Forestry1001
Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Thom Erdle

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Office hours: Open door policy. If my door is open, drop in and we can discuss item at issue, time permitting. Otherwise we will set a appointment.

Teaching Assistants: Names and contact details of the 3 teaching assistants will be announced.

Course Email: FOR1001.2012@gmail.com

Please use the above-listed email address for any homework or other submissions you are asked to make electronically. You may also ask questions through this email. It will be accessible to the teaching assistants and me.

If your correspondence is for my eyes only, use my personal email (erdle@unb.ca).

TextBooks: These are useful references; they are recommended, but not required.

Husch, Beers, and Kershaw:	Forest Mensuration (4th Edition)
Farrar:	Trees of Canada

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The main objective of Forestry 1001 is to help you acquire skills, knowledge, and understanding necessary to become a competent professional forester or natural resource manager. Successful professionals possess strong technical skills and are reflective practitioners; they make a detailed study of the problem at hand, implement the best solution from considered options, critically evaluate their work, and learn from the process.

In support of your professional development, Forestry 1001 offers a series of lectures, laboratories, integrated problems, and testing opportunities. The overall emphasis of the course is on quantifying the forest structure and other elements in the environment through measurements, and using these quantifications to make interpretations and solve problems.

Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- navigate in the outdoors making effective use of compass, maps, and navigation technology;
- identify and name trees common to eastern forests;
- use common forestry equipment to obtain basic forest measurements;
- use appropriate calculations and analytical methods to summarize field data into meaningful stand and forest level information;
- integrate field data, technical knowledge and professional judgment to solve common forestry and resource-related problems using a systematic and effective problem-solving approach;
- present quantitative information in clear, informative, and professional form to a reading audience
- effectively exercise generic professional skills such as accessing information, working as a team member, time management, independence, critical thinking, and communication.

EVALUATION

Grades you earn in Forestry 1001 are primarily based on demonstrating mastery of defined abilities or competencies. The criteria for abilities are described in a separate document you will be given. These abilities are the basic skills you need to succeed in your upper years at UNB and to obtain quality summer employment.

Abilities are tracked and tested throughout the year. You earn your course grade by demonstrating mastery of course content through lab reports, problems, and tests. The breakdown for the total and conversion to letters grades are shown below:

Item	Number	Unit Value	Total Points	% of Points
Lab Reports	4	40	160	16
Lab Participation	10	5	50	5
Individual Report	1	170	170	17
Tree ID Test	2	50	100	10
Mid-terms	2	50	100	10
Field Quiz	2	50	100	10
Final Field Exam	1	160	160	16
Final Class Exam	1	160	160	16
Total			1000	100

Letter Grade	Points Earned
A+	>904
A	855-904
A-	805-854
B+	755-804
B	705-754
B-	655-704
C+	605-654
C	555-604
D	495-554
F	<495

This fall term is going to be busy, but if you participate with a positive outlook and come with a "can do" attitude, it will be both informative and fun. We are in the woods most weeks. Expect to spend 2 to 3 hours outside of class studying and working for every hour in class. The term goes quickly and there is little opportunity to get caught up if you fall behind.

LAB GRADES AND REGULATIONS

Labs will be held each week. You will be evaluated on your participation using a 3-point scale as follows.

Points Earned	Attended Lab	Participation
0/3	NO	None
1/3	YES	Reluctant involvement; little initiative; little sign of interest
2/3	YES	Active involvement; some initiative; interested but passive
3/3	YES	Active involvement; posing questions; interacting well with crewmates; obvious interest in mastering material

Four short lab reports will be due. These are to be submitted in the assignment hand-in box (outside room 301 of the Forestry&Geology Building) at the time specified by the instructor. Late labs are accepted at half credit up to the time graded labs are returned.

One major lab report will be due near the end of term. The content and submission date for the report will defined as the term unfolds.

Lab reports must be typed on a word processor and many require you to use a spreadsheet program. Some spreadsheet instruction can be provided as required, but it is assumed all students can use word processing software.

Because of the nature of the field setting of most labs, there are no opportunities to make-up labs, you may be allowed to borrow data from crewmates when you have a legitimate excuse, but you must acknowledge where the data came from. If you miss lab because of illness **(with documentation**), the lab participation evaluation will made only for labs attended.

ASSESSMENTS AND DELIVERABLES

Midterms There are two midterms in this class which will cover lecture and lab material. The dates will be announced at least one week in advance. Each midterm is worth 50 pts.

Final Exam The Final Exam is an integrated test. You are given a problem and data and are required to solve this problem in about 3 hours. These exams require you to integrate all of the knowledge and skills you have learned during the course and may require use of computers (these are provided). The final exam is worth 160 points.

Field Tests There are two field quizzes held during the fall term and a final field exam. The two field quizzes are worth 50 pts each and the final field exam is worth 160 pts.

Field Notes It is good professional practise to develop the habit of taking clear, informative field notes. Each lab period you are required to take adequate field notes. You will be given some guidance in the first few labs; after that, you are expected to take notes on your own. Field notes must be taken in your spiral-bound Rite-In-The-Rain Paper notebook. Field notes will be inspected regularly by instructors.

Tree ID Tests There are 2 tree id tests: indoor twig test; outdoor tree test. Each test is worth 50 points.

Problem The Problem report makes up a large part of this course (approximately 16%). When you are given the problem statement you will also be given a list of abilities you should address in the problem write-up. Demonstration of these abilities is used to determine a percentage score for each problem. For late problems, 5 points per day are deducted from the final score up to the time I return all on-time problems, after that, no late problems are accepted. Problem reports are an individual effort; however, you will collect data as a group. Group members who do not participate in the collection and analysis are not entitled to data access (this is at the group's discretion). Groups are assigned on Thursday September 13.

Please note: All tests, field tests and integrated tests must be completed in PENCIL (ink pen is not accepted). For field exams, students are required to provide pencil, Rite-in-the-Rain paper, compass, diameter tape, angle gauge, and calculator. For indoor exams, students are required to provide pencil, compass, ruler, dot grid (I give each student a dot grid at the start of term), and calculator. SHARING EQUIPMENT DURING EXAMS IS NOT ALLOWED.

CLASS STRUCTURE

We are going to spend as much time outside as possible. Tuesday 12:30 – 2:00 pm is lecture time, but we might also do some outside activities on campus. On Thursdays, we generally go into the field at 12:30 and return at 5:30. There is a field lecture, then a short break, and then field exercises.

Many labs require preparation prior to going into the field. Please make sure you read the lab requirements prior to departing on the bus.

During the second week, you are assigned to a study group. This group is the people you will work with during first term. They are your lab partners and problem solving partners. During lab time, the grad TAs and I work with you and help you develop skills.

PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING

You are in a professional degree program, the professional wildlife biologists association, the professional forestry associations and the professional engineering associations have clear codes of ethics. Therefore, the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management expects you to behave as professionals.

The Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management has a firm policy on plagiarism and cheating. **In cases that we determine to be deliberate, we recommend the harshest University penalty to the Student Standings and Promotions Committee: A grade of 0 on the work in question, a grade of F in the course, and a annotation on your transcript of your plagiarism offence.**

Plagiarism is the use of work other than your own as your own without proper acknowledgement of the contribution others have made. This can occur by copying written material from books and journals in the library, cutting and pasting material from the web, using peoples' reports from previous years or simply copying friends' work in this course. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please ask for clarification.

In Forestry 1001, I encourage you to work to together on labs and on problems you design, collect, analyze data. For most labs there are questions requiring you to interpret results and to make comments on methodology etc. While it is ok to discuss these questions with others, you must present your own, original, independent work on these answers.

Any copying from a person during an exam (In-Class Tests, Integrated Tests, Tree ID Tests, or Field Tests) is not tolerated. On your first offense you are dismissed from the exam and given a grade of 0, on your second offense, you are reported to the Assoc. Dean of Forestry and dealt with according to University Calendar procedures. Both the Tree ID and Field Exams require substantial pre-examination set-up, there is a temptation for students to "scout out" the sites prior to the exam, anyone caught on the exam sites prior to examination are considered deliberate cheaters and dealt with accordingly.