

**FOR 326: WILDFIRE PREVENTION & MNGT.
Syllabus – Fall 2019**

INSTRUCTOR & OFFICE HOURS : Dr. James Cook, 242 TNR: **Office Hours:** M 3-4; T 3-5;
W 8 :30 - 10, 3-4; R [research day] 3-4 ; F 2-3

CLASS TIME : 12 – 1 :50 pm, Tuesday; from 9/3 – 10/22. Room - TNR 354

- LEARNING OBJECTIVES.** Upon completion of this class, students will be able to:
1. Use and explain important fuel properties and relevant aspects of fire behavior;
 2. Explain how fires affect management and ecological functions of forests and rural landscapes;
 3. Describe the role of wildland fire in the Wildland Urban Interface [WUI] challenge of the 21st century;
 4. Describe how detection and suppression of wildfires has changed over time;
 5. **Describe the options and strategies for preventing wildfires; and**
 6. **Explain the management tactics and strategies to minimize occurrence & effects of large fires.**

OPTIONAL TEXT*

Edmonds, R.L., J.K. Agee and R.I. Gara. 2005. Forest health and protection. McGraw Hill, 630p.

MISCELLANEOUS

Extension on a deadline will ONLY be granted to students whose absence was excused, or who provide evidence of hardship. Please let the instructor know ahead of time for any excused absences, such as military commitments.

GRADING

Grades for this class will be calculated as follows:

<u>ACTIVITY</u>		<u>WEIGHT</u>	
A. Take-home lab assignment [due 9/24]		20%	
B. Issue paper (due 10/18)		35%	
C. Take-home final (DUE DATE is Nov. 1)		45%	
		100%	

<u>Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
100-93	A	79-77	C+
92-90	A-	76-73	C
89-87	B+	72-70	C-
86-83	B	69-67	D+
82-80	B-	66-60	D
		<60	F

LECTURE SCHEDULE & ASSOCIATED* READINGS

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading*</u>
9/3	Fuel properties, combustion & behavior	pp. 49-58
9/10	Forest protection – wildfire occur. & causes, drought	pp. 1-22
9/17	Fire effects on forests; history & policy	pp.102-110
9/24	Fire planning, detection & organization; 20 th century fuel changes due to land mngt.	pp. 130-39
10/1	Crown fire initiation; risk of crown fires; strategy vs. tactics	---
10/8	Management for wildfires	pp. 67-69
10/15	Management for wildfires, concluded	pp. 112-14
10/22	Options for prevention	pp.108-12

*Suggested readings, not required

FINAL EXAM: The take home exam will be provided no later than 10/23 and will be comprehensive. This is to be an individual effort; no discussion with classmates should occur. That is, I expect you to adhere to all Academic integrity policies. The exam is due Nov. 1st. A link is given below if you need to read about the university policies about Academic Conduct.

Take-home lab assignment [BEHAVE] will be given to you by 9/13 and will be due September 24th.

Issue Paper. I will provide a list of topics and more detail about the assignment on 9/10. I am open to other ideas that fall within the framework of the class and are of suitable scope. Check with me if you have an idea you want me to consider. **YOU MAY WORK WITH ONE OTHER PERSON ON THIS, IF YOU PREFER.** The due date is October 18th.

UWSP COMMUNITY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

UWSP values a safe, honest, and respectful learning environment. To ensure that each student has the opportunity to succeed, the University has developed a set of expectations for all students and instructors called the *Rights and Responsibilities* document, which can be found at <http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Pages/rightsandresponsibilities.aspx>

Academic integrity is essential to the University mission and success in life. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated. Do not do it! The minimum penalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment. See "Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures" section of the *Rights and Responsibilities* document (<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap14.pdf>).

Trust between students and instructors is of paramount importance in academic settings. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in the classroom (e.g., cheating on exams) or out-of-class assignments. Students found cheating will be punished to the fullest extent that University policy permits.

CELL PHONE AND OTHER ELECTRONICS POLICY

The use of cell phones or other related and similar devices is not permitted during class. Cell phones and other electronic devices should be **turned off** before class begins. Students who use such devices will be asked to leave class.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- In the event of a medical emergency call 911 or use Red Emergency Phone in the south hallway of the TNR, outside of TNR 153. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide Emergency Responders to victim.
- In the event of a tornado warning, go to a room that serves as a tornado shelter, or go into the hallway, well away from any windows or glass
- In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. Meet on the east side of the TNR building, close to Reserve St. 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.