

**SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

**SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO**



Sault College

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**COURSE TITLE: TREES AND SHRUBS**

**CODE NO. : NRT101 SEMESTER: 1**

**PROGRAM: FOREST CONSERVATION, ADVENTURE RECREATION AND PARKS, FISH & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION, FIELD NATURALIST, ECOSYSTEM SURVEYS, PARK OPERATION SKILLS, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TECHNICIAN, NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TECHNOLOGIST**

**AUTHOR: DON HALL**

**DATE: AUGUST 2010 PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: May 2009**

**APPROVED: "B.Punch"**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chair DATE**

**TOTAL CREDITS: 3**

**PREREQUISITE(S): NONE**

**HOURS/WEEK: 3**

**Copyright ©2010 The Sault College of Applied Arts & Technology**  
*Reproduction of this document by any means, in whole or in part, without prior written permission of Sault College of Applied Arts & Technology is prohibited.*  
*For additional information, please contact Brian Punch, Chair,*  
*School of Technology, Skilled Trades and Natural Resources*  
*(705) 759-2554, Ext.2681*

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will provide a systematic study of structural characteristics of trees and shrubs, the identification of Canadian species by leaf features, their relationships to one another and recognition of their dynamic role in forest ecology. Coniferous species will be studied in considerable detail including twig, bark and growth characteristics. After successfully completing this course, students should be able to recognize all northern Ontario, and many southern Ontario tree species in the summer condition.

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

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

1. Identify in summer condition, all trees and shrubs commonly encountered in northern Ontario woodlands.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- for a particular tree or shrub:
  - assess features including leaves, bark, silhouette, and ecological associations
  - determine which features are best applied to the identification task at hand
  - apply knowledge of and experience with key features to correctly identify the tree or shrub
- correctly spell common names of all trees and shrubs commonly encountered in northern Ontario woodlands
- associate common names with Latin names for all trees and shrubs commonly encountered in northern Ontario woodlands

*This learning outcome will count for approximately 65% of the final mark*

2. Associate all native northern Ontario trees (and some shrubs) with silvical characteristics such as longevity, shade tolerance, site requirements and range in Canada.

*This learning outcome will count for approximately 20% of the final mark*

3. Identify, collect, press and mount leaves of 28 deciduous trees and shrubs commonly encountered in northern Ontario

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- using appropriate books, identify trees in the field
- collect representative leaves from each species identified
- using a press of the students own design, dry leaves in a manner that prevents discoloration and preserves the original shape of the leaf
- neatly mount and label pressed leaves

*This learning outcome will count for approximately 10% of the final mark*

4. Identify the leaves of trees and shrubs most commonly encountered in southern Ontario woodlands and urban areas.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

*Potential Elements of the Performance:*

- for a particular leaf:
  - assess features including color, outline, texture, venation and size
  - determine which features are best applied to the identification task at hand
  - apply knowledge of and experience with key features to correctly identify the leaf
- correctly spell common names of trees and shrubs most commonly encountered in southern Ontario woodlands and urban areas.

*This learning outcome will count for approximately 5% of the final mark*

5. Identify, using Latin names, foliage of Ontario commercial tree species to 90% accuracy

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- for a particular foliage sample:
  - assess features including color, outline, texture, venation and size
  - determine which features are best applied to the identification task at hand
  - apply knowledge of and experience with key features to correctly identify the foliage
  - correctly spell Latin names of Ontario commercial treespecies

This learning outcome will be graded throughout the course.

### III. TOPICS:

Note: These topics will not necessarily be explored as isolated learning units, or in the order presented below:

1. Identification of trees and shrubs commonly encountered in northern Ontario
2. Collection, pressing, mounting and labeling of leaves
3. Aesthetic, cultural and historical values of Ontario trees and shrubs
4. Key features of the leaves of trees and shrubs most commonly encountered in southern Ontario woodlands and urban areas
5. Silvical characteristics of native northern Ontario trees and shrubs

### IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

1. Farrar, J.L. 1995. Trees in Canada, Canadian Forestry Service. 502 pp.
2. Hall, Don 2010. NRT101 Trees and Shrubs Identification Study Guide (available in bookstore)
3. Hardhat , safety boots, reflective vest.

**V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

Tree and Shrub Identification Tests	64%.
Leaf Collection	10%
Attendance, Participation and Assignments	4%
Lecture Tests	21%
Total	100%

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<b>Grade</b>	<b><u>Definition</u></b>	<i>Grade Point Equivalent</i>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

**VI. SPECIAL NOTES:**

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.

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.

Prior Learning Assessment:

Students who wish to apply for advance credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain an Application for Advance Credit from the program coordinator (or the course coordinator regarding a general education transfer request) or academic assistant. Students will be required to provide an unofficial transcript and course outline related to the course in question. Please refer to the Student Academic Calendar of Events for the deadline date by which application must be made for advance standing.

Credit for prior learning will also be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

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

Disability Services:

If you are a student with a disability (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your professor and/or the Disability Services office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 2703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Communication:

The College considers **WebCT/LMS** as the primary channel of communication for each course. Regularly checking this software platform is critical as it will keep you directly connected with faculty and current course information. Success in this course may be directly related to your willingness to take advantage of the **Learning Management System** communication tool.

### Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Code of Conduct*. A professor/instructor may assign a sanction as defined below, or make recommendations to the Academic Chair for disposition of the matter. The professor/instructor may (i) issue a verbal reprimand, (ii) make an assignment of a lower grade with explanation, (iii) require additional academic assignments and issue a lower grade upon completion to the maximum grade “C”, (iv) make an automatic assignment of a failing grade, (v) recommend to the Chair dismissal from the course with the assignment of a failing grade. 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.

### Student Portal:

The Sault College portal allows you to view all your student information in one place. **mysaultcollege** gives you personalized access to online resources seven days a week from your home or school computer. Single log-in access allows you to see your personal and financial information, timetable, grades, records of achievement, unofficial transcript, and outstanding obligations, in addition to announcements, news, academic calendar of events, class cancellations, your learning management system (LMS), and much more. Go to <https://my.saultcollege.ca>.

### Electronic Devices in the Classroom:

Students who wish to use electronic devices in the classroom will seek permission of the faculty member before proceeding to record instruction. With the exception of issues related to accommodations of disability, the decision to approve or refuse the request is the responsibility of the faculty member. Recorded classroom instruction will be used only for personal use and will not be used for any other purpose. Recorded classroom instruction will be destroyed at the end of the course. To ensure this, the student is required to return all copies of recorded material to the faculty member by the last day of class in the semester. Where the use of an electronic device has been approved, the student agrees that materials recorded are for his/her use only, are not for distribution, and are the sole property of the College.

### Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

Tuition Default:

Students who have defaulted on the payment of tuition (tuition has not been paid in full, payments were not deferred or payment plan not honoured) as of the first week of November will be removed from placement and clinical activities. This may result in loss of mandatory hours or incomplete course work. Sault College will not be responsible for incomplete hours or outcomes that are not achieved or any other academic requirement not met as of the result of tuition default. Students are encouraged to communicate with Financial Services with regard to the status of their tuition prior to this deadline to ensure that their financial status does not interfere with academic progress.

Students should plan on identification tests (either in lab or in the field) virtually every week.

Students may be assigned an "F" grade early in the course for unsatisfactory performance.

On tests and collections, correctly identifying 65% of the specimens is equivalent to a mark of 50%; which is the passing level for the course. Mark equivalents increase in

The 65% passing level on tests and collections is intended to meet the needs of employers in both the public and private sectors.

Hard hats, reflective vests and CSA approved safety boots must be worn on all field trips.

All assignments must be prepared on a word processor. Handwritten assignments will not be accepted.

Bus or van transportation is provided for all field trips away from the main campus. Use of personal vehicles on field trips will only be allowed with the written permission of the instructor. Excepting those with written permission, students who do not travel on the bus or van will not be allowed to participate in field activities, or write field tests.

If a class is missed for a good reason, it is important that the student promptly discuss the absence with his/her instructor. If the absence is not explained within a reasonable period of time (typically one week), the student will receive a grade of zero for any tests missed, and may lose attendance marks as well.



At the instructor's discretion and in exceptional circumstances, a rewrite test may be allowed for students combining participation and good attendance with a final mark in the 45 - 50% range. Rewrites will normally consist of a single test (both identification and written material) covering the entire semester's work. The highest grade achievable on a rewrite test is "C".