

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is composed of four days of outdoor activities to take place in a field setting. Students will be required to plan and set up a backcountry campsite, and participate in several monitoring activities from that point. Activities include bird and potentially amphibian/reptile monitoring, locating wildlife species by radio telemetry, research at a prescribed burn site, and Area of concern planning at a forest harvest site. Emphasis will be placed on cooperative performance and research quality data collection and recording.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Plan and carry out a four day camping experience.Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Cooperatively organize food, cooking equipment, shelter equipment and personal supplies for a four day camping experience
- Set up a camp-site in a designated area on Crown Land, considering such factors as comfort, drainage, health and safety, water supply
- Show due care for camping and canoeing equipment by being responsible for equipment during loading, disembarking and carrying same.
- Wear all assigned safety equipment and carry out activities in a safe manner
- Cooperate, work with others and share in work and results

2. Use various natural resource related field investigative techniques.Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Demonstrate the safe and efficient use of field equipment
- Demonstrate proper maintenance of field equipment
- Use various monitoring tools such as video cameras, digital cameras, still cameras, mensuration equipment, etc. effectively
- Locate wildlife species by radio-telemetry using triangulation, homing and GPS location
- Re-establish and re-measure permanent sample plots

- Identify indicator plants in permanent sample plots
- Participate in pre- and post-burn fire ecology research on a prescribed burn site
- Gather research quality field data field data that will be analyzed and reported on in the Field Investigative Techniques course (NRT3020)

3. **Evaluate natural areas of concern used in Forest Management Planning and mitigate potential damage due to forestry operations.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Discuss the concept of forest values and areas of concern
- Visit a forest site that has been or is about to be harvested and apply student knowledge by laying out Areas of Concern on the area

4. **Demonstrate excellence in data collection and interpretation.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Maintain accurate and legible field notes on each exercise
- Record data by accepted protocols
- Prepare accurate and neat research plot location maps
- Use plot location tools (chain, compass, G.P.S.)
- Ensure data is properly archived (duplicates, back-ups etc.) in order to prepare professional and accurate reports

5. **Work effectively as a team.**

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Participate in all fieldwork activities
- Demonstrate leadership in aspects of field program logistics
- Contribute equally to data collection
- Evaluate the contribution of other team members contribution of self

III. TOPICS:

1. Camp preparation and set-up
2. Use of Biotelemetry in Resource management
3. Fire ecology and impacts on biodiversity
4. Areas of Concern and forest management

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Students will be assigned handout reference material prior to camp. Food supplies, and basic camping equipment are the responsibility of the student. Tents and cooking equipment will be provided. Suitable outdoor clothing including rain suits, hiking boots are essential.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Students will be assigned a final grade of “S” or “U” , based on attendance and completion of the course outcomes.

Attendance is compulsory for all activities to complete the course. Collection of quality data for each exercise is required for outside research agencies and thus will be graded as acceptable or not acceptable. If not acceptable in terms of accuracy or quantity of information, the students will have to repeat the exercise to achieve an “S” grade.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor and/or the Special Needs office. Alternate assignments will be required if physical limitations prevent student from participation in this course.

Retention of course outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course outline amendments:

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

VIII. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.