NR 5320
FOREST MANAGEMENT

Objective: Learn the concepts and methods of managing forests for timber production sustainably in combination with other management goals. This includes the concepts of forest growth and yield, forest regulation, forest finance and economics.

Instructor: Dr. Roger A. Williams
            367C Kottman Hall
            Email: williams.1577@osu.edu
            Office hours: by appointment.

TA: James Palus
    ENR Graduate Student
    palus.5@osu.edu

Location and Time: T, H 12:45 - 2:05pm, room 245, Kottman Hall

Semester Hours: 3 hours


The textbook is not required, but is recommended. It can be purchased at many of the bookstore websites (Amazon, Barnes and Noble, etc.). Reserve copies of the text will be placed in the Agricultural Library located in the Ag Admin Building.

Grading:  
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<td>Exam 1-</td>
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<td>Exam 2-</td>
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<td>Final Exam (comprehensive)</td>
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<td>Homework Exercises</td>
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Exam Dates:  
Exam 1: February 16
Exam 2: March 28
Final Exam: April 27, 2pm - 3:45pm

Other Important Dates:  
March 14 and 16: NO CLASS (Spring Break)
April 20: Last class day

Attendance: Attendance is required and is regarded as a privilege. Although attendance is not used in the numerical determination of the course grade, it obviously has a direct influence on the student’s performance.
Disability Services: The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Homework Policy: All homework assignments will be due on the date indicated by the instructor. A 10% reduction in grade will apply for each day an assignment is late (including weekends). Even though some assignments might be performed as group activities, each individual will be required to turn-in their own assignment.

Evaluation: Final averages will be rounded upward to the next highest whole number for assigning letter grades, and letter grades are assigned as indicated on the previous page. All concerns about grades must be presented to me in writing within 5 days after you are informed of the grade. Written proof (e.g., doctor’s excuse) must be presented to acquire excused absences, or if known ahead of time, please consult with the instructor concerning your planned absence. Academic misconduct of any type will not be tolerated, as required by the university policy (Faculty Rule 3335-5-54) on academic misconduct: “Each instructor shall report to the Committee on Academic Misconduct all instances of what he or she believes may be academic misconduct.”
COURSE OUTLINE (TOPICS)

I. Introduction (Chp. 1)
   A. What is forest management and sustainability?
   B. Current Resource Overview
   C. Forest management decisions and approaches (overview)
   D. The role of Forest certification in management decisions

II. Forest Management Concepts (Chp. 2)
   A. Ecological– natural disturbance patterns
   B. Economic– maximizing net benefits
   C. Social benefits and policy

III. Basic Elements and Methods of Forest Management (Chp. 3)
   A. Understanding the forest – You need to get to know your forest
   B. Developing prescriptions
   C. Use of land classification
   D. Predictions of conditions and outcomes for management planning
   E. Selecting the appropriate silvicultural system

IV. Fundamentals of Forest Growth, Structure, and Development (Chp. 4)
   A. Measures of forest growth
   B. Long-term forest structure and dynamics– quantification
   C. Effects of site quality, density, and stocking

V. Forest Growth Models (Chp. 5)
   A. Whole stand models– variable density and density free
   B. Diameter class models
   C. Individual tree models

VI. Classical Approaches to Management (Chp. 10)
   A. Area control to regulate forests
   B. Volume control to regulate forests
   C. Combination of area and volume regulation
   D. Harvest scheduling

VII. Forest Finance and Valuation (Chps. 7, 8)
   A. Tree and stand-level financial analysis
   B. Valuation and appraisal of tree and stand; timber and timberland
   C. Valuation of forest land
   D. Stumpage appraisal and use
   E. Valuation of non-timber outputs
   F. Estimation of demand and willingness to pay
   G. Considerations of forest product choices

VIII. Evaluation and Comparison of Management Alternatives (Chp. 9)
   A. Information for decision making
   B. Evaluation criteria
   C. Ecological criteria
   D. Economic criteria
   E. Social criteria

IX. Spatial and Multiple Ownership Considerations and Approaches (Chp. 13, 14)
   A. Spatial recognition in analysis
   B. Integrating multiple ownerships
   C. Tactical planning actions

X. Linear Programming
   A. Use in management strategies
   B. Optimization and Maximizing concepts and use

NOTE:

While the textbook is not required, corresponding chapters of the textbook are listed in the course outline for those who wish to read the textbook for more in-depth information on the course subject.

In most cases the textbook is not necessary to perform well in the course. The purpose of the textbook is to provide supplemental and more in-depth information.

Some individuals may find the textbook helpful, while others find no need of it.