

**RxFire Practicum - Advanced RxFire Practicum (3 credits, credit/no credit)
FORS495-90 - FORS544-90**

Wintersession 2015, Approximately January 02 – January 23.

Instructors: Carl Seielstad & LLoyd Queen

Consent of Instructor Required

The RxFire Practicum is taught in southern Georgia, where students work closely with UM Faculty and Nature Conservancy land managers to restore fire to longleaf pine forests. The class is physically and mentally arduous, requiring a significant commitment of time, energy, and focus. Admittance to the class is through an application process that includes a resume, statement of interest, references, and interview. Competition for the 8-10 available slots is fierce. Motivation, work ethic, and good interpersonal skills are primary considerations for acceptance. Fire experience, professional background, and academic performance are also considered. In selecting the group, we seek a diversity of experience and background. In short, we need to put together a high-performing unit.

Before you apply, please consider the following:

- You must have a current redcard
- You must be enrolled full time in Spring Semester 2015
- You must be able and willing to provide food for yourself for the duration of the class (~\$12/day (\$175 total); kitchen facilities provided
- Housing, transportation, and fire gear will be provided by The National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis, CFC, and The Nature Conservancy-Georgia

If you are interested in attending, please email a current resume, statement of interest, and contact information for two references to Dr. Carl Seielstad carl@firecenter.umt.edu by midnight on Wednesday, November 04.

In your application, please include contact information (phone/email), major, class status (freshman, sophomore...), redcard status/location, fire qualifications, fire experience, and work history. Your statement of interest should consider why you want to attend the RxFire Practicum, what you hope to get out of it, your long-term goals in fire and natural resource management, and your plans for next summer. You should also set up an appointment with Dr. Seielstad to visit in person.

Course Description:

The Prescribed Fire Practicum provides students with technical training, practical applications, and theoretical foundations in ecological burning in the southeastern United States. Students review literature documenting ecosystem function, evaluate burn plans based on this literature, engage in prescribed burning for ecological objectives, and assess fire effects. In the process, they are expected to take initiative, make decisions, and be accountable for results. Students are required to provide daily photo and text documentation of their activities, to participate actively in briefings and reviews, and to provide a written synthesis of their experiences upon return to the UM campus, with recommendations for improving the class for future students.