



Syllabus for Intro to Forestry and Natural Resources

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2022

Course ID & Section #: FNR-1-E3113

Instructor's name: Valerie Elder

Day/Time of Face-to-Face meetings:

Lecture: TTH 10:05AM- 11:10AM AT 127

Lab: T 01:15PM-04:25PM AT 127 with off campus meetings and field trips * check announcements*

Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office Hours:

Monday mornings 9-11 AM ([Online via Zoom](#): password: treesrcool) or In-person (AT 134)

Pronto: I will answer M-F 10-4, feel free to send and I will respond as soon as I can.

Email address: Valerie-elder@redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

An introduction to forest and natural resource issues and management. The lectures and discussion cover three general areas: goods and services derived from forests; basic management strategies for natural resources; and the development and application of relevant policies and regulations, including historical perspectives. Weekly field exercises introduce students to basic techniques for field work and how different management approaches are applied in the woods. Note: Field trips are required and the College does not provide transportation.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (*How do I know I'm learning?*)

1. Describe the goods, services, and benefits derived from utilizing natural resources.
2. Explain the basic components of forest ecosystems and use critical thinking to determine how management affects these ecosystems.
3. Discuss the historic, economic, and political framework of natural resource utilization.
4. Lab Specific Outcome: Demonstrate safety protocols and common field techniques used in natural resources at a basic level.

Objectives:

1. Historical uses of forests and natural resources and the relationship of forest resources to the economic development of the U.S.
2. State and Federal policies and laws.
3. Wood and non-wood commercial products and considerations.
4. Wildlife resources, commercial vs. non-commercial and consumptive vs. non-consumptive utilization.
5. Water resources and links to water quality and demands including groundwater.
6. Changing recreational uses and the problems of wilderness management.
7. Current societal uses of natural resources and their values.
8. Silviculture and Ecosystem management.
9. Wildland fire under changing demographic patterns.
10. Forest health and social and economic considerations.
11. Economics and decision making in natural resources.
12. Livestock grazing on forests and rangelands.

Note: There will be some “virtual” options in addition to In-Person outdoors labs to help mitigate challenges of COVID-19. Do not attend class if you are sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick. I offer many options for make-up work. This class requires field-trips, the college does not provide transportation and carpooling is not encouraged due to COVID-19. Labs will vary by week so you must pay attention to Canvas announcements for each week. Labs are **REQUIRED** and count for almost 1/3rd of the course grade.

Structure

The course is structured around lecture Modules that cover the forest and natural resource issues and management and field labs that introduce you to the different species. About half of all the labs will be held off-campus in various locations so please make arrangements for transportation to the sites. Details about each off-campus lab will be given out prior to the lab so you have time to make arrangements.

The general outline of study is

Concepts

- Importance of natural resources to historic development in the U.S.
- Conflicting social demands on natural resources.
- Ecosystem management concepts.
- Safety in the forest working environment.
- Wildlife species, habitat, and management, including Endangered Species and the politics and regulations around wildlife.
- Watershed descriptions, processes, and management.
- Recreation management concepts and terms including the psychology of visitor management.
- Range ecology and management and socio-economic controversies around range management.

- Silviculture terms and application.
- Wildland fire concepts, the problems of the wildland-urban interface, and wildland fire careers.
- Basic economic theory and policy implications in natural resource decision making.
- Themes & Issues:
- Adaptive management in a changing climate.
- Sustainability as a guiding principle in natural resource management.

Skills

- Objectively analyze various points of view.
- Use of basic field tools and protocols (e.g., hand compass and pacing, Biltmore stick, etc.)
- Basic data collection and analysis.
- Read and assess material on natural resource utilization.

Lab Outline

Concepts:

- The forest work environment.
- Quality assurance of field data.
- Themes and Issues
- Basic field safety protocols including appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Skills:

- Collecting and recording field data.
- Use of basic field equipment (e.g., hand compass, Biltmore stick, GPS).
- Proper recognition and use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Recognizing safety risks in the forest.

Group Projects:

There are two group projects in this class-one focusing on Forest Ownership which will be structured and guide you through collaborative process early in the semester.

The second project gives you more flexibility. The focus of this project is to get well acquainted with one of the natural resource problems that face this region. Because we are in a very resource rich area that has a long history of use, we face a large number of important resource management issues. Many of these are controversial because of basic conflicts in viewpoints about how resources can best be utilized to meet the needs of society. Each group of 3-4 students will choose a single local natural resource issue to focus on. The key to successfully addressing the issue will be to try as much as possible to narrowly focus your questions about what the central issue is. For example: The management of the whole Klamath river is a very broad topic that is beyond the scope of this project but pieces of that issue could be a focus (e.g., water use and allocation; dam renovation or removal; allocation of annual fish harvest

among recreational, commercial and tribal fisheries; timber harvesting activities and sediment inputs, etc.). 6 Once the topic is chosen by the group and the focus written out, the instructor will give each group feedback on the feasibility of the project. Then each group will find background information on the various sides of the issue (e.g., preservation vs. utilization) and develop a summary of the various arguments. Sources can include the internet, newspapers, interviews, etc. but should also include scientific sources. There's a collection of news journals called the "High Country News" that covers western environmental issues and there are Journal of Forestry magazines located in the classroom as well. The **output** from the project will be a group **paper** of the issue researched by the group. It should clearly state what the problem is, how it got to be a problem, what the various sides are to the issue and what kinds of approaches could be taken to solve the problem (typewritten, formatted, etc.). **The groups will also present an overview/summary** of their project to the class during the last lab of the semester (can use PowerPoint or other presentation material). The overall idea is to present the issue at hand and the various approaches that different groups take to try and solve the issue. This will be easier if you focus on a specific issue (like dam removal on the Klamath) instead of a really broad issue (like overfishing in the ocean). History is also important in these issues so don't forget to cover that as well.

***You will be required to (use course discussion boards and/or email, zoom, phone, google doc) to communicate with peers to complete the group project. Expect to need to be online/checking email/CANVAS several days during the week throughout the semester. ***

Textbook Resources

Introduction to Forest and Renewable Resources 9TH 20

Author: Dawson, Chad P. / Hendee, John C.

ISBN: 978-1-4786-3889-6

Field Equipment

We will have several outdoor field labs this Fall with safety protocols in place. These labs require appropriate clothing and closed-toe, traction footwear for conditions, field notebook, and miscellaneous items (sunscreen/bug repellent/ water, etc.) NOTE: You will not be allowed to participate in most outdoor labs if you do not wear appropriate attire (e.g., no flip flops or smooth-soled shoes). When working in the woods we will wear hard hats that are provided. There will be several off-campus field trips and you are responsible for your own transportation to the field sites and carpooling is not encouraged due to COVID.

Getting Help/Virtual Office Hours

Your instructor will be able to assist you in a variety of ways. Please do not wait until the end of the semester if you are struggling with concepts or skills. This information is cumulative, and your future success depends on your current comprehension.

1. Contact me or your peers using the pronto group. All of us, and your peers, will use this similar to asking questions in class. Do a search first (Google is your friend!), and if you don't find your question, post it to the discussion group in pronto. If you solved it on your own, or see another post to which you know the solution, you are encouraged to post feedback to help each other, so that we are sharing knowledge within the community.

2. Check for Office Hours. Office hours, virtual for this course, are specifically to assist you with questions or concerns. Office hours are by appointment and may be set up via zoom by contacting the instructor, so be sure to check the homepage, syllabus or announcements for more information.

3. Email your instructor. If you have a question about grades, or other personal or confidential matters, you should always use email to contact your instructor. Always email them directly (links are on the home page), and always from your CR account.

Canvas Announcements

From time to time, class announcements will be sent out via the CR Canvas Learning Management System. It is your responsibility to make sure your **personal settings** ([Links to an external site.](#)) in Canvas **are set to receive email notifications** about these announcements. You can also review previous announcements by clicking Announcements in the navigation pane.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation

Students will be required to have access to adequate computer and internet access and familiarity with basic computer skills. Examples of this include:

- navigate a class in Canvas
- receive, respond and regularly check) messages sent to your CR email account
- receive, respond and regularly check) announcements sent in Canvas
- download and upload files in Canvas assignments
- use a phone or digital camera (or webcam) to upload “selfies” to your online lab notebook
- use a word processor program (such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs)
- use a webcam or a phone to record and upload videos in Canvas
- use Zoom, email and canvas discussion boards to communicate with peers and instructor

COVID Safety Protocols:

Campus safety protocols can be found here:

https://www.redwoods.edu/Portals/0/Covid/Student_quickfact_SP22.pdf

Student responsibilities include:

- Facial coverings are mandatory in all indoor spaces and outdoors where 6 feet of social distancing is not possible, including walking to and from classes.

- Upload vaccination status (one-time) in the College of the Redwoods Campus App; OR
- If un-vaccinated (with exemption**), complete daily pre-screenings in the Campus App or with a health screener on campus.
- After completing the health screening, receive a pass through the Campus App OR a wristband from a health screener.
- Use QR codes and the Campus App to scan into classrooms and other areas for contact tracing purposes.

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is 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

If you are taking online classes DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. In the case of face-to-face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the needed accommodation so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let me know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Examinations and assignments are listed in Canvas, and in the course outline below, and are **subject to change**. Changes will be announced in class, and posted in Canvas – due dates in Canvas should be considered the most current. Additional assignment due dates will be announced when the assignments are given. You are responsible for knowing when your work is due.

Your grade will be composed of online discussions (20%), quizzes (10%), lab activities (40%) and exams (20%). The remaining 10% will be a participation/professionalism component. This component will be based on your level of engagement and interaction with your instructors and peers during the course. Assignments will be graded typically within one week of submission, depending on instructor workload. You will be able to track your grade throughout the course via the Grades section in Canvas.

Late Policy

Deadlines are a necessary part of life, and as the information in this course is foundational and cumulative, it is important to complete your assignments on time so that you're ready for what comes next. Because of the amount of work necessary in this course and that the work is cumulative, each module needs to be completed in order for the next module to open up. This means if you have not completed everything in module one, the upcoming module two will remain locked until all the work is submitted. Each week, you will typically have a quiz, a discussion, a pre-lab and a lab assignment due. Be sure to check the Canvas calendar or the bottom of the Syllabus page for due dates. Canvas also has options for [setting reminders](#) ([Links to an external site.](#)) for your to-do list.

Late work will be penalized 10% for being for up to a week after it is due. Assignments are due at the set due date AND time. It does not matter if the assignment is one minute late or a week late the penalty will be applied. After a week the assignments will be closed and the student will receive a 0. In this case, the only way to receive credit is to contact the instructor and it will be situational whether or not those points can be made up. Exams and quizzes may not be submitted late or made up without an excused absence.

If you experience computer issues, or an internet or power outages (such as from weather or a downed line in your neighborhood) while working from home, you should seek other alternatives such as a local library to complete your work. In the case of a campus-wide or community-wide outage, deadlines will be adjusted (such as Mass outages for fire safety).

Exceptions to this policy will only be granted in the event of legitimate excused absences. An excused absence means that you have a) notified your instructor in advance and received confirmation from them that your notice has been accepted or b) provided a written medical excuse. You must still make arrangements to take the test, and our willingness to be flexible improves with the amount of advance notice we receive. Plan your travel and personal events around your school work, not vice versa. Failure to be aware of exam dates because of class absence does not constitute an excuse – any changes will be posted on Canvas.

Due to some unpredictable variables related to COVID-19, please discuss late or missing work and absences with me. I want you to be successful and I can only help if you communicate with me.

Meeting Minimum Requirements

Minimum requirements represent the minimum amount of work needed to earn a grade. Students who submit incomplete work, or do not meet the minimum requirements regarding length and content, will be given a zero grade for the assignment.

Expected Work Load

The expected workload for CR Courses is calculated at 3 hours per week for each unit in a standard 16-week course. For the combined lecture and lab, this amounts to nine hours per

week. This may be more or less hours depending on your learning style and inevitable technical challenges with internet/software etc.

CR Grading Scale: A: 94-100, A-: 90-<94, B+: 87-<90, B: 84-<87, B-: 80-<84, C+: 77-<80, C: 70-<77, D: 60-<70, F: <60

Drop Policy: You may be dropped from the class if you miss 3 or more weeks of class participation, discussion, assignments or labs prior to the end of week 10. If you stop participating in class after week 10 you will be graded for participation and may receive an F.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Spring 2022 Dates

- *Classes begin: 01/15/22*
- *Last day to add a class: 01/21/22*
- *Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday (all campuses closed): 01/17/22*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 01/28/22*
- *Census date (or 20% into class duration): 01/31/22*
- *Last Day to file P/NP (only courses where this is an option) 02/11/22*
- *Lincoln's Birthday (all campuses closed): 02/18/22*
- *Presidents Day (all campuses closed): 02/21/22*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 03/03/22*
- *Spring Break (no classes): 03/14/22-03/19/22*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 04/01/22*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 04/01/22*
- *Final examinations: 05/07/22-05/13/22*
- *Semester ends: 05/13/22*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 05/30/22*

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](#).

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.

Setting Your 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. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

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://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/>

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](#)

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.

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 emergencies within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. 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.
5. 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.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

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](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

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

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- 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

Inclement Weather

In case of weather-related delays at the University, online portions of this course will proceed as planned. Your instructor will inform you if there are any extenuating circumstances regarding content or activity due dates in the course due to weather delays. If you are affected by a weather-related emergency, please contact your instructor at the earliest possible time to make special arrangements.

Course Copyright

All course materials students receive, or to which students have online access, are protected by copyright laws. Students may use course materials and make copies for their use as needed, but unauthorized distribution and uploading of materials without the instructor's express permission is strictly prohibited.

Students who engage in the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials may be held in violation of the College of the Redwoods Code of Conduct, and liable under Federal and State laws.

Disclaimer

The specifics of this Course Syllabus can be changed at any time, and you will be responsible for abiding by any such changes. Significant changes to the syllabus will be communicated to you via Canvas announcements.

Course Schedule

The course schedule is posted to Canvas, and is subject to change. Please see Canvas for the most current version.