

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO



COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Stewardship Planning

CODE NO. : NET 352-3 **SEMESTER:** 5

PROGRAM: Natural Environment Technologist

AUTHOR: Bob Currell

DATE Sept. 2011 **PREVIOUS OUTLINE** **New Course**

APPROVED:

CHAIR

DATE

TOTAL CREDITS: 3

PREREQUISITE(S): No

HOURS/WEEK: 3

*For additional information, please contact Brian Punch, Chair, Environment and Design
School of Environment and Technology (705) 759-2554, ext. 2681*

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a project oriented course in which teams of 2 students will select a natural area of 50 to 500 hectares in size and then evaluate, inventory, and prepare a land use plan. The format of a *Forest Stewardship Plan* as required for the Ontario Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program is the one that will be followed. Study locations will be selected by the student groups from a list prepared by the instructor, though additional study areas of personal interest may be acceptable upon approval. Students will recommend and explain how the property should be actively managed in order to sustain its natural resources in an integrated way. An oral presentation and written Stewardship Plan make up a large percentage of the course evaluation.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

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

1. Carry out an inventory of the biotic and abiotic resources in a study area several hectares in area**Potential Elements of the Performance:**

- Select a study area of interest
- Obtain aerial photographs, contour maps, stand maps and/or other pertinent background information related to the area
- Locate the study area on the ground and walk around it, attempting to establish boundaries by identifying survey stakes, fence rows etc.
- Subdivide the study area into compartments which are uniform in species composition, arrangement, condition and age

- Using acceptable survey methods and following the format of the Guide to Stewardship Planning for Natural Areas or other instructor approved inventory methods; inventory each compartment in terms of area history, site characteristics, forest vegetation and wildlife habitat
- Present the results of this inventory in a mid-term interview and in a management plan

(this outcome will constitute 20% of the final grade)

2. Prepare a written Stewardship Plan to a standard acceptable for approval under the Ontario Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP)

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- List the name(s) of the registered property owner
- List the property location and the nineteen digit assessment roll number(s) for the area
- Describe the property's management history
- Prepare a property location map and a detailed administrative map of the property
- Describe and prioritize the objectives for management of the entire area and explain the strategy for plan implementation
- **For each compartment**, summarize inventory data as required in Section 7 of the Guide to Stewardship Planning for Natural Areas
- **For each compartment**, complete a description of long-term objectives and short-term activities proposed
- Make a summary table of the activities you propose in the next 10 year period as described in the MFTIP guide
- Describe in detail (minimum of a page per activity) the work proposed in the next 10 years

(this outcome will constitute 50% of the final grade)

3. Present your plan orally to the class and outside guests

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Present the final stewardship plan to an audience in a professional manner using appropriate audiovisual aids
- Introduce the area; its location, owners, management

- history and management objectives
- Describe the compartments into which the study area has been subdivided
 - Provide detail concerning the long-term objectives and short-term activities planned for each compartment (this should be the most detailed part of your presentation)
 - Prepare a promotional presentation including digital images and other audiovisual materials that will effectively describe the area and the proposed developments

(this outcome will constitute 30% of the final grade)

III. TOPICS:

1. Introduction to the course
2. Explanation of the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program and a description of the requirements of a Stewardship Plan
3. Legal descriptions of properties and assessment roll numbers
4. Natural resource inventory methods and procedures
5. Plan presentations including peer review

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

1. A Guide to Stewardship Planning for Natural Areas; 3rd edition 2008
 - Provided by your instructor
2. Map and location for your study area
 - Materials provided by your instructor once a property area has been chosen.
3. Computer and Internet access
 - Mapping tools are available on-line
 - Stewardship resources may be obtained on-line
3. Field inventory equipment
 - Available from the technologist's office

Although no text is required, a list of several suggested references will be handed out. Searching the internet for current background material is recommended.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

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|--------------------------------------|-----|
| - Weekly progress reports/attendance | 10% |
| - Progress interviews (2) | 10% |
| - Written report | 50% |
| - Oral presentation | 30% |

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

Grade	Definition	<i>Grade Point Equivalent</i>
A+	90 – 100%	
A	80 – 89%	4.00
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:

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.

Other Notes:

In this course students will be expected to use their knowledge of natural resources, survey procedures and problem solving skills to prepare a comprehensive plan. Students will work on their own to a large degree with the instructor acting as a mentor and facilitator.

Attendance Policy: After week 2, there will be few scheduled classes until student presentations begin. Students will be expected to be working on their projects at the college or on-site during the scheduled class time. Each week, by Tuesday, students will sign a sheet indicating where they will be located and what they will be doing with regards to their project. The instructor will choose a crew from that list to join in their field work.

Attendance is required at all scheduled classes and student presentations. A syllabus will be handed out to indicate when compulsory classes will take place. A penalty of 5% will be imposed for each missed compulsory session.

Progress Interviews: Two progress interviews will be scheduled; in week 7 and week 11.

By week 7 you should have a clear idea of what is on your study site through an inventory and you should have some idea of what might be done with the resources present. For this interview bring a one or two page summary that includes the following:

- A project title for your plan
- Rough maps that show; access to your area, area boundaries and compartments
- Inventory data including field notes and a schedule to complete the inventory
- Any other information that will show your progress and effort to date
- A list of area specific questions for your instructor

By week 10 your presentation should be ready for presentation. At this time bring your written presentation notes for review by your instructor who will check that all sections have been adequately prepared.