

Introduction to Forestry Field Skills

SYLLABUS – FORS 130 – FALL 2021

Instructor: John Goodburn

Office location: 201A Forestry Bldg.

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Office hours: Tuesday 9:00 – 11:00 am & Friday 9:00 – 11:00 am or by appointment

Teaching Assistants: Eliana Moustakas: eliana.moustakas@umconnect.umt.edu;
and Allison Dahlgren: allison.dahlgren@umconnect.umt.edu

Office hours: by appointment

Meeting Times & Locations:

Monday Lecture 2:00 - 2:50PM, Stone Rm 304 (ALL STUDENTS ATTEND Lecture and one of the following lab periods:

Monday Lab Group: 3:00 - 4:50PM - Meet at Outdoor tent above Urey Underground hall

Wednesday Lab Group: 3:00 - 4:50PM - Meet at Outdoor Tent EAST of Corbin Hall

Friday Lab Group: 2:00 - 3:50PM - Meet at Outdoor Tent above Urey Underground hall

WEEKEND LAB at Lubrecht Experimental Forest: We will conduct a weekend day lab (students will elect to attend one of the following two dates: Saturday Oct. 16 or Sunday Oct. 17, with 1/2 of students attending each date.

These weekend lab days will take the place of regular week day labs during the two weeks between Oct 11-Oct 22. These weekend dates will be considered mandatory, unless excused and alt arrangements made with instructor.

Course Objectives: This 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, and safe travel and teamwork in the field.

Required Text: No required textbook. PDFs of some field manual chapters will be provided from “Forest Measurements: An Applied Approach” by J. DeYoung.

Required Field Equipment: sighting compass, and “Cruzall” angle gauge (available for purchase online via provided links to online sources).

Requirements: Students must attend all class sessions, unless pre-approved. All or part of lab 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.

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:

- 15% - Attendance and Participation
- 35% - Field Exercise problem sets: (weekly assignments)
- 30% Moodle Homework Problems & Quizzes (~ weekly)
- 20% Final Field Practicum exam:

Special Accommodations

Students with disabilities who need accommodations should see me privately after class or during my office hours to request reasonable modifications.

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction for students with disabilities in collaboration with instructors and Disability Services for Students, which is located in Lommasson Center 154. The University does not permit fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications.. For more information, please consult [Disability Services for Students](#).

UM Course Policies:

Students at the University of Montana have the responsibility to conduct themselves in a way that positively impacts the safety, welfare, or educational opportunities of others in the University community. Students are expected to act as responsible members of the community, respect the rights, privileges, and dignity of others, and refrain from actions that infringe upon the rights of others or interfere with normal University activities.

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 UM deadlines for changing course options:

Date	Description
To 15 th instructional day	Students can drop classes on CyberBear with refund & no "W" on Transcript
16 th to 45 th instructional day	A class drop requires a form with instructor and advisor signature, a \$10 fee from registrar's office, student will receive a 'W' on transcript, no refund.
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, switching majors, 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 45th instructional day of the semester. Requests to drop must be signed by the instructor, advisor, and Associate Dean (in that order) so if you pursue this request, leave sufficient time to schedule meetings with each of these individuals (generally this will take at least 3-5 working days). A \$10 fee applies if approved. Instructors must indicate whether the individual is Passing or Failing the class at the time of request.

Course Schedule of Topics

Week/Date and Topic

Week 1 (Sept 13): Setting your Pace to estimate Distance and Area.

Location: On-Campus

Week 2 (Sept 20): Measuring Tree Diameters & Heights.

Location: On-Campus

Week 3 (Sept 27): - Measuring slope profiles and determining elevational change & Horizontal Map distance in field & on Topographic maps.

Location Off-campus @ Pattee Canyon (MEET AT Fac. Services Bldg, aka Campus Police/Parking, East of Stadium)

Week 4 (Oct 4): Compass and Pacing - Orienteering. Location: On-Campus

Weeks 5-6 (Lectures 10/11 & 10/18) SPECIAL WEEKEND LABS (Sat Oct 16 OR Sun Oct 17) will replace regular M,W,F labs for these two weeks _

Location: OFF-Campus - Weekend Lab Days at Lubrecht 9am Depart Campus – 3:00pm Return to Campus – Activities to Include Tree & Log Volume, Felling & Scaling Basics, and Running Sawmill.

Week 7 (10/25): Forest Inventory I: Fixed area sampling

Location Off-campus @ Pattee Canyon (MEET AT Fac. Services Bldg East of Stadium)

Week 8 (11/1): Stand Growth & Other Measures of Forest Ecosystems

Week 9 (11/8): Forest Inventory II: Variable radius sampling

Location Off-campus @ Pattee Canyon (MEET AT Fac. Services Bldg East of Stadium)

Week 10 (11/15): Course Review & Final Field Practicum

Week 11 (11/22): Final Class Meeting