| | |
|---|---|
| **Instructor** | Dr. Victoria M Donovan<br>Email: victoria.donovan@ufl.edu<br>Office: Rm 4918, Building 4900<br>Office hours: Mondays 8:30-9:30 am. I have an open-door policy for students. Please feel free to swing by to talk with me anytime you see me in my office. For the best chances of reaching me, contact me via email to set up an appointment during the week. |
| **Teaching Assistant:** | Noah Weidig<br>Office: Rm 4307, Building 4300<br>Email: noah.weidig@ufl.edu |
| **Course location/time:** | Room 4822<br>Thursdays 7:00-8:00 pm plus 2-3 Field Trips |
| **Course description:** | This lab section acts as a supplement to FOR 3214, Fire Ecology and Management. Students will engage in activities that teach them about fire behavior and its role as an ecological process and management tool. |

**Course Learning Objectives:**

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Describe fire as an ecological process, including its effects on plants, animals, soil, water, and air.
2. Demonstrate the ability to safely participate in the execution of prescribed fires.
3. Describe basic wildland fire behaviour and smoke management.

**Evaluation and Performance**

| Assessment Type | Undergraduate Students | Graduate Students |
|---|---|---|
| Lab Activity Sheet | 30% (6% each x 5) | 15% (3% each x5) |
| Prescribed Burn Participation and Report | 35% | 30% |
| Fire Fighter Type 2 Certification Online Certificates | 25% | 25% |
| Fire Fighter Type 2 Field Day | 10% | 10% |
| Lab Report | 0% | 20% |

<u>Lab Activity Sheets:</u> During regular lab hours, we will complete lab activities that assess different aspects of fire behaviour and outcomes. Some of these assignments will include working with fire. Long hair must be pulled back and clothing must be fit snuggly (see below). Activity sheets will be due the following class. Each activity sheet will be worth 5% of the student's final grade.

<u>Prescribed Burn Participation/Report:</u> Students will be required to participate on at least one prescribed burn. We will conduct a burn at Jay research facility during the spring semester that students will be required to attend. If students are not able to attend the burn, they must make it up by attending a burn given by their local PBA or land management agency. Note that prescribed burns are highly weather-dependent, and so last-minute cancellations and shifting time windows aren't uncommon.

When you attend a prescribed burn, you should ideally have 6-inch or higher leather boots (no steel toes!) or leather hiking boots. You should also wear well-fitting long sleeves and pants. Note baggy clothes allow oxygen buildup underneath clothing, while floppy, dangly, or fuzzy garments can more easily catch fire. All clothing should be cotton. Do not wear clothing with screen printing. Everyone should also have leather gloves. The class has a limited number of Nomex jumpsuits, leather gloves, and helmets that students can borrow for prescribed burns. Should you need assistance obtaining outdoor attire for prescribed burns, please contact me. In addition, on a prescribed burn, always bring at least two large bottles of water and snacks.

**Grading Scale:**
A (93% and above)
-A (90% -92%)
B+ (87% - 89%)
B (83% - 86%)
B- (80% - 82%)
C+ (77% - 79%)
C (73% - 76%)
C- (70% - 72%)
D+ (67% - 69%)
D (63%-66%)
D- (60%-62%)
E (Below 60%)

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/

<u>Fire Fighter Type 2 Certification (Field/Online):</u> Students will complete their online training for Firefighter Type 2 Qualifications (Firefighter Type 2 (Crewmember) | NWCG). Students will be expected to complete their online certifications before our scheduled Field Exercise Day at Jay Research Facility. If you do not have your online certifications completed, you cannot participate in the field day and will be responsible for finding your own before the end of the class or receive a zero on that portion of the lab. At the end of the course, students will need to submit their online course certifications demonstrating that they have successfully completed all online modules and their field certification. We will have a number of flipped lab sessions (students work outside of class) where you can complete the online training.

1. The S-190: Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior online course (6-8 hours of training)
2. 2. The S-130: Firefighter Training online course (6-8 hours of training)
3. The L-180: Human Factors in Wildland Fire Service online course (6-8 hours of training)

4. The FEMA IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System online course (2-4 hours of training)
5. The IS-700: an introduction to the National Incident Management System online course (3-4 hours)

Lab Report (Graduate Students Only): Students will coordinate with the instructor to assist in field sampling vegetation response to fire at Jay Research Facility. At the end of the lab, students will write a formal lab report including an introduction, methods, results, and discussion using the data collected in the field. Field sampling for the lab will require you to be outside. Outdoor attire should include proper shoes (running shoes are fine, however, ideally hiking boots), long pants, and rain gear if necessary. If you need assistance acquiring outdoor-friendly attire, please contact the instructor.

**Tentative Schedule:** This syllabus represents current plans and objectives for this course. As the semester progresses, changes may need to be made to accommodate timing, logistics, or to enhance learning. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

| Date | Topics and Activities | Assigned Work | Assignment Due |
|------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Week 1 (1/11) | Syllabus Review | | |
| Week 2 (1/18) | Lab Activity: Modelling fire behavior | - Lab Activity Sheet 1 | |
| Week 3 (1/25) | Lab Activity: Matchstick forests | - Lab Activity Sheet 2 | -Lab Activity Sheet 1 (6%/3%) |
| Week 4 (2/1) | Tentative Prescribed Fire Week | | -Lab Activity Sheet 2 (6%/3%) |
| Week 5 (2/8) | Tentative Prescribed Fire Week | | |
| Week 6 (2/15) | Flipped Lab | | |
| Week 7 (2/22) | Lab Activity: Community response to fire | - Lab Activity Sheet 3 | |
| Week 8 (2/29) | Flipped Lab | | -Lab Activity Sheet 3 (6%/3%) |
| Week 9 (3/7) | Fire Fighter Type 2 Field Day (Tentative) | | |
| Week 10 (3/14) | SPRING BREAK | | |
| Week 11 (3/21) | Lab Activity: Landscape ecology | - Lab Activity Sheet 4 | |

| Week 12 (3/28) | Flipped Lab | | - Lab Activity Sheet 4 (6%/3%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Week 13 (4/4) | Flipped Lab | | |
| Week 14 (4/11) | Lab activity: Smoke modelling | -Lab Activity Sheet 5 | |
| Week 15 (4/18) | Flipped Lab | | - Lab Activity Sheet 5 (6%/3%) |
| Week 16 (4/25) | READING DAY | | -Prescribed burn report (35%)<br>- Firefighter Type 2 Certification (30%) |

**Attendance, Late Submissions, and Make-up Requestions**

Attendance in lab is mandatory. If a student does not participate in at least one of the first two class meetings of a course or laboratory and they have not contacted the department, the student may be dropped from the course. It is the responsibility of the student to access online lectures, readings, quizzes, and exams and to maintain satisfactory progress in the course. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Late assignments will lose 10% for every 24 hours past the deadline unless arrangements have been made with the instructor prior to the due date for an extenuating circumstance. Computer troubles will not be considered as an excuse for late assignments unless they are accompanied by a ticket number that includes the date and time of the problem from the UF Tech Support Help Desk. You must contact the instructor as soon as possible regarding technical difficulties that may result in a late assignment.

**Academic Honesty Policy**
As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.*" You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "*On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.*"

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your

individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see:
http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code.

**Communication Courtesy**
Just as in any professional environment, meaningful and constructive dialogue is expected in this class and requires a degree of mutual respect, willingness to listen, and tolerance of opposing points of view. Respect for individual differences and alternative viewpoints will be maintained in this class at all times. All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy, decency, and civility in all interactions. Failure to do so will not be tolerated and may result in loss of participation points and/or referral to the Dean of Students' Office: https://www.cise.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CISE_Netiquette_Guide.pdf

**Inclusive Learning Environment**
This course embraces the University of Florida's Non-Discrimination Policy:

> *"The University shall actively promote equal opportunity policies and practices conforming to laws against discrimination. The University is committed to non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information and veteran status as protected under the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act."*

If you have questions or concerns about your rights and responsibilities for inclusive learning environment, please see the instructor or refer to the Office of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs website: http://multicultural.ufl.edu. If you have any questions or concerns about the inclusivity of this course's learning environment, please reach out to the instructor. I am happy to discuss your thoughts, feelings, and needs so we can make our learning environment more inclusive.

**Services for Students with Disabilities**
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/

**Campus Helping Resources**
For issues with technical difficulties for e-learning in Canvas, please post your question to the Technical Help Discussion in your course, or contact the UF Help Desk at:
- Learning-support@ufl.edu | (352) 392-HELP - select option 2 | http://elearning.ufl.edu
- Library Help Desk support http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask
- SFFGS Academic Hub https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/303721

**Student Life, Wellness, And Counseling Help**
UF CALS offers direct mental health counseling FREE OF CHARGE for students at distance locations (REC's) through an embedded counselor – Dr. Philip Daniels. He has a welcome video which can be viewed here: Dr. Daniels Welcome Video.  If you are a student at a UF/IFAS Research and Education Center, you will be directed to Dr. Daniels for consultation and referral services. Email communication has limited confidentiality and is reserved for scheduling, *pdaniels@ufl.edu.* If you are in need of an appointment, please email or call Dr. Daniels directly (352) 392-1575.

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.
- Counseling and Wellness resources http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
- U Matter, We Care http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- Career Connections Center http://career.ufl.edu/
- Other resources are available at http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help for online students.

**Student Complaints:**
The School of Forest, Fisheries, & Geomatics Sciences cares about your experience and we will make every effort to address course concerns. We request that our online students complete a course satisfaction survey each semester, which is a time for you to voice your thoughts on how your course is being delivered. You can also submit feedback anytime.

If you have a more urgent concern, your first point of contact should be the Academic Coordinator or the Graduate/Undergraduate Coordinator for the program offering the course. You may also submit a complaint directly to UF administration:
- https://distance.ufl.edu/getting-help/
- https://registrar.ufl.edu/complaint.html

**Software Use**
All faculty, staff and students of the University of Florida are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

**Semester Evaluation Process**
Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. **At approximately the mid-point of the semester,** the School of Forest, Fisheries, & Geomatics Sciences will request anonymous feedback on student satisfaction on various aspects of this course. These surveys will be sent out through Canvas and are not required but encouraged. This is not the UF Faculty Evaluation! **At the end of the semester,** students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-result.

**UF/IFAS Field and Fork Pantry**
The Pantry (http://pantry.fieldandfork.ufl.edu) is a resource on the University of Florida campus committed to eradicate food insecurity. Food insecurity is not having a reliable access to nutritious foods for yourself on a regular basis. If you, or anyone you know is experiencing food insecurity, the Pantry is a resource to visit. We offer non-perishable food, toiletries and fresh vegetables grown at the Field and Fork Gardens to provide a well-balanced diet. Protecting the privacy of its guests and providing food to those in need within our campus community is our priority. Our guests do not need any proof of need to use this resource, all that is needed is a Gator 1 ID to prove you are a current Student, Faculty or Staff at the University of Florida.

**Help for Technical Difficulties**
For issues with technical difficulties for e-learning in Canvas, please post your question to the Technical Help Discussion in your course, or contact the UF Help Desk at:
- Learning-support@ufl.edu | (352) 392-HELP - select option 2 | http://elearning.ufl.edu
- Library Help Desk support https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/ask/
- SFRC Academic Hub https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/303721