

# Syllabus

## Introduction to Forestry and Natural Resources

### Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2021

Course ID & Section #: FNR 1 E1706

Instructor's name: Valerie Elder

Location: AT 127

Lecture: Tuesday/Thursday 10:05-11:10

Lab: Tuesday 1:15-4:25

Course units: 3

### Instructor Contact Information

Office location: AT 134 or \*Online: ZOOM\*

Office hours: 9-10 M-TH or by appointment

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

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:** This Fall 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.

\* See **STUDENT COVID-19 QUICK FACTS Flyer in Canvas for COVID protocols\***

### Textbook Resources

Introduction to Forest and Renewable Resources 9TH 20  
Author: Dawson, Chad P. / Hendee, John C.  
ISBN: 978-1-4786-3889-6

### 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*
- *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*

### 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, 1<sup>st</sup> 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 your instructor 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

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

See Canvas for rubrics.

**Quizzes and Exams.** The Module quizzes are not cumulative but instead cover the material covered since the last Module. The Final exam is cumulative will pull at least 2 questions from each Module quiz

**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.

## Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2021 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/21/21*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/27/21*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/03/21*
- *Labor Day Holiday (all campuses closed): 09/06/21*
- *Census date: 9/07/21 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/28/21*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/29/21*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 10/29/21*
- *Veteran's Day (all campuses closed): 11/11/21*
- *Fall Break (no classes): 11/22/21 – 11/26/21*
- *Thanksgiving Holiday (all campuses closed): 11/24/21 – 11/26/21*
- *Final examinations: 12/11/21 – 12/17/21*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 12/17/21*
- *Semester ends: 12/17/21*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 01/07/22*

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

## Other information:

### 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. \*\*\*

### **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.