and nature, wildlife-human interactions, as well as problems related to globalization and urbanization. This is a writing-intensive (W) course approved to fulfill the upper tier of the graduation writing requirement (GWR).

Course Objectives:

1. Increase students' understanding of the impact of various societal trends on natural resource management
2. Acquaint students to the insights and utility of the social sciences as applied to environmental and natural resource issues.
3. Improve students' ability to write
4. Develop students' critical thinking skills

Textbooks:

1. Cox, R. (2013). *Environmental Communication*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN 978-1-41299-9209-1 (This book will be provided free to students via Blackboard)
2. Heberlein, T. A. (2012). *Navigating Environmental Attitudes*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-97333-6
3. Other readings will be provided to students.

Assignments and Grades:

Classes will primarily consist of short lectures, class discussions, pop quizzes and other class exercises centered around course readings. Readings will be assigned in advance during class. There will be two exams given (Midterm and Final). Each exam will consist of short answer and essay questions. In addition students will be required to write a term paper (~12 pages). As part of the term paper assignment students will be required to submit an outline of their paper that also contains a paper proposal with bibliography (~3 pages) and a rough draft. More detailed instructions for all assignments will be given in class.

Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Quizzes and class exercises- 30%

Tests – 15% each (30% total)

Term paper

Topic, Outline, Bibliography, Paper Proposal- 10%

Rough Draft - 10%

Final Paper - 20%

Grading Scale: A=90%-100%; B=80%-89%; C=70%-79%; D=60%-69% E=0%-59%

Class Attendance:

There will be valuable content in class discussions that cannot be totally captured on a test or other assignment. Therefore you are expected to attend all classes. You are responsible for all material presented, handouts,

announcements and changes in the syllabus whether you are in class or not. During most classes, in addition to class lecture and discussion, there will be a class exercise and/or quiz. Quizzes and class exercises can only be made-up after a valid excuse is provided in writing. Valid excuses include serious illness of you or an immediate family member, death in the family, official university trip, major religious holidays, or other similar circumstances. Make-up quizzes and class exercises will include the quiz/class exercise *and* an additional assignment. Make-up work must be done within two weeks of returning to class. A make-up exam will be allowed only after you present me with a valid excuse in writing before the test or a valid written medical excuse explaining your illness or that of an immediate family member. I reserve the right to require additional verification before make-up work is allowed. Pop quizzes and class exercises can start at anytime during the class. If you come to class late and miss a quiz or class exercise you will receive a zero for that assignment.

Course Website:

There is a website associated with this course. On this website you will have access to the assigned readings outside of the texts, links to submit your assignments online, an online calendar to book appointments with me, and other resources. You can access this website through Blackboard or directly (<http://for400.weebly.com/>). The password for the site is ukstudent400.

Office Hours:

Interacting with faculty outside of class and getting personalized assistance is an important part of your education. Therefore you are strongly encouraged to meet with me outside of regular class time to discuss your coursework, get career or academic advice, or to discuss other topics of interest. My availability to meet with students is generally very flexible and accommodating. However, my schedule does change throughout the semester. To make meeting with me as easy as possible you will have access to an online calendar through the course website where you can schedule meeting times convenient for you.

Academic Honesty:

All class work is expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. Cheating and plagiarism will result in a course grade of E. If you have any doubts concerning whether your work conforms to these standards please ask me.

Classroom Etiquette

You are expected to behave in a professional and respectful manner during all class activities. This includes coming to class on time, refraining from the use of electronic devices during class and not disrupting the class in any other manner. Discussion and debate are strongly encouraged to facilitate learning and development of critical thinking skills. However you are expected to be civil and respectful to your fellow students and me during all class discussions. Failure to adhere to any of the above requirements can result in dismissal from class or being dropped from the course.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities should contact the Disability Resource Center to arrange for appropriate accommodations.

Website: <http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/DisabilityResourceCenter/contact.html>

Telephone: (859) 257-2754

Course Content:

- I. Societal Trends and Natural Resource/Forest Management
 - a. Population Growth
 - b. Economic Growth and Consumption
 - c. Urbanization
 - d. Globalization
- II. Natural Resource/Environmental Communication and Public Discourse
- III. Public Participation in Natural Resource and Environmental Decision Making
- IV. Managing Conflict over Natural Resource Management
- V. The Role of Social Science in Natural Resource and Forest Management

Both the content and structure of the class may be modified as the need arises.