

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Using current forest management guides as direction, this course will explore the impacts of forest management on fish and wildlife habitat with a focus on how species respond to changes in their environment. An emphasis will be placed on the identification of selected species and their habitat requirements, population monitoring techniques, and current forest harvesting practices used to mitigate potentially harmful effects to habitat.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

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

1. Describe the primary objectives of the Forest Management Guide for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Landscapes (Landscape Guide) and the Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (Stand and Site Guide) as they relate to Ontario's biodiversity. **[5% of course grade]**
2. Identify selected wildlife and discuss life history, habitat requirements, and their importance in Ontario (e.g., game species, Species at Risk, furbearer, etc.). Focus is on birds and mammals, but may include reptile, amphibian, plant, and invertebrate species. **[45% of course grade]**
3. Describe the directions set forth in the Landscape Guide and Stand and Site Guide to enhance or mitigate forest harvesting activity effects on biodiversity. **[30% of course grade]**
4. Describe the Provincial Wildlife Population Monitoring Program Plan. **[15% of course grade]**
5. Describe the concept of adaptive management and its importance in forest management. **[5% of course grade]**

Required Equipment and Resources

- hard hat (with winter liner), reflective vest
- Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (MNR, 2010) --- 1 hard copy will be provided; Although this course is being delivered immediately, field guides appropriate for this course may be available through the Sault College bookstore such as:
 - “Mammals of Ontario”
 - “Tracking and the Art of Seeing Wildlife”
 - “Field Guide to Birds”
 - Track Finder

Online Resources (pdf’s provided on an accompanying CD or can be downloaded through the copyright holder’s web site (conduct Google search for document))

core documents

- Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (MNR, 2010)
- Forest Management Guide for Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Landscapes (MNR, 2010)

other documents

- Provincial Wildlife Population Monitoring Program Plan - Version 2.0 - MNR’s Class Environmental Assessment Approval for Forest Management on Crown Lands in Ontario, Condition 30 (b) (MNR, 2010)
- Selected Wildlife and Habitat Features: Inventory Manual for use in Forest Management Planning, VERSION 1.0 (MNR, 1997)
- Wildlife Monitoring Programs and Inventory Techniques for Ontario (NEST Technical Manual TM-009, 1998)
- Forest Raptors - their nests in central Ontario - a guide to stick nests and their users (Szuba and Naylor, 1998)
- A land manager’s guide to conserving habitat for forest birds in southern Ontario (MNR 2011)
- Cavity Trees – Nature’s Refuge (S&W Report, Winter / Spring 2006, Vol. 42)
- Cavity Trees are Refuges for Wildlife (Extension Notes, MNR, 1999)
- Cavity Trees and Your Woodlot (Woodland Notes, Ontario Woodlot Association)

- Guide to Wildlife Tree Management in New England Northern Hardwoods

III EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

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Assignment due dates will be clearly indicated at the beginning of the semester. Penalties of 10% per day will apply to all late assignments. After ten days late the assignment will technically have a value of "0" but may still be required to complete the course successfully. A final grade will be derived from a combination of theory tests, practical tests, quizzes, written assignments and field assignments. All assignments must be word-processed.

Practical Test	50%
Theory Tests	20%
Assignments	20%
Quizzes	10%
Total	100%

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:
(USDA Forest Service, 1987, General Technical Report NE-118)

Grade	<u>Definition</u>	<i>Grade Point Equivalent</i>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	3.00
B	70 - 79%	2.00
C	60 - 69%	1.00
D	50 – 59%	0.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	
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.	

IV. SPECIAL NOTES:

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

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

Hard hats and reflective vests must be worn on all field trips

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.

At the instructor's discretion, a rewrite test may be allowed for students combining participation and good attendance with a final mark within 5% of the passing level. 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".

Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course as he/she deems necessary to meet the needs of students.

V. 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.

VI. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline.