

Syllabus for FNR77 Introduction to Wildland Fire

About this Class:

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2021

Course ID & Section #: FNR77-E0821

Instructor's name: Liz McGee-Houghton

Day/Time of required meetings: M 6:30 to 8:10

Location: AT127

Course units: 2

Textbook: There is no required textbook for this course. All reading material will be provided by your instructor through Canvas

Textbook

There is no textbook for this class. There will be weekly online readings posted on Canvas. Some of these readings will be from a textbook that is available for free through the CR library. To check out this textbook or to download chapters do the following:

1. Go to the CR home page
2. Click on 'Academics' then click on 'Library'
3. Scroll down to 'Resources' and look for the box under "one search"
4. Type "Fire in the Forest" in the box
5. At this point you will need your student ID to access the library resources
6. Once on the page with the Fire in the Forest books click the text that says 'available online'
7. To get a copy you will have to download "Adobe Digital Edition". You can either download the whole book or just download specific chapters.

Meeting times and place

This course will be 100% online. There will be online lectures, reading material, questions and quizzes. You are expected to either meet Monday evenings for Zoom discussions or participate in online discussions each week.

The course will be available on CR's Canvas system beginning January 16th. On or after that date, you must login to Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com> to enter our "classroom."

Login instructions for Canvas:

- Open your web browser and go to <https://redwoods.instructure.com>
- Your Username is the same as your **Webadvisor User ID**(e.g., flast123 - first initial + lastname + last 3 digits of your student ID number.) Your initial password is your 8-digit birthdate (mmddyyyy).
- Once logged in, on top left-hand side of the screen you should see a drop down menu of your Courses.

Instructor Contact Information

Please contact me through Canvas email or chat anytime I will check both of these often

Online Zoom Office hours: TBA

Phone number: 707-599-6138

Email address: liz-houghton@redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

An introduction to wildland fire ecology, behavior and suppression. Discussions will include: the role of fire in ecosystems; fuels, weather and fire behavior; suppression, safety, tools, and strategies; fuel treatments; organizational structures and wildland fire careers. Note: Field trips are required; the College does not provide transportation.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the relationships between fuels management, fire behavior, and fire ecology.
2. Describe basic concepts of wildland fire management including common fire and fuel measurements and classification systems.
3. Discuss the role of historical fire policy in current and future fire management issues.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

- Your grade will be based on your thoughtful and complete responses to weekly questions and participation in discussion sessions.
- Grades on Canvas are not completely reflective of your grade as active participation will be incorporated into the grading
- The highest percentage in the class will be used to calculate the final grade.
- Rubrics will be used for most assignments. Please review any rubric before starting an assignment
- All assignments will be graded on level of completeness. All answers must be written in complete sentences unless asking for a list or one word response

Grading categories and percentages

Assignment category	Percent of grade
Weekly questions	20%
Weekly discussion	20%
Weekly quizzes	20%
project	20%
Final	20%

A = 93-100%	B + = 88-89%	C + = 70-77%	D = 60 – 69%
A- = 90 – 92%	B = 83-87%	C = 70 -77%	F = 50% or below
	B- = 80-82%		

Weekly Schedule

Day	Activity	Important information about the Activity
Monday	Synchronous Zoom and online discussion based on weekly topic	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. You will have a choice to attend the Zoom discussion Monday evening or a Canvas online discussion2. The Canvas online discussion response is due Monday at 8pm
Monday	Written responses to reading questions due by 8pm	These are the questions that will be used in the discussion
Wednesday	Canvas online discussion responses to other students due	If participating in the online discussion, responses to other students are due by 11:59pm Wednesday
Friday	Weekly quiz due by 11:59pm	The quiz will be available on Monday and you will have two chances to take the quiz. Look for feedback on questions before the Friday due date to improve your score

Make-up Policy

There are no make-ups for missed discussions or quizzes. Please contact me if you have any serious health or technological issues that are impeding your ability to participate in this course.

Posting grades and Feedback

- **Posting grades:** Grades will be posted within 10 days after turning in any assignment.
- **Feedback:** Feedback for assignments will be provided through the Canvas grade book. Please be sure you know how to check your grade and feedback in Canvas. (see the "know Canvas" and "Getting started" module)

Field Trip

- **Potential Field Trip:** I would love to have a field trip in this class to visit one of the fires that occurred locally last summer. There will be a survey on Canvas to see how many students could attend a Saturday field trip to an area near Willow Creek.

Class participation

You can boost your grade by your active participation in this course. Examples of active participation include:

- Responding to all emails with "Thanks, got it"
- Thorough response to discussion questions
- Contacting your instructor with questions, clarifications, frustrations or comments

Course Calendar

Week	Date Posted	Topic
1	1/11	Introduction to course & Meet your classmates
2	1/25	Fire through time
3	2/1	How fire burns: combustion and heat transfer; parts of a fire
4	2/8	Fire behavior: fuels
5	2/15	Fire behavior: weather and ignition (no zoom discussion due to Holiday)
6	2/22	Fire in the wild landscape: fire types, variation in fuel types, topography, weather, seasons, etc
7	3/1	Fire ecology: fire history, fire regimes
8	3/8	Fire ecology: fire regimes
9	3/15	Spring Break
10	3/22	Fire ecology: adaptations
11	3/29	Fire effects: Air, soil, water
12	4/5	Fuels management
13	4/12	Fire management
14	4/19	Fire management field trip
15	4/26	Future of fire
16	5/3	Project presentations (2 hour zoom)
	5/17	Final (comprehensive)

About your instructor:

Instructor Name: Liz McGee=Houghton

Contacting your instructor

Primary contact: Always contact me through Canvas email or chat anytime (I will check both of these often)

Online Zoom Office hours: TBA

Cell Phone number: 707-599-6138

Email address: liz-houghton@redwoods.edu

Alternate email: elizhoughton@gmail.com

About you, the student:

Important dates you should know

Spring 2021 Dates

- *Classes begin: 1/16/21*
- *MLK Jr. Birthday (all campuses closed): 1/18/21*
- *Last day to add a class: 1/22/21*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 1/29/21*
- *Census date: 2/01/21 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 2/12/21*
- *Lincoln's Birthday (all campuses closed): 2/12/21*
- *President's Day (all campuses closed): 2/15/21*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 3/04/21*
- *Spring Break (no classes): 3/15/21 – 3/20/21*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 4/02/21*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 4/02/21*
- *Final examinations: 5/08/21 – 5/14/21*
- *Semester ends: 5/14/21*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 5/31/21*

Students who have experienced extenuating circumstances can complete & submit the **Excused Withdrawal Petition** to request an Excused Withdrawal (EW) grade instead of the current Withdrawal (W) or non-passing (D, F & NP) grades. The EW Petition is available from the Admissions and Records Forms Webpage. Supporting documentation is required

Communication and You

Which device is best for you to receive messages from your instructor? Text? Email? Be sure and change the contact method in Canvas so that you receive important and up to date information about field trips, quizzes and projects. Don't be left out!

Please be advised that you have a right to privacy. It is your legal right that no information about you can be disclosed to anyone (including parents/guardians) without your prior written consent.

Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. It does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Support for online learners during COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, College of the Redwoods moved the majority of its courses online to protect health and safety. As the faculty and students adjust to this change, clear communication about student needs will help everyone be successful. Please let me know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. I want every student to thrive.

Student Accessibility

Students will have access to online course materials that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.

College of the Redwoods is also committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

During COVID19, approved accommodations for distance education classes will be emailed to the instructor by DSPS. In the case of face to face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments cannot usually be accommodated.

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Expected Behavior in Class and online

I expect everyone in my class to treat fellow classmates and your instructor with respect at all times. Any student who displays disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the classroom and can return when they apologize to the class and the instructor.

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful

Technology skills, requirements, and support (required for online classes)

Tech equipment and skills are required for student success, and of equal importance as required textbooks and materials,

Students can obtain a free [Office 365 license](#) (includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint and more) with a valid CR email.

Necessary Computer Skills – Be familiar with basic computer navigation skills

Canvas Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help-Student>

Canvas online orientation workshop: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Home/Student-Resources/Canvas-Resources>

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling and Advising](#) offers academic support and includes academic advising and educational planning

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams.
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- Multicultural & Diversity Center [waiting for hyperlink and Mission]
- Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821
- The [Honors Program](#) helps students succeed in transferring to a competitive four-year school.

How to be Successful in this Class

Here are some suggestions on how to be successful in this class:

- Read and answer questions by Sunday night each week to be ready for the Zoom or online discussions Monday.
- Write all responses to questions thoroughly and in complete sentences.
- Make a plan for completing work on time each week
- Read and study for the weekly online quiz
- Ask questions and actively participate in class discussions
- Don't be afraid of being wrong. More Learning happens when you get it wrong than when you get it right.
- Always tell yourself: You Can Do It!

Emergency procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#) It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergency situations within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

- a. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
- b. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
- c. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
- d. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.

- e. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
- f. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
- g. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

This syllabus is subject to change at any time....I will let you know.