

FORS 140 INTRODUCTION TO URBAN FORESTRY

Overview - SPRING 2016

Instructor:

John Goodburn

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Telephone: 406-243-4295

Office hours: Mon. 4:00-5:30 pm, Thur 11:30am – 1:00 pm (or by advance appointment)

Meetings

Lecture and Discussion Monday Evening. 7:10 p.m. -9:00 p.m. Forestry Bldg. Room 305

E-mail and Moodle will be will be key mechanisms through which reading materials, updates, assignments, and other news are communicated. Please arrange to use your UM email account.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize and express the basic role of urban forestry in managing species composition, stand structure, and forest health to benefit the human community.
2. Demonstrate/articulate basic knowledge regarding tree pruning as related to tree health and reduction in hazards for the urban populace.
3. Develop a solid understanding of how soils, planting, landscape design, insect, diseases, and climatic conditions interact to affect the resilience and aesthetics of the urban forest.
4. Become familiar with the range of activities necessary to conduct a successful urban forestry program, including urban forest inventory, tree planting and care, personnel management, public speaking, and working publics with a stake in the urban forest.
5. Acquire an understanding of the use of scientific literature and its importance to the advancing our scientific understanding of urban forests and their role in community health.

Readings:

Readings will come from a variety of sources and be posted on the course Moodle site. There is no required textbook, but there will typically be a reading or two assigned in advance of the following week's class. Please read material before the class or lab for which it is assigned. Be prepared to actively engage our guest speakers regarding their presentation. There will typically be hardcopy class handouts for each guest speaker, and we will work to make their presentation materials available via Moodle.

Class Participation is encouraged and expected. Your preparation and willingness to ask questions and discuss various topics will benefit not only your own learning experience, but also that of your colleagues in the class. Approximately 2% of your course grade will be based on class participation.

Please Drop in or drop me a line. You are encouraged to ask questions and initiate discussions both in and out of class. No need to wait until exam to ask questions! I am available during office hours or at other times (by advance appointment) if you cannot meet during posted hours. Also feel free to contact me via email to clarify any questions.

PLANNED GRADING SCHEME*

% of Total Grade	
Five Quizzes (~20-30 minutes each every three weeks)	40%
Individual Literature Review/Summary on Topic you choose	20%
Misc. Minor Assignments	10%
Final Exam	28%
Class participation	2%
TOTAL	100%

*Further details and Dates to be provided via Moodle

Grading Option Statement

Please note, this class is offered for traditional letter grade only, it is not offered under the credit/no credit option.

Late Assignments

* Students participating in official University activities (e.g., sports, etc.) will be allowed extensions on assignments with terms established on a case-by-case basis.

** Negotiated excused absences for non-University activities (e.g., family emergency) will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Requests for extensions will only be considered when made at least 1 work day prior to the assignment deadline.

*****Unexcused late assignments will be accepted up to a week** (i.e., 5 weekdays, **not** course meetings, and excluding weekends) after the original due date. The overall grade of the assignment will be diminished by 10% for each day late. E.g., the highest possible score for a "perfect" assignment turned in 3 days late would be 70% of the possible points for an on-time assignment. An assignment due Wednesday, but turned in late the following Tuesday is minus 40% before grading (i.e., -10% for each of days late Thurs, Fri, Mon, Tues).

Disability Accommodations

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. For more information, visit the [UM's Disability Services for Students Office](#).

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism, cheating, and other misconduct are serious violations of your contract as a student. We expect that you will know and follow the University's policies on cheating and plagiarism. Any suspected cases of academic misconduct will be handled according to University regulations.

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](#)

Important Dates Restricting Opportunities to Drop Course Spring 2016:

Dates	Description	Date Range
To 15 th instructional day	Students can drop classes on Cyberbear with refund	February 13=last day
16 th to 45 th instructional day	A Drop requires form with instructor and advisor signature, a \$10 fee from registrar's office; student will receive a 'W' on transcript, no refund.	February 13 through March 28, 2016
Beginning 46 th instructional day	Students are only allowed to drop a class under very limited and unusual circumstances. Not doing well in the class, deciding you are concerned about how the class grade might affect your GPA, deciding you did not want to take the class after all, and similar reasons are not among those limited and unusual circumstances. If you want to drop the class for these sorts of reasons, make sure you do so by the end of the 45 th instructional day of the semester. Requests to drop must be signed by the instructor, advisor, and Associate Dean and a \$10 fee applies.	March 29 through May 6

Planned LECTURE TOPIC SCHEDULE

Urban Forestry Spring Semester, 2016

Week 1 (Jan 25)

Course organization & Benefits of urban forests
Speaker: Wakimoto / Goodburn

Week 2 (Feb 1)

Introduction to Soils
Speaker: Goodburn

Week 3 (Feb 8)

Planting, watering & fertilization
Speaker: McGaughey

Week 4 (Feb 15) NO CLASS - PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY

Week 5 (Feb 22)

History of Missoula's Urban Forests
Speaker: Boza

Week 6 (Feb 29)

Tree and property value appraisal
Hazard tree assessment
Speaker: Carson

Week 7 (Mar 7)

Introduction to Insects and Diseases
Speaker: Goodburn

Week 8 (Mar 14)

Tree Insects and diseases
Symptoms & Signs
Speaker: Jackson & Steed

Week 9 (Mar 21)

Tree response to damage & Working as an arborist
TBA

Week 10 (Mar 28)

Urban Forestry on Campus (Arboretum and UC)

April 4-8 SPRING BREAK - No Class

Week 11 (Apr 11)

Basic site design
Speaker: Watson

Week 12 (Apr 18)

Inventory of the Urban Forest
Speaker: Sweet

Week 13 (Apr 25)

Community program development

Speaker: Boza

Week 14 (May 2)

State-wide and local programs

Speaker: Kirby

May 11 FINAL EXAM, Monday, 7:10-9 p.m., Forestry 305