SFR 109 – Introduction to Arboriculture Lab

Syllabus and Course Description

School of Forest Resources

University of Maine - Orono

SFR 109 – Introduction to Arboriculture Lab

The principles of tree care, pruning, repair, and maintenance are covered. Preparation to become a licensed Maine arborist and or ISA Certified Arborist is provided.

Prerequisites or Co-requisite: SFR 108 – Introduction to Arboriculture and Community Forestry

Course Typically Offered: Fall/Spring (every year)

Lab 3 hours on Saturday (9 am to noon, seven consecutive Saturdays beginning March 26th)

Credits 1

Instructor and Contact Information

tish carr Corbett Hall, Room 215; phone 207.485.0219 email: tish.carr@maine.edu

(Messages/assignments can be left with the administrative assistants in rm 201 Nutting Hall. )

Office Hours: By appointment

Instructional Materials and Methods

Arborists Certification Study Guide (can order through ISA)

Additional handouts and outside readings may be assigned

Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course the learner will be able to:

• Identify tree and shrub species by various plant characteristics
• Evaluate nursery stock for quality specimens
• Evaluate sites for appropriate species and planting locations
• Discuss soil and water relationships and their roles in tree establishment and growth
• Record observations and measurements leading to assessing tree values and tree inventory and management
• Explain the proper use and placement of tree support systems
• Demonstrate proper use of gear and technique for tree climbing
• Demonstrate proper and safe use of chain saws
• Evaluate trees for hazard and potential failure
• Understand the electrical hazards associated with urban trees
• Demonstrate proficiency for successful completion of the Maine Arborist’s licensing exam and/or ISA Certified Arborist exam

Grading and Course Expectations

The on-line course SFR 108 – Introduction to Arboriculture and Community Forestry is a prerequisite or co-requisite for the lab SFR 109. SFR 108 is designed to give a wide range of students an overview of the interrelationship trees and people have within a community concept. SFR 109 is hands-on and designed for students that wish to take the Maine Licensed Arborist exam or the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) exam.

The lab course begins the eighth week of classes and meets at an assigned location each week (UMaine campus, Orono). Lab sessions last a full 3 hours and will continue for 7 weeks. Equipment will be provided; use of personal equipment is not allowed without prior consent from the instructor. All safety requirements will be explained at the start of each lab, and all students must strictly follow the safety protocols.

DRESS APPROPRIATELY FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITY. Students must wear their own steel-toe boots, safety glasses, hardhat, and work gloves for each outdoor lab.

Please turn off cell phones/pagers during class.

Grades will be determined by the total points earned divided by those assigned, and will be based on the following:

A: 93–100
A−: 90–92
B+: 88–89
B: 83–87
B−: 80–82
C+: 78–79
C: 73–77
C−: 70–72
D: 60–69
F: 0–59
Quizzes on lab activities will be given at the start of the next lab period. Quizzes will include short answer questions and/or demonstration of proper use and technique of equipment. Grading rubrics for assessing technique competency will be given at the start of each lab period when appropriate. Grades will be determined on attendance (60% of grade) and quizzes (40% of grade).

**Academic Honesty Statement:** Academic honesty is very important. It is dishonest to cheat on exams, to copy term papers, to submit papers written by another person, to fake experimental results, or to copy or reword parts of books or articles into your own papers without appropriately citing the source. Students committing or aiding in any of these violations may be given failing grades for an assignment or for an entire course, at the discretion of the instructor. In addition to any academic action taken by an instructor, these violations are also subject to action under the University of Maine Student Conduct Code. The maximum possible sanction under the student conduct code is dismissal from the University.

**Students with disabilities statement:** If you have a disability for which you may be requesting an accommodation, please contact Ann Smith, Director of Disabilities Services, 121 East Annex, 581-2319, as early as possible in the term.

**Course Schedule Disclaimer (Disruption Clause):** In the event of an extended disruption of normal classroom activities, the format for this course may be modified to enable its completion within its programmed time frame. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to the syllabus that will supersede this version.

**Course Schedule (TENTATIVE!)**

Starting week after Spring Break, March 25th for 7 consecutive weeks for 3 hours, 9 am – noon.

March 25 - tree climbing; knot tying

April 1 - more tree climbing; more knot tying

April 8 - tree pruning

April 15 - tree inventory/itree

April 22 - chainsaw use and basic chainsaw safety

April 29 hazard tree assessments.

May 6 - tree planting review of planting and pruning; we will be planting a tree as well as pruning trees (on the ground only!)