

**FOR 4621/ Forest Economics & Management**  
**School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences**  
**University of Florida**  
**Fall 2022, 4 credits**

- Instructor: Dr. Tamara L. Cushing  
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- Office Hours: 9-1 Tuesday & Thursday, other times by appointment or drop-in.  
I check email often even while not at the office and after hours.
- Lectures: 9:35-10:25, Mon & Wed, 219 Newins-Ziegler Hall  
9:35-11:30. Friday, 215 Rinker Hall
- Course Description: Principles of forest management for timber, non-timber and timberland valuation: decision analysis, management plans, forest regulation and harvest scheduling.
- Prerequisites: FOR 4162C (Silviculture), ECO 3023 (Microeconomics)
- Specific Objectives: For students to be able to accomplish the following over the course of the semester:
1. predict, interpret, and explain future timber inventory information using formulas or software
  2. differentiate between the types of landowners common to the United States and compare and contrast their objectives
  3. calculate, select and justify appropriate management action based on criteria
  4. calculate and select the appropriate optimal rotation age dependent on objectives of landowner
  5. list taxes impacting forestry and provisions of benefit to landowners
  6. calculate value of land and timber
- Text: None required
- Other Required Tools: Business-type calculator (cell phones will not be allowed on quiz or exam).

<b>Grading:</b>	Quizzes:	25%
	Assignments:	15%
	Current Event & Letter:	15%
	Project:	20%
	Final Exam:	25%

<b>Grade scale:</b>	A	90-100
	B	80-89
	C	70-79
	D	60-69
	E	59 and lower

**Quizzes:** There will be six quizzes during the term. There will be no make-up quizzes but each student will be allowed to drop the lowest quiz grade. Quizzes allow both you and I to see if the material is clear and correct areas that aren't clear before getting too far. The questions may be analytical or just require you to tell me how you would handle a situation.

**Current Event:** Students will locate a current event related to forestry and economics which they will present. (10%) Later in the term, students will prepare a letter to the editor responding to an article (5%)

**Assignments:** My intention is for these assignments to allow you to work through the concepts we have been discussing. These are meant to be learning experiences to prepare you for dealing with these questions in the future. You may work with others but must submit your own work.

**Project:** This case study utilizes skills learned in class to analyze a forest management question and communicate the results.

**Final Exam:** The final exam is cumulative and will gauge your understanding of the material presented throughout the semester. You will not have the option to skip the final. I do give partial credit so be sure to show your work.

## **Course Policies:**

Attendance and Make-Up Work: 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/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Attendance is not mandatory but lack of attendance will probably affect your course grade. This is not the hardest material you will have encountered in your college career but you will benefit from hearing the material presented as well as hearing questions asked by your classmates.

Cell Phones: Do not use cell phones in class. They must be put on vibrate while in class.

Late assignments: All assignments are due at the time specified for each assignment on the due date. Ten percent will be taken off the grade for every day late (beginning immediately).

Missed quizzes: Missed quizzes may not be made up; you may drop the lowest quiz grade.

### Academic Honesty

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>.

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. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Teaching evals: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations

online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner.](#) 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 [ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

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: 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.

- University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, [www.counseling.ufl.edu](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu)
  - Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library, Wellness Coaching
- U Matter We Care, [www.umatter.ufl.edu/](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/)
- Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, <https://career.ufl.edu/>.
- Student Success Initiative, <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu>.
- Student Complaints: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>.

If you need help, ASK! I'm committed to doing my best to foster an environment in which you can learn and explore these topics.

**Important Dates:**

<b>September 5</b>	<b>No class – Labor Day</b>
<b>October 7</b>	<b>No class – Homecoming</b>
<b>November 11</b>	<b>No class – Veteran’s Day</b>
<b>November 23-26</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Holidays – No classes</b>
<b>December 15, 7:30-9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>

## Weekly Topics and Assignments

Week	Topic	Assignments
1	Intro: Why forest econ & mgmt	
2	Current & Future Forest Conditions	
3	Projecting the Future	
4	Time Value of Money	Assignment 1 due, Quiz Fri.
5	Annuity Formulas	
6	Financial Decision Criteria	Assignment 2 due, Quiz Fri.
7	Forest Ownership	
8	LEV & Input Effects	Assignment 3 due, Quiz Fri.
9	Optimal Rotation Age, Marginal Analysis	
10	Taxation	Assignment 4 due, Quiz Fri.
11	Classical Forest Management / Regulation	
12	Certification & Nontimber Products	Assignment 5 due
13	Valuation & Appraisal	Quiz
14	Inflation	
15	Finding inputs	Assignment 6 due, Quiz Fri.
16	Wrap Up & Review	