SFR 112 – Forests Through Time: Discussion
Spring 2017

Course Information

SFR 112 – Forests Through Time: Discussions

Prerequisite or co requisite: SFR 111 – Forests Through Time

SFR 111 and SFR 112 together satisfy the General Education Science Application and Population & Environment requirements, OR, SFR 101, SFR 111, and SFR 112 satisfy the General Education Lab Science and Population & Environment requirements.

Internet-based Course

1. Web-based material on BlackBoard is utilized asynchronously: It is up to the student to make sure that readings are completed, recordings are viewed, and quizzes completed on a weekly basis as assigned.
2. Uses BlackBoard for quizzes in SFR 111. For SFR 112 BlackBoard is used for Discussions and submitting assignments.
3. You will be receiving E-mail messages through your MaineStreet E-mail address. You may either check or forward your MaineStreet email by visiting http://mail.maine.edu. To forward your email to either FirstClass or another email account of your choice, select the option: "change the destination of email sent to your @Maine.edu address." More details about how accomplish this are at http://www.studentrecords.umaine.edu/mailforward.html

Class Formats

1. Attend evening Office Hours at UMaine (time and place to be announced). We will discuss the topics after which you’ll need to write answers to questions. Arrangements can be made to attend class through internet connections.
   OR
2. Use BlackBoard Discussions during the week to respond to questions from the instructor, ask questions of the instructor and others, and review responses from other students.

Technical Requirements

1. Use of a computer is required. Students must be proficient in using internet browsers and downloading files. The computer must also be capable of playing videos with sound.
2. Documents are in MS Word format. If you do not have MSWord, you need a copy of Word Viewer:
3.  *Documents are also in PDF format.* To view them, you need a copy of Adobe Reader on your computer. You can download a copy of the program at: http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

4. *Recordings require a high speed internet connection for viewing.* A high speed internet connection can be a DSL connection, a cable connection, or a T-line connection such as that found on the UMaine campus. *Warning:* Without a high speed internet connection, you will not be able to view the recordings; please make sure you have access to high speed internet before registering for the course.

5. *Flash Player is required for viewing recordings.* Download the Player at: http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/

6. *Registered students need to use BlackBoard.* Information about BlackBoard and getting an account is available at: http://support.courses.maine.edu/

7. *For additional questions or comments,* e-mail cedtechhelp@umit.maine.edu

**Learning Outcomes**

Students will be able to use scientific concepts and principles to:

1) Explain basic components of the forest.

2) Compare and contrast the causes of forest change over time due to:
   a) Climate
   b) Human use

3) Analyze the composition and history of a forest and articulate future changes in the forest if:
   a) No disturbance occurs
   b) A disturbance occurs such as logging and wind storms
   c) Climate change occurs

4) Ascertain how these changes affect wildlife populations and humans

**Faculty Information**

Questions or requests for appointments can be submitted to an instructor by using email.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>William H. Livingston</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor, School of Forest Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Maine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5755 Nutting Hall rm 201b</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orono, ME 04469-5755</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>ph: 207-581-2990</th>
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<tr>
<td>fax: 207-581-4257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-mail: <a href="mailto:WilliamL@maine.edu">WilliamL@maine.edu</a></td>
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Required Readings and Books

1. Required:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Citation</th>
<th>Referred to in course as:</th>
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2. Other References Used Throughout the Course (available through BlackBoard):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Citation</th>
<th>Referred to in course as:</th>
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</thead>
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3. Additional references needed for specific topics will be indicated in the topics page and lecture outline. Readings will be available on-line.

Grading and Course Expectations

Students are required to participate in the once-a-week class sessions. Material from SFR 111 will be assigned each week, and the quiz for the assigned material must be completed prior to the start of the sessions. Failure to complete the quiz will result in zero credit for the discussion session.

Grades for the discussion session will be based on:

1. **Written assignments (40%)**
   
   Assignments are based on weekly topics presented on the *Forests Through Time* BlackBoard site and will relate the material to the Learning Outcomes for the class. A 2-3 page response to specific questions on each topic is expected. **Written responses are due at midnight on Tuesday after the class in which they were discussed.** There will be a 10% penalty for late written assignments. **Upload your answers to BlackBoard using the “Assignments” tool.** Click on the appropriate assignment, and then click on “Write Submission”. Do NOT use the “Comments” section to write your answer.
2. **BlackBoard Discussions** (40%): You'll need to respond to questions and postings on the BlackBoard Discussions tool. More information is provided later in the syllabus on using the Discussion tool. Your written responses, usual minimum of 100 to 200 words, are posted to BlackBoard and will be graded. You'll have until Tuesday midnight to complete your messages for the discussion. It is expected that you'll need at least an hour during the week to complete the postings IN ADDITION to the time needed to view the lecture recordings, take the quiz for SFR 111, and write the next written assignment for SFR 112.

3. **Final Exam** (20%)
   - A final exam will be given on BlackBoard and will be based on the questions given on the quizzes for SFR 111.
   - The Exam will be worth 200 points (40 questions).

Final grades will be assigned as follows:  
A= >90% of possible points, B= 80-89%, C= 70-79%, D= 60-69% F = <60%

**Policies**

1. **Late Work:** Work that is completed by the due date can be revised for a better grade. Any work completed after the due date can still be submitted for full credit but can’t be revised after grading.

2. **Academic Honesty:** 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.

3. **Students with Disabilities:** 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.

4. **Sexual Discrimination Reporting:** The University of Maine is committed to making campus a safe place for students. Because of this commitment, if you tell a teacher about an experience of sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, relationship abuse (dating violence and domestic violence), sexual misconduct or any form of gender discrimination involving members of the campus, your teacher is required to report this information to the campus Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity.

If you want to talk in confidence to someone about an experience of sexual discrimination, please contact these resources:

For confidential resources on campus:

Counseling Center: 207-581-1392 or Cutler Health Center: at 207-581-4000.
For confidential resources off campus:

   Rape Response Services: 1-800-310-0000 or Spruce Run: 1-800-863-9909.

Other resources: The resources listed below can offer support but may have to report the incident to others who can help:

   For support services on campus: Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention: 207-581-1406, Office of Community Standards: 207-581-1409, University of Maine Police: 207-581-4040 or 911. Or see the OSAVP website for a complete list of services at http://www.umaine.edu/osavp/

5. Extended Disruption: 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.

6. Student Behavior: Every student in the class is expected to be familiar with the University's Student Handbook (http://www.umaine.edu/handbook/) and Student Conduct Code part of which states, "It is expected that students will conduct their affairs with proper regard for the rights of others and of the University. All members of the University community share a responsibility for maintaining an environment where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, and reason." If the instructor believes that a student's behavior is violating this code or other codes in the Handbook, the instructor has the option to ask that the behavior cease and will seek advice from the appropriate office on campus on how to deal with the student's behavior. If you have questions about this policy or want examples on what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior, please speak with the instructor.
How to Use BlackBoard Discussion

1. Log into BlackBoard and select “SFR 112-:Forests through Time-Discuss.
2. Go to the left menu bar and click on “Discussions”.
3. On the “Discussion Board” page, click on the first link (the link’s text will be the first question for the week) below the word “Forum”.
4. On the “Forum” page, you will need to click “Create Thread”.
5. On the “Create Thread” page:
   a. You’ll see the required discussion question under “Forum Description”.
   b. Respond to the question using the “Message” edit box.
      i. Give a title to your response
      ii. Write your response.
         1. **BE SURE TO USE INFORMATION FROM THE RECORDINGS AND READINGS.**
         2. Expecting about 120 words for 10 points.
      iii. You can attach a sketch if needed.
   c. Save a draft if you have not completed your answer.
   d. After you have completed your answer, submit your answer. **YOU CANNOT REVISE YOUR ANSWER AFTER SUBMITTING IT.**
6. You can now view the “Threads” or answers of other students.
   a. Read the answers posted by other students.
   b. If there aren’t any or are too few, you can view posts from previous semesters by opening the document in the “Earlier Answers” thread.
7. After reading the answers, you will probably want to “right click” the browser’s tab so that you can “duplicate” the window in another tab.
8. Add comments to your answer
   a. Click on your thread.
   b. Click on the “Reply” button. An editing window will open. Write some comments in this window.
      i. Indicate 2 or 3 other answers (i.e., “Threads”) that provide new information for your entry.
         1. You can click on the other “BlackBoard” tab on your browser to see the threads (answers) of the other students.
         **OR**
         2. Download and open the document of answers from earlier semesters.
ii. Explain what information helps to improve your answer.

iii. Click “Submit”

9. To get back to the discussion questions, click “OK” at the bottom of the window, or go back to the left menu and click on “Group Discussion Board” underneath the “My Groups” title

10. Respond to the other “Forums” (discussion questions) as needed.

11. Respond to all Forum questions that are listed.

I expect answers to be thorough, well justified, and about 200 words long for 15 points. Simply stating “yes” or “no”, or writing one sentence is not enough. Try and use as much information from the readings and recordings as is relevant. Grades will be posted on BlackBoard.

A link to the recording of a Monday evening class will be available on the Assignments page on BlackBoard. You are welcomed to view the recording to help with developing answers for the discussion questions.

New discussion topics will be posted by Wednesday evenings. Your responses must be entered by the following week on Tuesday at midnight.

After the discussion due date, there will be a 10% penalty for late entries.

You are welcomed to email me a question that arises as you write your responses to the discussions.
### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment #</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Topic #</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Introduction to the Forests of Maine</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 24</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Scientific Principles Important to Forests</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Jan. 31</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Principles of Biology Needed to Understand Forest Diversity</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Tree &amp; Plant Biology</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Principles of Forest Ecology Needed to Understand Forest Dynamics</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Feb. 28</td>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Principles of Wildlife Ecology (note: due date on Thursday due to fall break)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>8.</td>
<td>10,000 Years of Forest Change</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>March 28</td>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Land Ethic</td>
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<td><strong>Spruce-Fir Forest</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Spruce-Fir Forest: Tree Adaptations and Ecology</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Spruce-Fir Forest: Wildlife Habitat Associations</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>12.</td>
<td>The Spruce-Fir Forest Prior to 1900</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>13.</td>
<td>The Spruce-Fir Forest 1900 to 1976: Pulp Era</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>14.</td>
<td>The Spruce-Fir Forest 1976-Present</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Future Opportunities in Forest Products</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>April 18</td>
<td>16.</td>
<td>Forest Certification and The Future of the Forest</td>
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<td><strong>Forests in Our Lives</strong></td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Forests and Children</td>
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<td>May 02</td>
<td></td>
<td>Makeup</td>
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**Note:** All written assignments and discussion assignments are due by midnight on Tuesdays.

In the event of disruption of normal classroom activities, the format for this course may be modified to enable completion of the course. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to this syllabus that will supersede this version.