



FORS 1100 Natural Resource Conservation **Fall Semester 2005** **University of Georgia**

Details: 3 credits
Prerequisite: None
Instructor: Dr. Michael T. Mengak, Assistant Professor – Wildlife Specialist
– Phone 583-8096; office – WSFR, Building 3 (1044), Room 320
Office hours: Any time I am in my office and the door is open. Always call for an appointment.
Teaching Assistant: Mr. Sean McGregor; **Office:** **Email:** mcgregors@owl.forestry.uga.edu
Class Meetings: Tuesday/Thursday – 2:00 – 3:15; Forest Resources (Building 1140) – Room 100
E-mail: mmengak@forestry.uga.edu

TEXTBOOK:

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Course consists of lecture format. Material presented will focus on the issues and current events related to utilization and conservation of renewable natural resources. Course introduces students to basic ecology, environmental economics, policy, resource management and utilization issues, techniques, and philosophy.

READING: Assigned from text but supplemental material may be assigned.

OBJECTIVES: As we begin the 21st century, our lives are increasingly touched by questions about environmental degradation at local, regional, and global scales. Business as usual is being challenged. This course will stimulate you to go beyond the often-simplistic portraits of the environmental dilemma offered by the mass media so that you will have a firmer basis for responsible citizenship and action on environmental issues.

This course covers a variety of topics related to natural resource conservation. This course will introduce students to the natural resource disciplines especially the programs of the Warnell School of Forest Resources. Lectures present a resource utilization view but preservation and conservation are discussed. The focus is on renewable natural resource utilization and issues related to resource depletion, resource utilization, education, and standard of living. This course will use guest speakers to introduce specific topics. Guest speakers, who are experts in certain areas of the course, will provide valuable insight and prospective on the wide range of topics we will be covering.

SPECIFICS:

INSTRUCTORS' ROLES: The instructor will facilitate learning. There is dedication to helping each student achieve a high level of competence. Availability, patience, and fairness are the principal guidelines used in course instruction.

STUDENT'S ROLE: Each student has responsibility in this course for learning and performance; learning the course material and achieving the course objectives. Therefore, this course is a partnership between instructors and students—both have responsibility for your success.

COURSE PREMISES:

1. Learning is the most important activity in this course. The requisite workload can be heavy.
2. All college students are adults. They are supposed to have the maturity to make wise decisions or at least know how to get assistance. They understand what must be done to succeed. They understand that priorities must be made and that there are prices to pay for under-achievement, missing deadlines, and incomplete assignments. Be

wise. Penalties are generally confined to loss of points for assignments – incomplete or late assignments can result in a total loss of points for the assignment.

GRADING:

Your final grade will be based on a percentage of available points. We may have announced quizzes. Minimum levels of achievement are (A = 100-90 %); (B = 89.9-80 %); (C = 79.9-70%); (D = 69.9-60 %); (Failure = less than 60%). The following is a guide.

<u>Evaluations:</u>	Test # 1	100 points
	Test # 2	150 points
	Final Exam (Cumulative)	250 points
	Homework and	
	Lecture Quizzes (15 points each) (announced – tentative)	0 – 60 drop lowest
	Attendance (taken randomly)	<u>40 points</u>
	Total	540-600 points

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES:

Examination Policy – Lecture tests can include a variety of multiple choice, true-false, matching and short answer or computational questions. Quizzes will be short answer questions. Make-up tests and quizzes are difficult to prepare and missing a scheduled examination is strongly discouraged. Absences from exams must be arranged in advance unless there is an extreme and documented emergency. A make-up exam will be given for documented emergencies or medical reasons. No make-up exams will be allowed otherwise. Late work is not accepted except in genuine emergencies. No make-up quizzes are given for any reason.

Reading and Video Assignments – The class schedule is a general guide as to when we will cover specified material. We may move faster or slower than the plan indicates. We may leave out some material and add new topics. Please adapt to this and stay ahead in the reading. Video presentations may occur outside of regular class time. You are expected to attend these sessions that are treated like any other homework or out-of-class assignment.

Guest Lectures: This course will rely on the primary instructor and guest speakers. Guest Speakers will provide valuable insight into specific areas of natural resource conservation and current topics. You are expected to attend all lectures and give each your highest attention. Be prepared for all class meetings by reading all material prior to class.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the University Academic Honesty Policy at all times. Strict adherence to the policy as outlined in "*A Culture of Honesty: Policies and Procedures on Academic Honesty*" (www.uga.edu/ovpi) is expected and required. During examinations or quizzes, any form of assistance is unauthorized unless specifically approved by the instructor. Any form of assistance on class assignments outlined in Section 5, Part 2b of the University's Academic Honesty Policy is unauthorized unless specifically approved by the instructor. Violations of the policy will be vigorously pursued and prosecuted.

Please note -- All students are responsible for maintaining the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every phase of their academic careers. The penalties for academic dishonesty are severe (http://www.uga.edu/ovpi/academic_honesty/hon_penalties.htm) and ignorance is not an acceptable defense.

In addition, I will require all students to sign the following statement on all graded work: UGA Student Honor Code: "I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others." I will not grade work that is not signed.

Cell Phones: All cell phones will be turned off or disabled during class. Use of a cell phone, PDA, video phone or other non-approved electronic communication device during a test or quiz shall be considered a violation of the UGA Student Honor Code and dealt with according to stated policy of the course and university.