

GLOBAL FORESTS
FOR 4060 (Class #12141, Section 02A2)/**LAS 4935** (Class #28095, Section 3600)
Spring 2024

Instructors: **Dr. Karen A. Kainer**
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Course credits: 3

Meeting periods: Tuesday: Periods 3 & 4; 10:40-12:35 (NZ 219)
 Thursday: Period 8; 3:00-3:50 (NZ 222)

Prerequisites: None

Office chat times: Wednesdays 10-12. Please email me for many other available times!

Course readings:

Select articles, book chapters and videos: See readings list below.

Course description:

Since humans began migrating out of Africa some 50,000 years ago, the extent of global forests has been reduced by about half. Is this trend continuing across our planet? How are these remaining forests (and new ones that have regenerated) used? conserved? managed? and by whom? What role do *you* play in these dynamics?

This course examines major global trends in forest extent, use and conservation. One module highlights the Amazon as a case study for exploring the complexity of forest interests (from multinational corporations to local rubber tappers) and how these interests have driven tropical forest use, conversion, and conservation over time. Another explores ongoing strategies to sustain forests through markets and other mechanisms. Students will examine forest products found in Gainesville and the road they travelled to get here - to illuminate global linkages and differences in global contexts (environmental, socioeconomic and political) under which forest products are harvested and transformed. Teaching methods will emphasize experiential learning.

Learning objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will have:

- Examined the historical and current status of forests and forest resources on a global scale;
- Evaluated major global trends in forest ownership, resource use, and conservation and management strategies;
- Researched and presented information on a forest biome and representative country;
- Examined the Amazon as a case study for exploring the complexity of forest use and conservation;
- Explored in depth, analyzed, and written about one Amazonian land use;
- Developed and presented a value chain analysis of one imported forest product.
- Attended and reviewed at least 2 current events related to global forests.

Student Evaluation:

(1) <u>Readings comments</u>	20%
(2) <u>In-class participation</u>	5%
(3) <u>2-minute presentation</u>	5%
(4) <u>Country report</u>	
a. In-class presentation	20%
b. Executive summary	5%
	25%
(5) <u>Amazonian land uses essay</u>	15%
(6) <u>Value chain analysis</u>	25%
(7) <u>Event participation</u>	5%
TOTAL	100%

Grading

94 – 100% = A
90 – 93% = A-
87 – 89% = B+
80 – 86% = B
77 – 79% = C+
70 – 76% = C
60 – 69% = D
< 60% = E

SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

	Topic	Assignment due
Jan	9 <i>Introduction</i>	
	11 <i>Who are we? How did we get here?</i>	2-min presentation

THE BIG PICTURE

	16 <i>Where are the forests? What types are out there? And how is this changing?</i>	Reading comments
	18 <i>Protected forests</i>	Reading comments Team agreements - country reports
	23 <i>Forests threats</i>	Reading comments Weekly Log #1
	25 <i>Global forest governance</i>	Reading comments
	30 <i>Communities and forests</i>	Reading comments Weekly Log #2
Feb	1 <i>Collaborative management in practice</i>	Reading comments
	6 <i>Sustainable forest management</i>	Reading comments Weekly Log #3
	8 <i>Country reports (2 teams)</i>	Team presentations
	13 <i>Country reports (4 teams)</i>	Team presentations Weekly Log #4 Executive summaries – all teams
	15 <i>Cross-country analyses</i>	Reading comments

AN AMAZONIAN CASE

20	<i>Rubber tapper culture Chico Mendes and the rubber tapper social movement</i>	Reading comments
22	<i>Interest groups & power</i>	Reading comments
27	<i>Change over time in Amazonia</i>	Reading comments
29	<i>Beyond rubber: Brazil nuts</i>	Reading comments
Mar 5	<i>Beyond rubber: Timber!</i>	Reading comments
7	<i>Amazonia wrap-up</i>	Reading comments
8	NOTE: This is a Friday night	Land use essays

Mar 11 - 15**SPRING BREAK!****SEEKING SUSTAINABILITY**

To be determined

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Apr 16	<i>Value chain presentations</i>	Team presentations
Apr 18	<i>Value chain presentations (cont.)</i>	Team presentations
Apr 23	<i>Class wrap-up & evaluation</i>	Reading comments

READINGS

We will be using UF's Canvas system (or e-Learning) to facilitate course communication and to access readings: <https://elearning.ufl.edu/>

All articles listed below are **required** reading for the course, unless "**Recommended**" precedes the citation. To access the readings, go to the Discussion tab on the left panel of the main course site, readings for each class will be found by date and topic. For example, to access the reading for January 16, you will click on "Jan 17: Where are the forests? What types are out there? And how is this changing?"

Jan 9 *Introduction*

No readings

Jan 11 *Who are we and how did we get here?*

No readings

THE BIG PICTURE

Jan 16 *Where are the forests? What types are out there? And how is this changing?*

Perry, D.A., R. Oren and S.C. Hart. 2008. Major forest types and their climatic controls. Chapter 4 (pp. 41-50 only + Summary on p. 59). *Forest Ecosystems*, 2nd edition. The Johns Hopkins University Press.

Jan 18 *Protected forests*

Mulder, M. B. and P. Coppolillo. 2005. The evolution of policy. Pages 27-52 (Chpt 2), *In*: Mulder, M. B. and P. Coppolillo. *Conservation: Linking ecology, economics, and culture*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey.

Recommended

Schmitt, C.B., N.D. Burgess, L. Coad, A. Belokurov, C. Besançon, L. Boisrobert, A. Campbell, L. Fish, D. Gliddon, K. Humphries, V. Kapos, C. Loucks, I. Lysenko, L. Miles, C. Miles, S. Minnemeyer, T. Pistorius, C. Ravilious, M. Steininger, and G. Winkel. 2009. Global analysis of the protection status of the world's forests. *Biological Conservation* 142:2122-2130.

Jan 23 *Forests threats*

Curtis, P., C.M. Slay, N.L. Harris, A. Tyukavina, and M.C. Hansen. 2018. Classifying drivers of global forest loss. *Science* 361:1108-1111.

Jan 25 *Global forest governance*

Pacheco, P., K. Mo, N. Dudley, A. Shapiro, N. Aguilar-Amuchastegui, P.Y. Ling, C. Anderson, and A. Marx. 2021. Responses to deforestation (Chapter 4: Pages 37-51), *In*: *Deforestation fronts: Drivers and responses in a changing world*. WWF, Gland, Switzerland.

Recommended

Larson, A.M., K. Mausch, M. Bourne, C. Luttrell, G. Schoneveld, P. Cronkleton, B. Locatelli, D. Catacutan, P. Cerutti, S. Chomba, H. Djoudi, M. Ihalainen, S. Lawry, P. Minang, I. Monterroso, R. Myers, D. Naito, T. Thuy Pham, J. Reed, J.P Sarmiento Barletti, P. Sola, and D. Stoian. 2021. Hot topics in governance for forests and trees: Towards a (just) transformative research agenda. *Forest Economics and Policy* 131:012567. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2021.102567>

Jan 30 *Communities and forests*

Mulder, M. B. and P. Coppolillo. 2005. Indigenous people as conservationists. Pages 81-103 (Chpt 4), *In*: Mulder, M. B. and P. Coppolillo. *Conservation: Linking ecology, economics, and culture*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey.

Recommended

Salomon AK et al. 2023 Disrupting and diversifying the values, voices and governance principles that shape biodiversity science and management. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* 378: 20220196. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2022.0196>

Feb 1 *Collaborative management in practice*

Berkes, F. 2009. Evolution of co-management: Role of knowledge generation, bridging organizations and social learning. *Journal of Environmental Management* 90:1692-1702.

Feb 6 *Sustainable forest management*

Mackey, B., C. Campbell, P. Norman, S. Hugh, D.A. DellaSala, J.R. Malcolm, M. Desrochers, P. Drapeau. 2024. Assessing the cumulative impacts of forest management on forest age structure development and woodland caribou habitat in boreal landscapes: A case study from two Canadian provinces. *Land* 13, 6. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land13010006>

Austen, I and V. Isai. 2024. Canada's logging industry devours forests crucial to fighting climate change. *New York Times*, 4 January 2024.

Feb 8 *Country reports*

No readings

Feb 13 *Country reports (cont.)*

No readings

Feb 15 *Cross-country analysis*

The assignment for this session is twofold:

(1) Please reflect **on your country** and respond to the following questions (instead of a regular set of comments on class readings):

- a. What forest conservation strategies/approaches most surprised you? Were the most intriguing?
- b. What forest management practices most surprised you? Were the most intriguing?
- c. To what extent do you think your country is on its way to conserving its forests and related biodiversity?
- d. Do you get the sense that society (civil society, citizens of your country) has a certain say in how forests are conserved? Managed?
- e. You've just been spending a lot of time thinking about your country, so I assume (hope?) that you have talked some to others (peers, family, friends, whoever) about your country. What are 3 of the most frequent facts/perceptions/impressions that you find yourself sharing?

(2) Read (but no need to comment on) the Executive Summaries produced by each of the five country report teams. I will upload these summaries as soon as they are all available.

AN AMAZONIAN CASE

Feb 20 *Rubber tapper culture*

Chico Mendes and the rubber tapper social movement

Hecht, S. and A. Cockburn. 1989. The realm of nature. Pages 15-32 (Chapter 2), In: Hecht S. and A. Cockburn. The fate of the forest: Developers, destroyers and defenders of the Amazon. Verso, New York

Feb 22 *Interest groups & power*

Oxfam. No Date (nd). Quick guide to power analysis.

Recommended:

Mendes, Chico. 1989. Chapters 3-5 (pages 41-67), In: Fight for the forest: Chico Mendes in his own words. Latin American Bureau (Research and Action) Ltd. London.

Feb 27 *Change over time in Amazonia*

Pacheco, P., K. Mo, N. Dudley, A. Shapiro, N. Aguilar-Amuchastegui, P.Y. Ling, C. Anderson, and A. Marx. 2021. DF1: Brazilian Amazon (Pages 78-79), In: Deforestation fronts: Drivers and responses in a changing world. WWF, Gland, Switzerland.

Recommended:

Science Panel for the Amazon. 2021. [The Amazon We Want](#). Please scroll down to enjoy the interactive report on the current state of the Amazon.

Science Panel for the Amazon. 2021. [Executive Summary](#) of the Amazon Assessment Report 2021. C. Nobre, A. Encalada, E. Anderson, F.H. Roca Alcazar, M. Bustamante, C. Mena, M. Peña-Claros, G. Poveda, J.P. Rodriguez, S. Saleska, S. Trumbore, A.L. Val, L. Villa Nova, R. Abramovay, A. Alencar, A.C.R. Alzza, D. Armenteras, P. Artaxo, S. Athayde, H.T. Barretto Filho, J. Barlow, E. Berenguer, F. Bortolotto, F.A. Costa, M.H. Costa, N. Cuvi, P.M. Fearnside, J. Ferreira, B.M. Flores, S. Frieri, L.V. Gatti, J.M. Guayasamin, S. Hecht, M. Hirota, C. Hoorn, C. Josse, D.M. Lapola, C. Larrea, D.M. Larrea-Alcazar, Z. Lehm Ardaya, Y. Malhi, J.A. Marengo, M.R. Moraes, P. Moutinho, M.R. Murmis, E.G. Neves, B. Paez, L. Painter, A. Ramos, M.C. Rosero-Peña, M. Schmink, P. Sist, H. ter Steege, P. Val, H. van der Voort, M. Varese, G. Zapata et al. (eds.) United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, New York, USA. 48 pages.

Feb 29 *Beyond rubber: Brazil nuts, an NTFP example*

Delgado, T.S., M.K. McCall and C. López-Binnqüist. 2022. Non-Timber Forest Products: Small matters, big significance, and the complexity of reaching a workable definition for sustainability. Small-scale Forestry <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11842-022-09517-9>

Mar 5 *Beyond rubber: Timber!*

TBD

Recommended:

Humphries, S., T. Holmes, D.F. Carvalho de Andrade, D. McGrath and J. Batista Dantas. 2020. Searching for win-win forest outcomes: Learning-by-doing, financial viability, and income growth for a community-based forest management cooperative in the Brazilian Amazon. World Development 125:104336 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2018.06.005>

Cooper, N.A. and K.A. Kainer. 2018. To log or not to log: Local perceptions of timber management and implications for well-being within a sustainable use protected area. *Ecology and Society* 23(2):4. <https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-09995-230204>

Mar 7 *Amazonia wrap-up*
TBD

Mar 11-15 **SPRING BREAK!**

SEEKING SUSTAINABILITY

TBD

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Apr 16 *Value chain presentations*
No readings

Apr 18 *Value chain presentations (cont.)*
No readings

Apr 23 *Class wrap-up & evaluation*
1998 Video: Good Wood (44 minutes). Produced by David Springbett and Heather MacAndrew. Directed by David Springbett. View at: <http://vimeo.com/17580366>

This video captures the beginnings of the Honduran experience with chairmaking. Over time, this effort resulted in [GreenWood](#) (the U.S.-based non-profit) and [MaderaVerde](#) (the Honduran counterpart).

ASSIGNMENTS

(1) READINGS COMMENTS

Each student will provide comments that flow from the readings assigned for that class period. The rationale behind this assignment is to provide me with insights of individual perspectives prior to class, better incorporate what students have to say on the topic at hand, and begin class dialogue.

There are (at least) 22 class periods with required readings (or videos), and students are required to send in comments for 20 of these periods. I do not want a summary or abstract of each of the readings or a formalized, well thought-out rebuttal of the authors' arguments. Rather, I expect you to share with the class (post on Canvas) some of your thoughts that were stimulated by the readings. What did the readings mean to you? What was most interesting? Do you buy the author's thesis? Why? Did the readings stimulate you to reflect on a past experience? How? Who is/are the author(s) anyway? What's their backgrounds and where are they from? I have

purposefully chosen a more informal group discussion format so that students feel freer to express their basic reactions to the readings.

Each student should **post his or her comments by noon the day before** the designated class. That's 12:00 noon on Monday or Wednesday, the days before each Tuesday and Thursday session, respectively. Comments will be posted in the Discussion section of Canvas. Click on the course Global Forests. Go to "Discussion" listed in the left-hand column, and then click on the topic for the week. For example, by noon on Monday, January 15, you are required to post your comments in the following forum "Jan 16: Where are the forests? What types are out there? And how is this changing?" Others in the class will then be able to read your comments and add theirs. The length of comments is not fixed, but should be at least 2-3 paragraphs. No student is responsible for reading the comments of others, but you are welcome to do this and comment if you wish. The sum of these comments is worth 20% of your grade.

(2) CLASS PARTICIPATION

ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED. It is a prerequisite to in-class participation, and it is important because of my emphasis on in-class, cross-student learning. Students bring a wealth of experience and insights into the classroom, and each class period is a unique chance to learn from those experiences. I also expect students to share their thoughts/ideas/questions while in class, and of course, arrive on time and be courteous to both guest lecturers and fellow students. Class participation constitutes 5% of your grade, and **I expect students to attend every class.** If you attend **all classes, 3 points will be added to your final grade.** In contrast, **3 points will be subtracted from your final grade for each class not attended,** unless you have an excused absence. An "excused absence" is any unavoidable, unplanned situation (i.e., illness, death in the family, bike accident). Please notify me of your situation prior to the class you think you'll miss.

(3) 2-MINUTE PRESENTATION

Each student will give a 2-minute presentation of "Who I am, and how I got here". The objective of this presentation is to give the class a better idea of who you are, and what your motives are for being in this class. Since you have limited time (an understatement), you will want to be well prepared. **Helpful visuals/props are required, but PowerPoint is prohibited!** Each student will present on Thursday, Jan 11. This assignment constitutes 5% of your grade.

(4) COUNTRY REPORT (TEAM ASSIGNMENT)

This team assignment will allow us to examine representative countries (and their forests) of the three major forest biomes that occur across the planet (tropical, boreal and temperate forests). For example, two teams will analyze an Asian and African country, respectively, to explore tropical forest biomes; at least one team will explore a boreal country, like Russia, a Scandinavian or a Baltic country; and at least one team will explore forests of Europe or another temperate country. Brazil is off limits (we cover enough in other course sessions), as is Japan, Mexico, and India.

I want your team to get to know your chosen country, learn how its forests are used, valued by diverse segments of society, and how they are managed, and conserved. And...educate the class, so we also become familiar. Be creative, thorough and rigorous!!!

a. Country report presentation

The **country report will be presented orally**, and is worth 20% of your grade. Each team will have 20-25 minutes to orally present (including fielding questions) their findings on February 8 or 13.

b. One-page executive summary

A **one-page written executive summary** (key points and main conclusions you want us to remember about the country and forest context in your country) is to be uploaded onto Canvas. This summary will be read by all of your classmates (for the Feb 15 class) and is worth 5% of your grade. It is **due on Tuesday night (February 13)**.

c. Table of country indicators

A **table** with data from your country (see just below) is to be uploaded onto Canvas when you present your oral report. Please also bring a hard copy to class at the time of your oral presentation.

Variable	U.S.	Your country
Total land area (km ²) – CIA Factbook	9,100,000	
Total forest area (km ²) – FRA 2020	3,100,000	
% land under forest cover	34%	
Annual change in forest cover (2010-20) - FRA 2020	0.03%	
GDP per capita – CIA Factbook	\$60,200	
Population density (number of people/km ²) – CIA Factbook	34	
Gini index* – World Bank	41	
Infant mortality rate: deaths/1000 live births and (rank) – CIA Factbook	5.2 (174 th)	
Democracy index and (rank) – The Economist	7.8 (26 th), Flawed democracy	
Happiness index (Gallup Poll: https://worldhappiness.report/)	7.0 (16 th)	

* 0 = perfect equality in income distribution between families

100 = perfect inequality

Ranks from 23 (Slovak Republic - best) to 63 (South Africa - worst)

A **team agreement** will be developed by each group and is a basic sketch of *activities, who is responsible* for their completion, and *when they are due*. The following [webpage](#) on Planning a Group Presentation has excellent advice (4 concrete steps to follow) for how to approach this team project. Read it. Internalize it. Set deadlines. You should have at least 3 group meetings: Meeting #1 - Decide on division of labor; Meeting # 2 - Share data/visuals collected and assess them; Meeting #3 - Plan the presentation (including when you'll do a practice run).

In addition to the dates of the 3 meetings, the agreement should also include a preliminary list of references for the report, and your group's preferred date of oral presentation (either February 8 or 13). I will try to accommodate each group's preference, but may ultimately have to assign dates. Each group will upload onto Canvas one copy of their agreement on Thursday, Jan 18. *These agreements will be reviewed, but will not be graded.*

TEAM AGREEMENT

Timeline/team member	John	Maria	Taisha
By Jan x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead for presentation organization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize WhatsApp group to communicate. Manage group progress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for uploading Team agreement & weekly logs
By Jan x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review required website/info 1 & 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review required websites 4-7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take on Global Forest Watch website & info
By Jan x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare template for class presentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
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Key references:

Preferred date of presentation:

Similarly each team will be asked to keep weekly logs of the time each team member spent on the team project (see example below). These will be uploaded onto canvas on Tuesdays: Jan 23 and 30, and Feb 6 and 13. *These will be reviewed, but not graded.*

Brazil Team		Week of Jan 15-21				
	<i>Taylor</i>		<i>Alex</i>		<i>Sonia</i>	
	Hours	Brief description	Hours	Brief description	Hours	Brief description
Mon	2	Explore Global Forest Watch	4	Get data for country indicator table	4	
Tues						
Wed						
Thur						
Fri						
Sat						
Sun						

Where to start in your investigation?

Each group should thoroughly consult (*and where appropriate, cite*) the online resources/sites listed below. The key is exploring a country and issues in which you are really interested. The first two resources (FRA and GFW) provide overviews of lots of countries. Pick one that has lots of forest cover? One that has been stable? One that your ancestors are from? There are so many that have interesting forest stories to tell that you might not think of (from Cambodia and Vietnam to countries in the Congo Basin to overlooked countries in Europe like Spain, Portugal, Slovakia).

You are required to review the following 8 sites/search engines/documents:

1. **The 2020 Forest Resource Assessment (FRA)** of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations provide detailed forest data on most countries. Please note that you can access the following:
 - [Key findings](#)
 - [Individual country reports](#)
2. **Global Forest Watch (GFW)** This site is FULL of forest information and graphics that are useful for your particular country. Use GFW in your presentation (oral report) to show changes in forest cover (gains and losses) over time. Explore GFW to observe country-wide changes in annual forest cover and by geographic regions. Explore other features too!
3. **Search Google scholar** for scholarly articles on your country's forests (i.e., Lithuania Forests).
4. **CIA World Factbook**
5. **The Democracy Index (The Economist)** <https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index>
6. **The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)** is the leading authority for biodiversity conservation worldwide: <http://www.iucn.org/>
7. **The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)** conducts stellar research on forest management and people in the developing world: <http://www.cifor.org/>. This site is required only if your country falls within the "developing world".
8. **State of the World's Forests 2020: Forest pathways to sustainable development.** FAO, Rome. This most recent FAO document takes a broader vision of forests and their role in achieving sustainable development goals across the globe.
<https://www.fao.org/publications/sofo/2022/en/>

The following 5 sites may also be useful with detailed information about particular forest issues in particular locations.

1. **Pacheco et al's (2020) Deforestation Fronts: Drivers and responses in a changing world.** See the list of 24 countries/regions featured in the Appendix beginning on page 76.
2. **The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)** has a great special project on World Forests, Society and Environment (IUFRO-WFSE) that has specific information about specific global regions/countries:
<HTTP://WWW.IUFRO.ORG/SCIENCE/SPECIAL/WFSE/>
3. **WRI (World Resources Institute)** is an excellent critical source of information on the world's resources and their sustainable use/management, including forests
<https://www.wri.org/our-work/topics/forests>

4. **Mongabay** site <https://news.mongabay.com/> has a host of information on a variety of countries, particularly tropical ones, including:
 - Portion of land area protected by IUCN category (Present 3 percentages: I and II; II, IV and V; and VI and other)
5. **SciDevNet (the Science Development Network)** site dedicated to forestry is a nice resource that brings science and development together by reporting on some of the latest scientific findings related to forests: <http://www.scidev.net/global/agriculture/forestry/>

Grading criteria for the oral presentation

- (1) **Quality images & maps** showing country location, geographic distribution & major forest types, species of critical importance (biological, commercial, etc..).
- (2) **Historical context of forests**, including forest change (deforestation or reforestation) trends in your country (See Global Forest Watch). Give us a sense of how the country's history has led to its current forest cover.

(3) Reports country-specific forest data:

The presentation should include text (heavily bulleted), tables, and figures that help us understand your country, based on the following data.

❖ Forest/land use data

- Total land area
- % of land area covered by forest
- Annual rates of change in forest cover. Has your country passed the forest transition point?
- Area under planted forests (including extent and major species). How important are plantations in your country?
- Land tenure/forest ownership situation. Who owns & manages the forests, including extent to which native people inhabit/own/manage forests.
- Forest sector contribution to economy and employment.
- Degree to which forests are certified (& under which certification schemes)
- Protected areas (Portion of land area protected by IUCN category. Present 3 percentages: (1) I and II; (2) II, IV and V; and (3) VI and other.

(4) Reports critical country-specific demographic and socioeconomic data. The presentation should include text (heavily bulleted), tables, and figures that help us understand your country, perhaps based on the following data.

❖ Country demographics & socioeconomic data

- Population density
- Youth literacy rate (% of people ages 15-24)
- Infant mortality rate
- Percentage of internet hosts per 100 people
- GDP per capita

- Gini coefficient/index
 - National poverty rate (% of population which earns less than country's poverty line)
 - Democracy ranking
 - Happiness ranking
- (5) **In-depth discussion of how forests/trees are used, managed and conserved** (i.e., highlight key uses and/or management systems). These will likely be quite different for each country.
- (6) **What are the current main forest management and conservation issues/dilemmas/controversies** in your country? **These questions are to be developed by all group members.**
- (7) **Citations** noting sources of information. Cite photo credits too. Do not just place a bunch of citations at the end of your presentation, but rather, there should be citations on each slide (for photos and info).
- (8) A **concluding slide or two** with bullets of key points and main conclusions you want us to remember about the forest context in your country.
- (9) Overall **quality of information.**
- (10) Overall **clarity and quality of presentation.**

Group presentation tips!

Here is one [set of guidelines](#) for group presentations that might be helpful.

(5) AMAZONIAN LAND USES (INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENT)

The objective of this assignment is for us to learn more about the variety of land uses currently practiced in the Amazon and to critically examine the degree to which these land uses are sustainable.

Essay on Amazonian land use

Prepare a 1000-1500 word (~3 pages, single-spaced) analysis of the environmental and socio-economic implications of your assigned Amazonian land use. I expect a high quality, critical essay (well-written, complete sentences and well-constructed paragraphs) that contains the following: (1) Describe the land use, (2) What interest group(s) or 'stakeholders' are directly (and perhaps indirectly) involved? (3) Which interest group(s) or 'stakeholders' bear(s) the costs and which one(s) reap the benefits of the land use? (4) To what extent does the land use promote forest conservation? and (5) To what extent does it promote local or regional livelihood development in the Amazon? (6) You've just been spending a lot of time thinking about a particular land use, so I assume (hope?) that you have talked some to others (peers, family, friends, whoever) about it. What are 3 of the most frequent facts/perceptions/impressions that you find yourself sharing?

You may not submit any work generated by an AI program as your own. Please see the [UF Writing Studio](#) for terrific writing assistance. You will upload your essay by Friday, Mar 8 at midnight. It is worth 15% of your grade.

Please know too that each essay will be checked for plagiarism via Turnitin. Please see details about Plagiarism here: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills/plagiarism> I think it gives a pretty good description. Please take some time to learn about it.

Cited references are required for this assignment and should be listed at the bottom of your essay, and appropriately referenced within the text. Your cited references will be the first aspect of your essay that I will review; this will tell me much about the quality of information acquired. References **should include at least two citations from the assigned (required and/or recommended) reading list and two additional citations from an additional two peer-reviewed (academic) articles.** My experience is that students who integrate at least four peer-reviewed (academic) articles are the ones who have a much better grasp of the complexity of their land use, and ultimately receive much higher grades.

Tip: For this essay, it will be really helpful for you to read Section 3.2 of the Reed et al. (2009) reading below to help you think through ‘stakeholders’ in developing your individual essay. Similarly, scanning the Wells (1992) article should help orient you a bit to what is meant by ‘costs and benefits’.

Reed, M.S., A. Graves, N. Dandy, H. Posthumus, K. Hubacek, J. Morris, C. Presll, C.H. Quinn, and L.C. Stringer. 2009. Who’s in and why? A typology of stakeholder** analysis methods for natural resource management. *Journal of Environmental Management* 90:1933-1949.

**See the following critique of the term “stakeholder” by Mark Reed: [Alternatives to the word ‘stakeholder’ \(fasttrackimpact.com\)](#)

Wells, M. 1992. Biodiversity conservation, affluence and poverty: Mismatched costs and benefits and efforts to remedy them. *Ambio* 21:237-242

(6) VALUE CHAIN ANALYSIS (TEAM ASSIGNMENT)

The objective of this assignment is for students to compare and contrast value chains (production-to-consumption chains) of multiple imported (**produced outside the U.S.**) forest products found in Gainesville. This comparison will illuminate global linkages and demonstrate environmental, socioeconomic and political differences in global contexts under which forest products are harvested and transformed. While this assignment centers on both practical investigation of products and their transformation (communicating with different people along the value chain and learning of the product), it also includes scholarly research to obtain factual information about the product (i.e., multiple questions about product origin, transformation). **It is critical to have solid sources of information and cite them!!!** Using key words in Google Scholar is a good source. Dissertations and theses (all UF-produced are in UF libraries) can be good sources for on-the-ground research in unusual places with unusual resources.

Again, a **team agreement** will be developed by each group and is a basic sketch of *activities*, *who is responsible* for their completion, and *when they are due*. The agreement, due on Friday, March 31, should also include a preliminary list of references for the oral presentation, and your group's preferred date of presentation (either Apr 16 or 18); I will try to accommodate each group's preference, but may ultimately have to assign dates. Each team will upload one copy of their agreement to me, keeping copies for yourselves. Again, logs will be used to note the hours spent by each team member for this project.

Key references include:

Marshall, E, J. Rushton and K. Schreckenberg. 2006. Practical tools for researching successful NTFP commercialization: A methods manual. Pages 11-12 (Section 2.4 Value chain analysis) and 56-59 (Section 7 Value chain analysis). UK Department for International Development (DFID), London. Available online at: <http://cdn-odi-production.s3-website-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/media/documents/3906.pdf>

See Figure 2 of the following for an excellent schematic model of the buriti (*Mauritia flexuosa*) value chain:

Virapongse, A., M. Schmink and S. Larkin. 2014. Value chain dynamics of an emerging palm fiber handicraft market in Maranhão, Brazil. *Forest, Trees and Livelihoods* 23 (1-2):36-53. <http://doi.org/10.1080/14728028.2013.868707>

Kaplinsky, R. and M. Morris. 2001. A handbook for value chain research. IDRC, Sussex, UK. Available at: <http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/global/pdfs/VchNov01.pdf>

Belcher, B.M. 1998. A production-to-consumption systems approach: Lessons from the bamboo and rattan sectors in Asia. Pages 57-84, In: Wollenberg, E and A. Ingles (eds.). *Incomes from the forest: methods for the development and conservation of forest products for local communities*. Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Bogor, Indonesia. (Pp 57-71 are most relevant). Available at: http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/publications/pdf_files/Books/Incomes.pdf

For various Bolivian and Mexican value chain examples, see:

Marshall, E., K. Schreckenberg, and A.C. Newton (Eds). 2006. *Commercialization of non-timber forest products: Lessons learned from Mexico and Bolivia and policy implications for decision-makers*. UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK. Available online at: <http://www.odi.org.uk/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/3769.pdf>

Potential Products to be researched

- FSC certified wood
- NTFP products
- bamboo products
- Wards or Luckys or...beauty product stores (shea butter)
- Heart of palm

Many, many other possibilities ... as long as you run your idea past me!

In addition, the following 3 compilations provide introductory information about multiple products originating from Africa, Asia and Latin America, respectively.

López, C. and P. Shanley (eds.). 2004. [Riches of the forest: for health, life and spirit in Africa](#). Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Bogor Barat, Indonesia.

López, C. and P. Shanley (eds.). 2004. [Riches of the forest: food, spices, crafts and resins of Asia](#). Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Bogor Barat, Indonesia.

López, C., P. Shanley, and A. C. Fantini. (eds.). 2004. [Riches of the forest: fruits, remedies and handicrafts in Latin America](#). Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Bogor Barat, Indonesia.

Questions for Value chain analysis

Product origin

- Where does this product come from originally?
- Who harvests it? Tell us about the producers.
- How is it harvested?
- To what extent is the product important to local people economically and socially? (i.e., How do they use the species locally? Does it have cultural value?)
- What is the species (plural) harvested? Provide genus, species and family.
- In what types of ecosystem(s) is this species found and/or grown? (i.e., mature tropical forest, secondary forest, plantation, savannah???)
- Is there a seasonality to harvest?
- Any evidence on harvest sustainability? Using what criteria?

Transformation

- How is the species processed and where?
- Are there multiple steps to processing? What are they?
- Are there multiple steps to getting the processed product to the eventual consumers? What are they?
- Who are the middlepeople involved in getting this product from producer to processor to market? Are brokers used? Or do processors usually purchase directly from the producer? What is the approximate average mark-up for each middle person?
- Is there seasonality to these transformations?
- Who are the major market participants in the value chain and what is their sale price? (See Figure 2 of Virapongse, A., M. Schmink and S. Larkin. 2014. Value chain dynamics of an emerging palm fiber handicraft market in Maranhão, Brazil. *Forest, Trees and Livelihoods* 23 (1-2):36-53. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14728028.2013.868707> There will likely be gaps, but prepare it to the best extent possible.
- What is the geographic path that the product takes to get from extraction to processing to consumption? Use a map to show this path.

Consumers

- Who are the major buyers of this product?
- What does one pay for this product here in Gainesville (and elsewhere throughout the production-to-consumption chain)?

Other

- Are there global/national trade agreements surrounding this product?
- What does the refereed literature report on this species/product?

I have examples of previous presentations, showing different strengths and weakness which you can assess for yourself. Each group will have 20 minutes for their presentation, which includes fielding questions from the audience. This value chain analysis is worth 25% of the final grade for the class.

Grading criteria for these presentations include:

1. **Evidence that group obtained as much information as possible** (within reason) on their product to answer the above questions. All groups should tell how they went about digging for information about product origin, transformation and the production-to-consumption system. For some products, groups will not be able to obtain as much information. Other groups will have an easier time. Either way, however, tell us how you went about it.
2. **Map showing the geographic path the product takes from extraction to processing to consumption.**
3. **Contextual information and images of the forest and land** where the resource grows and how it is managed and harvested.
4. **Contextual information and images of the people** who manage, harvest, and process/transform the raw material into a product. **How is the product transformed?**
5. **Value chain with pricing information** (see Fig 2 of Viragpongse et al. 2014). Again, some groups will have fewer gaps than others.
6. **A bibliographic reference with full citations** at the end, plus **throughout the presentation, note sources of information, including photos.**
7. **Overall quality of information.**
8. **Overall clarity and quality of presentation.**

Each group will have 20 minutes for their presentation on either April 18, 20 or 25 (please state preference on your team agreement) which includes fielding questions from the audience. This value chain analysis is worth 25% of the final grade for the class.

(7) EVENT PARTICIPATION

The objective of this assignment is to broaden your exposure and deepen your understanding of specific issues related to global forests. You are required to attend 2 events (2.5 points each) and **submit the following information for each event** in which you:

1. indicate the title, place, time and presenter(s) of the event
2. identify the main message(s) communicated by the event
3. connect the event to content or ideas covered in our course readings and lectures
4. discuss an aspect of the event that you found interesting, motivating, insightful
5. take a photo **AT THE EVENT** showing your face (ideally) and the speaker (at a minimum) to document your presence

Event papers must be turned in within two weeks following the event.

Possible events at UF

Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program's [Tropilunch](#) seminar (Tuesdays at 12:45 – 1:30 p.m., Grinter 376)

TCD news and events <https://uftcd.org/news/>

[Wildlife Ecology & Conservation seminars](#) (Mondays at 3:30)

[School of Natural Resources and the Environment seminar](#). Mondays 1:55-2:45 pm, McCarty Hall D, Room G001.

Department of Biology Events calendar: <https://biology.ufl.edu/events/month/>

Florida Museum of Natural History Seminar Series: [Seminars – Department of Natural History \(ufl.edu\)](#)

The Center for African Studies (<https://africa.ufl.edu/>) and the Master of Sustainable Development Practice (<https://mdp.africa.ufl.edu/news-events/>) also have many relevant seminars on topics related to our Global Forests course.

UF HELPING RESOURCES

- **Academic Writing, Grammar and Style:** The [UF Writing Studio](#) is committed to helping University of Florida students and faculty meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. We support independent learning and scholarship by providing one-on-one consultations, workshops tailored to specific classes (graduate and undergraduate), and faculty retreats focusing on publishing original research. Students and faculty at all levels and in every discipline are welcome!
- **Technical difficulties with E-learning in CANVAS:** See “Start Here” on the first page of this course.
- **Personal Challenges:** Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling Center and Student Mental Health both provide confidential counseling services at no cost for enrolled students. Resources are also available for students seeking to clarify career and academic goals and to deal with academic challenges.
 - [University Counseling Center](#), 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575; personal and career counseling.
 - Student Mental Health, [Student Health Care Center](#), 392-1171, personal counseling.
 - Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
 - Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.

UF POLICIES

- **[Students with Disabilities Act:](#)** The Dean of Students Office coordinates needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes the registration of disabilities,

academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services, and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. *Dean of Students Office, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-7066.*

- **Software Use:** All faculty, staff, and students of the University 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.
- **Academic Misconduct:** Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Work submitted for credit by UF students should not include any form of plagiarism, cheating or unauthorized aid. Unless an assignment is explicitly identified as collaborative, all work should be completed independently. Students should understand and follow the [Student Honor Code](#) that they signed upon enrollment at the University of Florida: *“I understand the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”*