Prescribed Fire
NREM 4783/5783
Fall 2014
3 hours credit

Instructor: John Weir, Office 303H Ag Hall
Phone-744-5442
e-mail- john.weir@okstate.edu

Course Objectives: To become familiar with the rationale, techniques, and implementation of prescribed fire for specific land management practices. Emphasis will be on prescribed fire plans, policy and laws, weather, ignition, equipment, conducting burns and post-burn mop-up. Classroom instruction will convey these practices to students. By the end of the course, students will be able to determine suitable weather conditions, know what equipment to use and when, and how to conduct a prescribed fire.


Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (3)</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>A 90-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Assignment Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>B 89-80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Plan</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>C 79-70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>D 69-60%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F &lt;60%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

• There will be three (3) exams given during the semester. The exam dates are: Tuesday September 23rd, Thursday October 30th, and the final Thursday December 11th from 8:00-9:50 am. Exams will be listing and short essay questions. The exams will cover material from the lectures and reading assignments. The final exam will cover information from the entire semester with questions taken from the previous exams. You have until class is over at 0845 on the day of the exam to take the test. If you come in after this time you will not be allowed to make up the exam. If you must miss an exam notify the instructor prior to the exam day. The makeup exam will be given at 5:00 pm the Friday of finals week. If you do not notify the instructor prior to the exam of an absence you will not be allowed to make up the exam.

• There will be 10 reading assignments and a quiz for each will be given on the date listed on the attached sheet. You will be allowed to drop two (2) quiz grades for the semester. If you miss a quiz you will receive a zero for that quiz and they cannot be made up.

• Fire plan-students will be given a burn unit to prepare a fire plan for using information obtained through class they will be due on Tuesday December 2nd.
• Students enrolled in NREM 5783 must attend the field day at the Pushmataha WMA fire plots Tuesday October 1st and complete a report for graduate credit.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance and participation in lectures, is expected. If you must miss class, inform the instructor in writing prior to the date to be excused.

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

**Academic Integrity:** All students are expected to abide by the University’s policy on academic integrity found at [http://nrem.okstate.edu/Documents/CourseListings/OSU_2013_Syllabus_Attachment.pdf](http://nrem.okstate.edu/Documents/CourseListings/OSU_2013_Syllabus_Attachment.pdf)
Prescribed Fire
Course Outline
RLEM 4783/5783
Fall 2013
Topics to be covered:

1. Rx Fire History
2. Why Burn? Chapter 1
3. Fire Law and Liability Chapter 2
4. Policy Chapter 3
5. Public Relations Chapter 4
6. Prescribed Fire Weather Chapter 5
7. Fire Types Chapter 6
8. Prescriptions Chapter 7
9. Fire Plans Chapter 8
10. Safety Chapter 9
11. Firebreaks Chapter 10
12. Fire Equipment Chapter 11
13. Ignition Devices Chapter 12
14. Ignition Techniques Chapter 13
15. Conducting the Burn
16. Smoke Management Chapter 14
17. Post Burn Mop-Up Chapter 15
18. Prescribed Fire Associations Chapter 16
**Reading assignments and quiz dates**
The articles will be available under Content on the OSU online class room (D2L).

1. Are rednecks the unsung heroes of ecosystem management? Wild Earth 13:10-14 Thursday September 4th
2. Fire, drought, and human history near the western terminus of the Cross Timbers, Wichita Mountains, Oklahoma, USA, Fire Ecology 5:51-65. Thursday September 11th
5. The Language of Conservation 2013. Updated recommendations on how to communicate effectively to build support for conservation. Thursday October 9th
7. Seasonal Variation in Flammability Characteristics of *Quercus marilandica* and *Quercus stellata* Leaf Litter Burned in the Laboratory. Fire Ecology 9(3):80-88 Thursday November 6th
9. Lightning-season burning: Friend or foe of breeding birds? Tall Timbers Research Station publication, Thursday November 20th
YOUR SUCCESS AS A STUDENT IS OUR TOP PRIORITY.

THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS MOST OFTEN ASKED BY STUDENTS.

IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Last day to add a class (without instructor permission)</td>
<td>8/25/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to add a class (requires instructor &amp; advisor permission)</td>
<td>8/29/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to drop a class with no grade and 100% refund</td>
<td>8/25/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University with an automatic “W” and receive a partial refund (requires advisor signature)</td>
<td>8/29/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University with an automatic “W”</td>
<td>8/29/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University with an assigned grade of “W” or “F”</td>
<td>11/21/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to post 6 week grades</td>
<td>9/30/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to file diploma application (for name to appear in Fall Commencement program)</td>
<td>11/3/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to file diploma application (for name to appear in Fall Commencement program)</td>
<td>11/7/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to withdraw from all OSU classes with an assigned grade of “W” or “F”</td>
<td>12/8 – 12/12/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Finals week</td>
<td>12/1 – 12/5/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examinations</td>
<td>12/12/2014</td>
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</tbody>
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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.

Fall Semester Holidays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Holiday</td>
<td>9/1/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students’ Fall Break</td>
<td>10/24/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>First day of students’ Thanksgiving break (no classes)</td>
<td>11/26/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>University Holiday</td>
<td>11/27 – 11/28/2014</td>
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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.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Oklahoma State University is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct of its members. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic 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 fraudulently 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. Contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 101 Whitehurst, 405-744-5627. 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 reach, 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).

LIBRARY HOURS
Edmon Low Library (405-744-6812)
Digital Library Toll Free: (1-877-744-9161)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.-2:00 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.-2:00 a.m.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
For holiday and intersession hours, check http://www.library.okstate.edu/services/hours.htm

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

Library web address: www.library.okstate.edu

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.

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.

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://osuwritingscenter.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://ucs.okstate.edu/
Professional counselors offer confidential personal and/or career counseling.

Office of Student Disability Services
315 Student Union/405-744-7116
http://sds.okstate.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 Student Disability Services. Please advise the instructor of your disability as soon as possible, and contact Student Disability Services, to ensure timely implementation of appropriate accommodations. Faculty have 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 during which the existence of a qualified disability is verified and reasonable accommodations are identified.
Office of Equal Opportunity
408 Whitehurst/405-744-9153
Oklahoma State University policy prohibits discrimination based upon gender, race, color, ethnicity, age, religion, national origin, veteran’s status, disability, or sexual orientation. If you believe that you are being discriminated against, please contact this office.