

Forestry 395 – Introduction to Tree Care Techniques (aka Tree Climbing Class) | Spring 2023 Syllabus

Course Coordinator: Dr. Richard Hauer, 323 CNR, rhauer@uwsp.edu, 715-346-3642 (office)

Course Lead Instructors: Don Roppolo, Aaron Schauer, John Wayne Farber

Course Objective: Introduce students to tree climbing equipment and techniques used to provide care to trees in urban and residential settings.

Learner Outcomes: After completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Become familiar with various ropes, harnesses, hardware, and personal safety equipment used in tree care operations.
2. Become familiar with climbing and terminating knots commonly used in tree care operations.
3. Become familiar with assessing the structural status of the tree.
4. Become familiar with methods of accessing the crown of the tree, including the installation of climbing ropes.
5. Recognize defects in tree in tree climbing equipment.

Course Outline: The schedule might become slightly modified dependent upon weather

Day 1 AM (Class/Field): Introduction to climbing equipment, knots, and climbing line placement

Day 1 PM (Field): Work Climb

Day2 AM (Field): Tree assessment, rope installation, and tree ascent

Day 2 PM (Field): Work Climb

Grading: This introductory course is a pass/fail class; as such students are required to attend both days of training. Attendance will be taken on both days. **All students will be required to access the crown of the tree.**

Class Location:

Class – TNR 320

Field – Campus and other locations as available

Dates: April 29 and April 30, 2023 (Saturday and Sunday)

Starting Time: 8:00 am Saturday, 8:00 am Sunday (meet in room 320 TNR)

Ending Time: 5:00 pm Saturday, 5:00 pm Sunday (room as instructed)

What to Wear: The class is a mix of indoor lecture and outdoor exercises, although, we focus heavily on the outdoor component and try to limit our time inside. Please dress appropriately for the weather. We will not climb trees if it is raining due to the increased risk associated with moving around on and in wet trees. It is best to wear layers of clothes as they can be added or stripped off based on conditions. We will supply you with hard hats and eye protection. The best shoes to wear are **work boots or hiking boots**. Please **do not wear tennis shoes** – they offer little support and can be dangerous in some situations.