

FORS 263 URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT

Credits : Three

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Mr. Robert Underwood -

Office Hours: To be arranged

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Class Hours: Online

Text: Miller, Robert W., Richard J. Hauer, and Les P. Werner *Urban Forestry: Planning and Managing Urban Greenspaces*. 3rd Edition, Waveland Press, Inc., 560 pp. (earlier editions will be okay through the 2021-22 Academic year)

Objectives: To explain the evolution of forestry in the urban environment and the changes in traditional forestry concepts toward management, measurements, silviculture, utilization, and administration, which have been necessary to meet the unique conditions of this new forest. (addresses General Ed Goals # 7,8,9)

Description: After a brief historical overview of the field and a look at the social changes, which have driven it, we look at the functions which trees serve in the urban environment. We look at the basis and determination of the legal and economic values of trees and learn the inventorying processes and techniques necessary to assess and describe the urban forests of our streets and parks. We then use this information to develop a plan for the management of the forest. The management plan covers ordinances, planting and maintenance.

The lab projects deal with mapping, surveying, aerial photo interpretation, evaluation of individual trees, inventory techniques, hazard tree recognition, public opinions, and sources of funding.

Work Expectations:

- All assignments are graded. Labs involve collections of samples from your local area. This is in recognition of the fact that all trees do not grow in all areas. Lab assignments are graded based on completion and correct identification of the collected samples.

Exams - Policies & Procedures:

- All exams are taken online.

- Exams may be taken on any computer with Internet access. Hence, students need to set up or select an environment conducive to testing (e.g. distraction-free area at home, a computer lab in a library, etc.)
- Tests are not proctored. Students may use their books and/or notes while taking exams.
- Exams consist of multiple choice, short answer and essay type questions. Exams must be completed in sequence, and all tests must be completed within the timeframe of the class.
- There is no final comprehensive exam.

Delivery Method: Assignments submitted online by using e-mail or the course mail software. Students are not expected to come to campus at any time.

Grading:

Grading will be based on tests after each 1 or 2 Chapters. Grades will be figured as a percentage of the total possible points and letter grades assigned on a straight 90%-80%-70%-60% basis.

Lab grades will be determined by completion of exercises assigned and turned in. Most of these will be discussion topics drawing on case studies or observation of the activities of governmental agencies and foresters in your local area.

Participation in Class discussion groups, Interest in Current Events and other examples of interest and enthusiasm, while not assigned specific scores, will be noted and may accumulate "Brownie Points" influencing borderline letter grades. Observation of local attitudes, projects and other issues in the environment around you will be very important in this field of forestry. You often deal with people more than trees!!

CLASS SCHEDULE

SUBJECT ASSIGNMENT

Introduction and History Chap. 1

Benefits and Uses of Trees Chap. 2,3,4

Appraisals (Shade Tree, Shelterbelt and Parks) Chap. 5

Street Tree Inventories Chap. 6

Parks and Natural Resource Inventories Chap. 7

Planning Process and Urban Forestry Chap. 8

Ordinances, Laws, and Standards. (Quiz) Chap. 9

THE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR STREET TREES Chap. 10-12

Planning, Planting and Maintenance

Park and Open Space Vegetation Management Chap. 13

Commercial and Utility Arborists (Quiz) Chap. 14

Administration, Management and Funding Chap. 15

Let's try to make this class both informative and fun. If there is a particular area you are more interested in, let me know and we can make the classes fit.

Good Luck

If you have any special needs to complete the class requirements, please let me know. I or one of our support personnel will be happy to help you. I teach classes to help you succeed in future endeavors.