

FORESTRY 436 Managing Non-industrial Private Forests Spring 2021

Instructor: Dr. Demchik (CNR 246; mdemchik@uwsp.edu): TBA office hours

Class Time: Sec 1 MoTu 1:00PM - 1:50PM
Sec 2 MoTu 4:00PM - 4:50PM

Course Description

Non-industrial private forest landowners own 59 percent of America woodlands and 57 percent of Wisconsin's woodlands. They account for a majority of the wood that is harvested which supplies America's forest products industry. This course is designed to introduce students to the skills necessary for agency, industry, and private enterprise foresters to work with family forest landowners.

Text

No textbook. We will use PDF's of papers and the WI DNR Silviculture and Forest Aesthetics Handbook.

Overall Plan

As the oddity of 2020 blends into 2021, I have decided to rebuild this class (as I have done with basically everything else that I teach). This is going to be a different semester than in the past, because several of the activities that I used to do are not able to be made Covid compliant. So, I am using this as an opportunity to rebuild. This comes with a qualifier, please be patient with any loose ends that do not work for the class, I am trying.

Course Objectives

1. Demonstrate listening skills that allow a forester to combine a landowner's vague goals with the basic biology of the forest on their property to create a stand prescription.
2. Demonstrate effective communication with NIPF's that include:
 - a. Business letters
 - b. Emails
 - c. Phone calls
3. Describe factors that motivate Family Forest landowners to own and manage woodland properties.
4. Prepare an MFL plan and present the planned activities to a class
5. Demonstrate some basic forestry skills

The Main Assignments

MFL Plan (in groups)

You will prepare a MFL plan in your group from data that I give you. MFL plan preparation will be a topic of one lecture.

Management Plan Presentation (in groups)

This will be done in groups on week of April 12, 13.

Cost Estimation (in groups)

- Develop a cost estimate for what it would cost you to prepare an MFL plan. Include planning time, field time, plan preparation and followup. Include a percent estimate for insurance etc. Compare to the estimated rate per acre that the DNR uses. From this, develop a MFL bid protocol for a small business.
- Develop a cost estimate to mark a 40 acre northern hardwood stand
- THIS IS DUE MARCH 1st (no extensions). The focus of the class on March 8th is to discuss this. I rank this as one of the most important activities that you will do in this class.

Business Communications (in groups)

You will be given specific assignments that will require you to prepare:

- A business letter that is a bid to prepare an MFL plan (a cold letter)
- Emails to an existing client that are responding to specific questions
- A phone call that targets various issues. This will actually be carried out in-class and critiqued by your classmates. I will provide specifics for this (as I am changing it up a bit from last year).

Grades

MFL Plan (groups)	20%
Management Presentation (groups)	20%
Communications (groups)	20%
Cost Estimation (groups)	10%
Quizzes and Discussions (individual)	20%
Attendance (individual)	10%

Note: There are NO exams in this class. You will do a reflection activity during that time (I am still working on that).

WEEK	Monday	Tuesday
Jan 25, 26	Class intro, discussion of syllabus	General NIPF
Feb 1, 2	Class time spent discussing MFL and how to set up your MFL plan...we will have groups by the end of lecture	Lecture on Cost Estimation, Business Letter and Business Email.... By next class, come in with ideas for discussion (framework of costs)
Feb 8, 9	Class time spent on discussion of cost estimation etc. with reporting out	Steps in a timber sale and scaling/thinning
Feb 15, 16	Data for MFL is processed, come into class with a rough plan, ready for discussion	Incentive Programs
Feb 22, 23	Discussion 1...complete online quiz first Choosing What to Believe About Forests....	Listening Skills
Mar 1, 2	Discussion 2...complete online quiz first <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Forest Owners: An In-depth Profile (Pages 7-17) FFI Tele Segment Comparison Chart	WI BMP's and Seasonal Harvest Restrictions
Mar 8, 9	Discussion 3...complete online quiz first Family Forest Owners: Insights (Pages 16-24)	I will provide feedback on the cost estimation assignment. This will cover the entire class for this day.
Mar 15, 16	Class time spent in discussion of business letter and business email	Buffer (Apps in Forestry)
Mar 22, 23	Spring Break	
Mar 29, 30	Discussion 4...complete online quiz first <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consulting Forester's View 	Discuss videos from the consulting foresters (Module A of the "From the Field" videos)
Apr 5, 6	Discuss videos from industry foresters (Module B of the "From the Field" videos)	Discuss videos from Tax Law Foresters (Module C of the "From the Field" videos)
Apr 12, 13	MFL Plan Presentation	MFL Plan Presentation
Apr 19, 20	Phone Call Activity (Zoom Driven)	Phone Call Activity (Zoom Driven)
Apr 26, 27	Discussion 5...complete online quiz first	Deed Reading (This is a discussion activity as well)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding and Reaching Family Forest Owners • Identifying Appropriate Communication Means... 	
May 3, 4	Discussion 6...complete online quiz first <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Effects of Forest Regeneration 	Estate Planning (speaker video) Discussion
May 10, 11	Ethics Discussion Activity	Reflection Session

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>

**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.

Regarding Face Coverings in the Classroom (we will likely NOT be meeting in person very often, if at all)

Face Coverings:

- **At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.**

Other Guidance:

- **Please monitor your own health each day using [this screening tool](#). If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646).**
 - **As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.**
- **Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.**
- **Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room.**
- **Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face.**
- **Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.**