

# College of the Redwoods



## Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2025

Course ID & Section #number: FNR-10-E9169 Introduction to Forest Operations

Instructor's name: Valerie Elder

Day/Time of required meetings:

Lecture: MW 09:00AM - 10:05AM

Lab: W 10:15AM - 01:25PM

Location: AT 127

Course units: 3



## Instructor Contact Information

Office location or \*Online: [Zoom \(https://redwoods-edu.zoom.us/j/88256457451?pwd=XOdl2dhl0wPP3JIR7zICqGxeUEkvc2.1\)](https://redwoods-edu.zoom.us/j/88256457451?pwd=XOdl2dhl0wPP3JIR7zICqGxeUEkvc2.1) or In-person at AT 134



Office hours: M/W 8:15-8:45 AT 134 or by Zoom/appointment

Office phone number: 707-476-4328

Email address: [valerie-elder@redwoods.edu](mailto:valerie-elder@redwoods.edu) (<mailto:valerie-elder@redwoods.edu>)

Pronto is usually the fastest way to get ahold of me, but I strive to respond in 24 hours M-F.



## Required Material

This course does not require a textbook. PDF and weblinks to required readings are provided and include:

Forest Road Contracting, Construction and Maintenance for small forest woodland owners
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Harvest Systems and Equipment in British Columbia
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Forest Practice Rules/Act
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\*Other reading materials posted in modules or handouts.\*



## Catalog Description

A lecture, discussion, and field laboratory course exploring the practical application of timber harvesting techniques and forest operations in the framework of the California Forest Practices Act. Students will learn basic forest operations including elements of road layout and design, harvesting design and limitations, and operational equipment use and limitations. A major focus will include silvicultural prescriptions used to meet various land management goals. The field exercises will focus on application of these principles on the ground and will include field trips to active timber harvesting operations.

Note: Lab has a significant field component in rough terrain and adverse weather with off-campus travel required.





## Course Student Learning Outcomes

- (LEC) Discuss general types of forest operations and specific applications to timber harvesting including forest road development and use.
- (LEC) Analyze case studies of forest operations, including harvesting operations and forest road design, in the context of practical, legal, and ethical requirements.
- (LAB) Demonstrate practical application of terms and concepts in examples of harvesting operations.



## Course Calendar

Week	Monday	Lecture	Quiz	Wednesday	Lecture	Lab
Week 1	25-Aug	Course Overview & Safety Forest operations: a tool to achieve various forest management objectives		27-Aug	Forest operations: a tool to achieve various forest management objectives	Timber Heritage
Week 2	1-Sep	Holiday		3-Sep		HRC
Week 3	8-Sep	Overview of Development of Rules and Regulations related to harvest operations		10-Sep	Overview of Development of Rules and Regulations related to harvest operations	Project Overview
Week 4	15-Sep	Ground Based Operations	QUIZ I	17-Sep	Ground Based Operations	Other Operations/Make-up Day
Week 5	22-Sep	Aerial Operations		24-Sep	Aerial Operations	Green Diamond
Week 6	29-Sep	Mechanized Operations		1-Oct	Mechanized Operations	Roads Arcata Community Forest



Week	Monday	Lecture	Quiz	Wednesday	Lecture	Lab
Week 7	6-Oct	Processing & loading	QUIZ II	8-Oct	Transportation	Log Scaling Lab
Week 8	13-Oct	Soil disturbance		15-Oct	Soil disturbance	Geology: Guest Lecture/Lab Annie F CGS, RPF, PG
Week 9	20-Oct	Forest products	QUIZ III	22-Oct	Forest products	Mill Tour
Week 10	27-Oct	Forest road location		29-Oct	Forest road location	Project Work - Road Planning
Week 11	3-Nov	Forest road design		5-Nov	Forest road design	Project Work- Culvert Sizing
Week 12	10-Nov	Drainage systems and stream crossing Road maintenance and decommissioning	Quiz IV	12-Nov	Best Management Practices (BMP's)	Project Work - BMP
Week 13	17-Nov	CalFIRE as Oversight		19-Nov	Harvest Planning- Certifications Systems/Sustainability	Project Work - Harvest Planning
Week 14	24-Nov	Holiday		26-Nov	Holiday	
Week 15	1-Dec	Cost Analysis	Quiz IIV	3-Dec	Cost Analysis	Project Work - Cost Analysis
Week 16	8-Dec	Class summary and review		10-Dec	Project Work	Presentations
Final, Monday, Dec 15		Final Quiz 8:30am – 10:30am				

\*\*\*\*Subject to change with fair notice, due to weather or other events we may need to be flexible. Check email/canvas announcements and pronto before coming to class \*\*\*\* Not all assignments are listed below but this serves as a reference for most\*\*\*\* Carpooling is encouraged for field trips you don't need a car to take this course.





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## Evaluation & Grading Policy

Assignments are listed in Canvas modules 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. Most assignments will be turned in via canvas. You are responsible for knowing when your work is due.

**Late Work:** Assignments in canvas has a **due date**- when you are expected to turn it in and a **turn-in date** the last possible date you can submit an assignment. If you cannot turn in an assignment by the due date and want to submit by the turn-in date you must email me before the assignment is due and outline your plan for submitting the assignment by the turn-in date. Otherwise, 10% per day will be deducted from your assignment grade. After using two turn-in date grace periods late assignments will be deducted 10% per day.

**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.

Assignments will be graded typically within one week of submission, depending on instructor workload.

**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



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## 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:

 gate 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




## Educational Accessibility & Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, or bipolar disorder
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the [LIGHT Center](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/light.php) 

[\(https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/light.php\)](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/light.php), counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g. audio books or E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Student Accessibility Support Services \(SASS\)](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/index.php)   [\(https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/index.php\)](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/index.php).

If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact SASS for a consultation:

 [@redwoods.edu \(mailto:SASS@redwoods.edu\)](mailto:SASS@redwoods.edu).

SASS office locations and phone numbers



## Eureka campus

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- Phone: 707-476-4280,
- Locations: Student Services building, first floor SS113

## Del Norte campus

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- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: Main building, near the Library

## Klamath-Trinity campus

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- 707-476-4280



## Academic Integrity

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic integrity, 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 a lack of academic integrity, 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 2024-2025 College Catalog and CR Board and Administrative Policies.



## AI Use Class Policy



Recent advancements in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have made large language models such as ChatGPT and Google's Bard widely available. We use some of this technology in our analysis in class. However, overuse of these tools in this class can undermine your learning and curtail the development of your critical and creative thinking skills. In addition, AI outputs are often unreliable and frequently subject to bias. For these reasons, the policy of this class is that **AI cannot be used at any point in the completion of assignments unless otherwise specified**, including discussion posts. Any or all of assignment submissions and discussion posts may be screened by AI detection software, but the real penalty for AI misuse is that you will miss out on an opportunity to learn. In



Forestry and Natural Resources, we so often reference on the ground conditions to ensure environmental protections- so critical thinking is essential!



## 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. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2025-2026 College Catalog](https://redwoods.elumenapp.com/catalog/2025-2026/home)  (<https://redwoods.elumenapp.com/catalog/2025-2026/home>) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/redwoods/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies)  (<https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/redwoods/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies>).



## 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.

