Advanced Prescribed Fire
NREM 4793/5793
3 hours credit
Spring 2015

Instructor: John Weir, Research Associate, Natural Resource Ecology and Management, 303H Ag Hall, Office 405 744-5442, Mobile 405 780-0036, john.weir@okstate.edu


Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students will be able to write fire plans, determine suitable weather conditions for conducting prescribed burns. Have the knowledge of what equipment to use and when, and how to execute prescribed fires.

Grading:
Equipment & Spotfire Training 10%
Case Study 1 15%
Case Study 2 15%
Final Project 15%
Case Study presentation 10%
Assist with five burns 25%
Fire Plan 10%

Grading Scale:
A 90-100%
B 89-80%
C 79-70%
D 69-60%
F <60%

• The Equipment and Spotfire Training lab will be conducted on Tuesday January 20th at 1:00 pm. It will take approximately four hours to conduct and is the policy of the OSU Research Range and NREM Department for anyone assisting with prescribed fires to have this training. Each student is required to attend. If you do not, you cannot assist on any fires. Wear clothes you can work in, boots and jeans. Dress warm it is usually cold and we will be outside. We will check out PPE’s to you that day. In case of inclement weather it will be held Thursday January 22nd at 1:00 pm.

• Personal Protective Equipment: On the day we conduct the Equipment and Spotfire Training we will check out to each student: 1 Nomex or Indura shirt ($75.00), 1 helmet ($36.00) and shroud ($25.00), 1 pair of goggles ($12.00). These items will be checked in at the end of the semester or you will be billed for the cost of replacing these items. We will
give you 1 pair of leather gloves and safety glasses to use and keep. You will be required to bring them with you on each burn, if you do not have them you cannot participate.

- You are required to assist with a **minimum of five burns**, which is 25% of your grade. This is a prescribed burning course and many techniques are better taught and understood in the field. A bonus of 1% per fire will be added to your final grade for every fire over the required five that you participate with. Prescribed fires cannot be scheduled more than 24 hours in advance; burns will be conducted between 0900 and 1700 hours, there may be some fires that require us to stay overnight. On burns that are conducted around Stillwater we will meet at the OSURR HQ. For burns that are out in the state we will take OSU vans. See the potential burn list and how much each burn will count at the end of this syllabus.

- **All written assignments will be due at the end of the class period on the day they are due. No assignments will be accepted after that time and the student will receive a “0” for that assignment.**

- **Presentation of case study will graded on quality of presentation, information, and ability to answer questions.**

- **Students enrolled in NREM 5793 will be required to complete additional work for graduate credit.**

**Drop Policy:** The drop policy of Oklahoma State University as published in the current OSU Catalog will be followed.
Course Outline

First week of semester 12-16 January
- Class on Tuesday 13 January
- Assign burn units and burn plan (presentations 22 January and final plan due 26 Jan)
- Assign Case Study 1 and presentations (due 10 February)

Week two 19-23 January
- Tuesday 20 January 1:00-5:00 pm Equipment and Spotfire Training at OSURR located 2.5 miles south of 51 Hwy on Coyle Road
- Thursday 22 January Class at 7:30am for fire plan PowerPoint presentations (final plan due 26 January)
- Thursday 22 January In case of inclement weather Equipment and Spotfire Training at OSURR 1:00-5:00 pm
- Work on burn plans and case study 1

Week three 26-30 January
- Monday 26 January Fire Plans due by 5:00pm, email electronic copy to john.weir@okstate.edu
- Work on case study 1
- Burn as weather permits

Week four 2-6 February
- Work on case study 1
- Burn as weather permits
- SRM meeting Sacramento, CA

Week five 9-13 February
- Class on Tuesday 10 February, Case Study 1 due and presentations
- Assign Case Study 2, due Thursday 12 March
- Work on Case Study 2
- Burn as weather permits

Week Six 16-20 February
- Work on Case Study 2 (due 12 March)
- Burn as weather permits

Week Seven 23-27 February
- Work on Case study 2 (due 12 March)
- Meet as needed to discuss case study and burns conducted
- Burn as weather permits
Week Eight 2-6 March
- Work on Case study 2 (due 12 March)
- Meet as needed to discuss case study and burns conducted
- Burn as weather permits

Week Nine 9-13 March
- Thursday 12 March Case Study 2 due by end of class and presentations
- Assign final project (due 30 April)

Week Ten 16-20 March
- Spring Break (no burning)

Week Eleven 23-27 March
- Work on final project (due 30 April)
- Meet as needed to discuss case study and burns conducted
- Burn as weather permits

Week Twelve 30 March-3 April
- Work on final project (due 30 April)
- Meet as needed to discuss case study and burns conducted
- Burn as weather permits

Week Thirteen 6-10 April
- Work on final project (due 30 April)
- Meet as needed to discuss case study and burns conducted
- Burn as weather permits

Week Fourteen 13-17 April
- Work on final project (due 30 April)
- Meet as needed to discuss case study and burns conducted
- Burn as weather permits

Week Fifteen 20-24 April
- Work on final project (due 30 April)
- Meet as needed to discuss case study and burns conducted
- Burn as weather permits

Week Sixteen 27 April-1 May
- Thursday 30 April Final Project and presentations due
- Turn in fire equipment
- Course evaluations
List of potential burns for spring of 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross Timbers Experimental Range patch burn unit 2-3</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Timbers Experimental Range patch burn unit 5</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Timbers Experimental Range patch burn unit 10</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Timbers Experimental Range patch burn unit 11</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross Timbers Experimental Range patch burn unit 14</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Timbers Experimental Range patch burn unit 17</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSURR patch burn units- SE</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P9</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sec 17</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW, NE, SW units</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Sherman</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4 east side</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross Timbers Demonstration Plots</td>
<td>Stillwater 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Season of Burn Plots</td>
<td>Stillwater 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetland projects</td>
<td>Lincoln County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There can be others added to the list</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IMPORTANT DATES
Last day to add a class (without instructor permission) 1/20/2015
Last day to drop a course with no grade and 100% refund 1/20/2015
Last day to add a class (requires instructor & advisor permission) 1/23/2015
Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University with an automatic “W” and receive a partial refund (requires advisor signature) 1/23/2015
Last day to post 6 week grades 2/24/2015
Last day to file diploma application (for name to appear in Spring Commencement program) 4/1/2015
Last day to drop a class or withdraw from the University with an automatic “W” 4/10/2015
Last day to withdraw from all OSU classes with an assigned grade of “W” or “F” 4/24/2015
Pre-Finals week 4/27/2015 – 5/1/2015

Note: Outreach, Internet, and short courses have unique drop/add and refund deadlines; lookup the specific deadlines for these courses on the Short, Internet and Outreach Class Schedules page of the Registrar’s website.

Spring Semester Holidays
University Holiday 1/19/2015
Students’ Spring Break 3/16/2015 – 3/20/2015

DROPPING A COURSE AND WITHDRAWING FROM THE UNIVERSITY. students often confuse these terms. Dropping a Course (or courses) may occur during the first twelve weeks of the semester. This means, however, that you are still enrolled in at least one other OSU course. Exceptions to the deadlines above may only be considered by petition due to documented extraordinary circumstances and committee approval. The Retroactive Drop/Withdraw Petition and the Petition for a Refund of Tuition and Fees forms are available on the Registrar’s website.

Withdrawing from the university means that you are dropping all of your courses and are no longer enrolled for the current semester. This may occur until the Friday before pre-finals week. The withdrawal process is initiated with your academic advisor in your student academic services office. For additional information and dates, go to: http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/policies-a-procedures/35-adding-a-dropping-policy

ALERTS AND RESCHEDULING
If the OSU campus officially closes due to inclement weather or other emergencies, alerts are provided to local news media and are posted on the OSU website. Exams, classes, or assignments that are missed in these circumstances may be rescheduled at times that are outside the normal meeting schedule for the class. If valid, documented circumstances prohibit students from attending the rescheduled classes, instructors should provide reasonable alternative means for makeup.

SEEK ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS
The OSU faculty and staff want you to be successful in your educational pursuits. If you have questions or concerns, seek help EARLY. We are here to assist you.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
101 Whitehurst, 405-744-5627 http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu
OSU is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic integrity (e.g., unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, multiple submissions, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, unauthorized advance access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of others, and altering academic records) will result in an official academic sanction. Violations may subject you to disciplinary action including the following: receiving a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course, receiving a notation of a violation of academic integrity on your transcript, and being suspended from the University. You have the right to appeal the charge. Go to http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu/ for a video on OSU’s academic integrity policy and additional information.

COPYRIGHT & FAIR USE POLICY OF COURSE MATERIALS
Course materials may not be published, leased, sold to others, or used for any purpose other than appropriate OSU-related individual or group study without the written permission of the faculty member in charge of the course and other copyright holders. This paragraph grants you a limited license giving you access to materials for this course, including PowerPoint slides, audio/video recordings, written, or other materials, for appropriate OSU-related educational use only. Lectures should not be recorded without permission from the faculty member and must not be further disseminated or shared.

CLASS ATTENDANCE
Class attendance is a critical component of learning; therefore, you are expected to attend and participate fully in all scheduled class meetings. Many instructors consider attendance so essential that your grade may be affected by your absence. SOME DEPARTMENTS AND PROFESSORS HAVE MANDATORY ATTENDANCE POLICIES. If no written attendance policy is provided before the last day to add a class without instructor permission, no penalty may be assessed for class absences although you may not be permitted to make up certain in-class activities. If you are required to participate in official university-sponsored activities or military training, you should receive an excused absence unless the written course attendance policy indicates otherwise. If you will be absent from class for sponsored activities, you must provide prior notification of the planned absence to the instructor. You may be required to submit assignments or take examinations before the planned absence.

PRE-FINALS WEEK POLICY
Final examinations are scheduled at the end of each semester and are preceded by pre-finals week, which begins seven days prior to the first day of finals. During pre-finals week, all normal class activities will continue; however, no assignment, test, or examination accounting for more than 5% of the course grade may be given; and no activity or field trip may be scheduled that conflicts with another class. This excludes makeup and laboratory examinations, out-of-class assignments (or projects) made prior to pre-finals week and independent study courses.
No student or campus organization may hold meetings, banquets, receptions, or may sponsor or participate in any activity, program, or related function that requires student participation. For additional information, contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 405-744-5627, 101 Whitehurst.

FINAL EXAM OVERLOAD POLICY
In the event that you have three or more final exams scheduled for a single day, you are entitled to arrange with the instructor of the highest numbered course (4 digit course number) or two highest, if you have four finals on one day, to re-schedule that examination(s) at a time and place of mutual convenience during final exam week. If the final exam overload includes a common final exam, the common final exam is excluded from rescheduling unless multiple common exams are scheduled at the same time. You should submit this request in writing, with a copy of your class schedule, at least two weeks prior to the beginning of final exam week. The instructor has one week prior to the beginning of final exam week to arrange a mutually convenient time and place for administration of the final exam. After one week, if an agreement cannot be reached, take the request to the department head.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Student Email - OSU uses your OKSTATE.EDU email address as a primary form of communication. Students are expected to check their OSU email on a frequent and consistent basis to remain informed of their official university business. If you do not use the OSU email system you must redirect your okstate.edu email using the Orange-Key System (www.okey.okstate.edu). Failure to maintain an accurate email address may result in missed or lost university communications. For email assistance contact the IT Helpdesk at 405-744-HELP (4357).

Computer Labs - A complete description of computer labs and hours of operations are available at their website:
https://it.sharepoint.okstate.edu/TechnologySupport/DeskSide/default.aspx. Lab information is also available by calling the Information Technology Help Desk, 405-744-HELP (4357).

EDMON LOW LIBRARY HOURS
405-744-9775 or 405-744-9741
www.library.okstate.edu

Text 405-592-4128
Sunday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 midnight
Monday-Thursday 24 hours a day
Friday 12:00 midnight-10:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

*For holiday and intersession hours, check http://www.library.okstate.edu/services/hours.htm

*Contact the following for information on hours of operation:
Architectures Library 405-744-6047
Curriculum Materials Library 405-744-6310
Veterinary Medicine Library 405-744-6655

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS
By enrolling at Oklahoma State University, you accept responsibility for complying with all University policies and contracts, and for local, state and federal laws on- or off-campus that relate to the University’s mission. The Student Rights and Responsibilities Governing Student Behavior document explains the standards of behavior expected of you, processes in place for enforcing the rules, and the University’s response to violations http://studentconduct.okstate.edu/

In general, the University expects you to respect the rights of others and authorities, represent yourself truthfully and accurately at all times, respect private and public property, and take responsibility for your own actions and the actions of your guests. Call 405-744-5470 for more information.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP
Instructor - If you have questions regarding your class, talk to your instructor. Faculty members usually include their office hours and/or phone number in the class syllabus. If you cannot locate this information, set a time to meet with your instructor by speaking with him/her prior to or immediately following your class session or check with the departmental office on when the instructor may be available.

Academic Advisor - All students will benefit by conferring with an advisor on a regular basis. If you do not know your advisor, or are unhappy with your advisor, talk to the Student Academic Services Director for your college.

Academic911.okstate.edu - Your online resource for academic and personal success, sponsored by Student Affairs.

Mathematics Learning Success Center
5th Floor; Edmon Low Library/405-744-5818 http://www.math.okstate.edu/
Tutors are available to answer questions for classes ranging from Beginning Algebra through Calculus II. Tutoring for Differential Equations and Linear Algebra is offered at specific times.

Writing Center
440 Student Union/405-744-6671 http://oswwritingcenter.okstate.edu
The Writing Center helps writers throughout the composing process; you should plan to visit early and often throughout the semester, not just the day before an assignment is due. Tutors will work with you to improve your brainstorming, organizational, and composing techniques.

Learning & Student Success Opportunity (LASSO) Tutoring Center
021 Classroom Building/405-744-3309 https://lasso.okstate.edu/LASSO offers free individual tutoring for a variety of courses.

University Counseling Services
320 Student Union/405-744-5472 or 405-744-7007 http://ucounseling.okstate.edu/Professional counselors offer confidential personal and/or career counseling.

Office of Student Disability Services (SDS)
315 Student Union/405-744-7116 http://sdsookstate.edu/
According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, each student with a disability is responsible for notifying the University of his/her disability and requesting accommodations. If you think you have a qualified disability and need special accommodations, you should notify the instructor and request verification of eligibility for accommodations from the Office of SDS. Please advise the instructor of your disability as soon as possible, and contact Student Disability Services, to ensure timely implementation of appropriate accommodations. Faculty has an obligation to respond when they receive official notice of a disability but are under no obligation to provide retroactive accommodations. To receive services, you must submit appropriate documentation and complete an intake process to verify the existence of a qualified disability and identify reasonable accommodations.

Office of Equal Opportunity - 408 Whitehurst/405-744-9153
OSU is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, age or protected veteran status. OSU does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and activities. Examples of sexual misconduct and/or sex discrimination include: sexual violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and intimate partner violence, stalking, or gender-based discrimination. OSU encourages any student who thinks that he or she may have been a victim of sexual misconduct or sexual discrimination to immediately report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator (405-744-9153) or Deputy Title IX Coordinator (405-744-5470). Students may also report incidents of sexual misconduct or sex discrimination to a faculty or staff member, who is then required by federal law (Title IX) to notify the Title IX or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If a reporting student would like to keep the details confidential, the student may speak with staff in the Student Counseling Center (405-744-5472) or the University’s Victim Advocate (Suzanne Burks: 405-744-5458). For more information regarding Title IX violations, please go to: http://ilis2many.okstate.edu.