

SYLLABUS – FORS 130 – FALL 2015

Introduction to Forestry Field Skills

Instructor: Dr. Andrew J. Larson

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Office hours: Wed., 9:00AM to 11:00AM & by appointment

Meeting Times & Locations: Fridays, 2:10PM to 5:00PM

Credits: Two (2.0)

Location: FOR 206; Various field locations

Course Objectives

This special topics course is focused on developing natural resources field techniques through experiential learning on campus and in the field. Our objective is to provide classroom and field experiences that introduce students to dendrology, orienteering, map-reading, tree measurements, fire and fuels management and measurements, safe travel in a field setting, and the careers possible with a CFC degree.

Required Text

None textbook. PDFs of articles and field manuals will be provided.

Requirements

Students must attend all class sessions, unless *pre*-approved. All or part of course meetings will often occur outside. Students must come prepared with *proper clothing* given the expected weather forecast (e.g., boots, warm clothes, hats/gloves, rain gear). Temperatures can be significantly cooler at field locations and students should plan accordingly. All necessary equipment will be also provided; students are responsible for wearing/using all safety gear at all times (e.g., hard hat).

Grading

This course is offered for traditional letter grade – it is not offered under the credit/no credit option.

This course will be graded on the following grading scale:

93-100 (A), 90-92 (A-), 87-89 (B+), 83-86(B), 80-82 (B-), 77-79 (C+), 73-76 (C), 70-72 (C-), 60-69 (D), <60 (F)

Grades will be assigned based on the following rubric:

Attendance: 30%

Weekly Quizzes: 30% (Six highest grades from seven quizzes)

Exams/Quizzes: 40%

E-mail Policy

Your official UM e-mail is the only way I am allowed to communicate with you about University-related and course-related business. You are expected to check, read, and respond to your University e-mail on a regular basis.

Accessibility

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). “Reasonable” means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications.

Academic Honesty

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the [Student Conduct Code](#).

Week	Date	Topic	Location
1	Aug 31	Intro, 10 essentials, pacing and distance meas.	Campus
2	Sep 7	No class: Labor Day	
3	Sep 14	Map and Compass	Campus
4	Sep 21	Orienteering	Campus
5	Sep 28	Tree Measurements and Dendrology	Field
6	Oct 5	Fuels Measurements and Dendrology	Field
7	Oct 12	Vegetation Measurements	Field
8	Oct 19	Plot Layout and Integration	Field
9	Oct 26	Surveying	Campus
10	Nov 2	Surveying	Campus
11	Nov 9	Surveying	Campus
12	Nov 16	Final Exam	Campus