

FOR 120: Preparing for a Career in Forestry

Spring 2021, 1 credit

Instructor on Record: Dr. Shuva H. Gautam

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Office Hours: Thursdays 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Class Time & Room: Mondays 10:00 – 10:50 AM, Virtual via Zoom

Forestry Faculty & Staff

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Course Description:

Provides background on careers in the fields of forestry (ecosystem restoration and management, forest management, forest recreation, urban and community forestry).

Provides information on professional development; guidance on development of a professional portfolio and development of an effective program of study. Provides exposure to internships, research opportunities, and professional societies.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the most common career paths for students graduating with a forestry degree;
2. Create a career plan that details the steps needed to facilitate placement in the student's career of choice;
3. Demonstrate appropriate basic field skills that include safety protocols and situational awareness as needed across the forestry profession; and
4. Effectively use resources to plan their academic program and track progress.

Grade Categories

- Get to know your professors (5%)
- Attend a student chapter of forestry affiliated professional society meeting (10%)
- Attend UWSP and CNR career fair events (10%)
- Summer job application: Resume and cover letter (25%)
- Prepare a 4-year degree plan (20%)
- Development of a career plan (30%)

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic	Instructor	Assignment
Jan. 25	Introduction	Dr. Shuva Gautam	Why forestry?
Feb. 1	Meet and greet the Forestry Faculty	Forestry Faculty	Quiz on your professors due
Feb. 8	Career path in Forestry – Major, Minors, certifications, FOR 449	Dr. Melinda Vokoun	CNR Career Fair
Feb. 15	Internships and summer jobs - resume, cover letter	Dr. Melinda Vokoun	Summer job application – resume, cover letter released.
Feb. 22	Career path: Public forest management	Dr. Paul Doruska	
Mar. 1	Long-term career planning	Sue Kissinger	Career plan –graded by your appointed faculty UWSP Career fair
Mar. 8	Professional organizations and involvement in student groups	Dr. Holly Petrillo	Attend student organization meeting
Mar. 15	Career path: Forest recreation	Dr. Laura Anderson McIntyre	Resume and cover letter due to your mentor
Mar. 22	Spring Break		
Mar. 29	Career path: Ecosystem restoration and Management	Dr. James Cook	
Apr. 5	Career path: Private forest management	Dr. Michael Demchik	Career plan due to your mentor
Apr. 12	Career path: Urban and community forestry	Dr. Les Werner, Dr. Rich Hauer	
Apr. 19	AccessPoint, DPR's, milestones towards graduation	TBD	
Apr. 26	Development of degree plan	Dr. Shuva Gautam	4-year degree plan due
May 3	Graduate school considerations	Dr. Nilesh Timilsina	Career plan due
May 10	Wisconsin Forestry Center Review and Wrap up	Haley Frater Dr. Shuva Gautam	

This is a pass/fail course, however, a **minimum score of 70%** must be obtained in all assignments to pass the class. Each missed class period will result in 5% being deducted from your overall score. Missing more than three classes will result in an automatic failure. An attendance sheet will be passed around during each class; it is your responsibility to sign in during every class period. Excused absence is possible under special conditions or serious documented illness. Excused absence **MUST** be cleared **in advance** by contacting the course instructor (Dr. Gautam).

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point College of Natural Resources-Principles of Professionalism

The College of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point prepares students for success as professionals in many fields. As a professional, there are expectations of attainment of several personal characteristics. These include:

Integrity Integrity refers to adherence to consistent moral and ethical principles. A person with integrity is honest and treats others fairly.

Collegiality Collegiality is a cooperative relationship. By being collegial you are respecting our shared commitment to student education through cooperative interaction. This applies to all involved in the process: students, staff, faculty, administration and involved community members. You take collective responsibility for the work performed together, helping the group attain its goals.

Civility Civility refers to politeness and courtesy in your interactions with others. Being civil requires that you consider the thoughts and conclusions of others and engage in thoughtful, constructive discussion to express your own thoughts and opinions.

Inclusivity Inclusivity requires you to be aware that perspective and culture will control how communication is understood by others. While many values are shared, some are quite different. These differences in values should be both considered and respected.

Timeliness Timeliness is the habit of performance of tasks and activities, planned in a way that allows you to meet deadlines. This increases workplace efficiency and demonstrates respect for others' time.

Respect for Property Respect for property is the appreciation of the economic or personal value an item maintains. Maintaining this respect can both reduce costs (increase the operable life of supplies and equipment) as well as demonstrate respect for others rights.

Communication Professional norms in communication require that you demonstrate the value of your colleagues, students, professors or others. The use of appropriate tone and vocabulary is expected across all forms of communication, whether that communication takes place face to face, in writing or electronically.

Commitment to Quality Quality is the ability to meet or exceed expectations. By having a commitment to quality, we intend to provide a learning environment that is conducive to learning. Intrinsic to this commitment to quality is defining expectation (committed to in a syllabus through learning outcomes), implementation (with quality control in place) and assessment (where meeting of learning outcomes is determined).

Commitment to Learning Learning is a lifelong process. By being committed to learning you are providing a model for all to follow. This model is not only professor to student but involves all combinations of people within our university and broader community

Adherence to this compact is required of the faculty and staff of the College of Natural Resources and of all students enrolled in College of Natural Resources courses.

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Note the following as per the Univ. of Wisc.-Stevens Point Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities:

UWSP 14.03 ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

(1.) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
- (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance;
or
- (f) Assists other students in any of these acts.
- (g) Violates electronic communication policies or standards as agreed upon when logging on initially (See uwsp.edu/it/policy).

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials; submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

UWSP 14.04 DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS.

(1) The following are the disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed for academic misconduct in accordance with the procedures of s. UWSP 14.05, 14.06 or 14.07:

- (a) An oral reprimand;
- (b) A written reprimand presented only to the student;
- (c) An assignment to repeat the work, to be graded on its merits;
- (d) A lower or failing grade on the particular assignment or test;
- (e) A lower grade in the course;
- (f) A failing grade in the course;
- (g) Removal of the student from the course in progress;
- (h) A written reprimand to be included in the student's disciplinary file;
- (i) Disciplinary probation; or
- (j) Suspension or expulsion from the university.

(2) One or more of the disciplinary sanctions listed in sub. (1) may be imposed for an incident of academic misconduct.

Required Statement on Emergency Preparedness:

In the event of a medical emergency, call 911 or use red emergency phone located outside Rm151 or 172 on the first floor; 2nd floor between Rms 252 and 255 or between Rms 219 and 221 (on other side of hall); 3rd floor by Rms 320 or 358. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.

In the event of a tornado warning and on the 3rd floor proceed to the southern hallways on the 1st or 2nd floors, away from the windows. Those are appropriate shelters.

In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. Meet at the northwest corner of parking lot E. Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.

Active Shooter – Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Follow instructions of emergency responders.

See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Management Plan at www.uwsp.edu/rmgt for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.

Students with Disabilities:

The university has a legal responsibility to provide accommodations and program access as mandated by Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The university's philosophy is to not only provide what is mandated, but also convey its genuine concern for one's total well-being. If accommodations are needed, please contact the instructor as well as the Disability Services and Adaptive Technologies Center, 609 Library Resources Center, voice (715) 346-3365 or TDD (715) 346-3362

Inclusive Environment:

This course (and our university!) is an inclusive environment. This course might foster discussion, with respectful exchange of ideas and opinions. Disrespect and disparagement will not be tolerated. We have a great opportunity to learn from each other, and to appreciate and understand our differences. See also the CNR Principles of Professionalism, the Society of American Foresters Code of Ethics, and the Forestry Discipline's anti-harassment statement.

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Forestry Anti-harassment Statement

Introduction

In adopting this statement, the forestry discipline within the College of Natural Resources (CNR), at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) has expectations for professional behavior of its students, staff, faculty, and other associated parties. Anyone who has a reasonable belief that they, or another student, staff, faculty or guest, have been the victim of harassment, bullying, or discrimination, or any other violation in the statement herein, are encouraged and expected to report the conduct. See reporting options and guidelines at the end of this document. The forestry discipline within the College of Natural Resources is committed to creating a safe, inclusive, and professional environment. The forestry discipline operates under the UWSP harassment, discrimination, and retaliation prevention guidelines, copied here:

"The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP) is committed to fostering an environment that is safe, respectful, and inclusive to all and to educate all employees on these important issues. In addition, we are obligated, under Regent policy and federal regulations, to ensure our employees are informed on the issues of unlawful discrimination, harassment, and sexual violence."

Statement

The forestry discipline, following the lead of the Society of American Foresters which accredits the B.S. forestry degree, believes we all have a responsibility in creating a safe, inclusive, professional environment in all forestry-related activities and events. All forms of discrimination, harassment, and bullying are prohibited. This applies to all participants in all settings (online and in-person) and locations (on- and off-campus) where forestry classes and associated activities are conducted, including student organization events and activities, committee meetings, workshops, conferences, and other work and social functions where employees, volunteers, sponsors, vendors, or guests are present. Discrimination is prejudicial treatment of individuals or groups of people based on their race, color, creed, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, ethnicity, ancestry, disability, pregnancy, marital or parental status, veteran status, or any other category protected by law. Sexual harassment is unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. Sexual harassment constitutes discrimination and is illegal under federal, state, and local laws.

Bullying is unwelcome, aggressive behavior involving the use of influence, threat, intimidation, ridicule, hazing or coercion to dominate others in the professional environment. Bullying behavior may go beyond characteristics protected by applicable laws, including but not limited to, political views, dress, or other outward physical appearances. Other types of harassment include any verbal or physical conduct directed

at individuals or groups of people because of their race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, religion, disability, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable laws, that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. The following list, while not exhaustive, includes examples of unacceptable behavior: slurs, jokes, threats, or derogatory comments relating to the characteristics noted above. Examples of inappropriate physical harassment that violate this statement include, but are not limited to: assault, unwanted touching, or impeding or blocking movement. In addition, no individual may be denied admission to, or participation in or the benefits of, any UWSP-associated events. Similarly, the display or circulation of derogatory or demeaning posters, cards, cartoons, emails, texts, videos, and graffiti which relate to characteristics noted above violate this statement.

Reporting

Students, staff, faculty, or guests associated with Forestry-related programming who experience or witness incidents of harassment are strongly encouraged to report the incident. The Forestry discipline strongly urges the prompt reporting of complaints or concerns so that rapid and constructive action can be taken.

Reporting can be done online or in person, to a faculty or staff member, and/or the UWSP Dean of Students. Anonymous reporting is available.

The UWSP Title IX Website is the home for all information related to harassment and discrimination, including reporting options, student and employee resources, and information about what happens after a report is submitted:

<https://www.uwsp.edu/titleix/Pages/default.aspx>

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Canvas and technology support

This course uses Canvas, which can be accessed via a launch portal at <https://www.uwsp.edu/canvas>. Help in Canvas is available at the bottom of the launch portal, and through the “Help” menu within Canvas. A student orientation / training course is available for self registration at <https://uws.instructure.com/enroll/FNRAL8>.

Understand when you may drop this course

It is the student’s responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student’s family.

Incomplete policy

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned under extenuating circumstances. All incomplete course assignments must be completed within deadline given by the instructor.