ESF Course Proposal Form
Committee on Instruction - ESF Faculty Governance
Office of Instruction & Graduate Studies

Date: February 11, 2011
Course Number: FOR 610
Course Title: Natural Resources Business

☐ New Course OR ☐ Changes in existing course (check all that apply):

☐ Prefix☐ Number☐ Credits☐ Title
☐ Description☐ Pre-requisite(s)☐ Co-requisite(s)
☐ Shared Resources☐ Course Format☐ Content☐ Semester Offered

This course meets the General Education standards in the following knowledge and skills area (check all that apply):

☐ American History☐ Humanities☐ Other World Civilizations
☐ The Arts☐ Mathematics☐ Social Sciences
☐ Basic Communication☐ Natural Sciences☐ Western Civilization

Prequisites or co-requisite requirements:

☐ Prerequisites: None ☐ Co-requisites:

Institutional Impact:

Anticipated Enrollment: 20-30 per semester

Technology and Classroom Resource Demands: A classroom with a large blackboard or dry erase board, and projection equipment for displaying computer PowerPoint presentation, internet websites, etc. The course requires duplication resources of approximately 250 pages per student.

Computing Resources: None.
Library Resources: None
Transportation Requirements: None
Forest Properties or Field Practicum Facilities Required: None

Health and Safety Considerations:
Conditions or situations present in association with the course?

1. Will substances with any of the following properties be used during instruction: flammability, toxicity, corrosivity, reactivity, registered pesticide, legally controlled, or other characteristics with the potential to cause harm or injury? No

2. Will any physical hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., machines that need safety guards; razor blades or syringes; compressed gases, etc.). No

3. Will any biological hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., handling animals (rabies or hantavirus); cultures or stocks of infectious agents (fungal spores, viruses, bacteria, etc.). No

4. Will any radiation hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., radioisotopes, X-rays, ultraviolet rays, lasers, etc.). No

5. Will any electrical equipment that, due to its design, location, or method of use, pose any threat to safety during instruction? (Give considerable thought to electrical use outdoors, or any potentially wet location.). No

6. Will there be any personal safety issues related to the class? (e.g., due to time of day or location, at the end of any organized class exercise, will students be in danger of physical assault, etc.). No

7. Will any students be driving official state or research sponsored land or water vehicles during any class or instructional exercise? No

8. Will any type of personal protective equipment be necessary during class exercises? (e.g., hard-hats, eye/face protection, hearing protection, hand/foot protection, lab coat, visibility clothing, etc.) No

If the answer was “Yes” to any of the HEALTH AND SAFETY questions, please explain:

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

FOR 610 – Environmental Resources Business (3)
This course introduces the student to the fundamentals of business accounting and finance and their application to environmental management. The course is small enterprise oriented with emphasis on practical applications and problem solving techniques. The primary objective is to provide the student with the tools to understand and solve the basic accounting and financial problems confronting businesses and organizations in the environmental management field. Topics covered include basic accounting techniques, financial analysis, time value of money, valuation of assets, capital budgeting techniques, capital structure theory. Spring.
Three hours of lecture per week.
Prerequisite(s): None.
DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

COURSE: FOR 610 – Environmental Resources Business

3 Credit Hours – Fall Semester
Three hours of lecture per week
Prerequisite(s): None

SCOPE:

1. Level of Instruction:
   a. FOR 610 is an advanced, graduate course.

2. Relation to curriculum or to other ESF or Syracuse University courses:
   a. Curriculum:
      i. FOR 610 is a required course in the Department of Forest and Natural Resources Management’s (FNRM) Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Master of Professional Studies (MPS) degree program.
      ii. This course is open to ESF and Syracuse University graduate students.
   b. Courses:
      i. The course complements other ERM MPS required courses, and FOR 670: Natural Resources and Environmental Economics.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Explain the role and importance of accounting information in assisting decision-making in a business context.
2. Apply the financial accounting conceptual framework in the recording, processing, summarizing and reporting phases of the accounting cycle.
3. Evaluate the assumptions, principles and conventions underlying financial accounting processes.
4. Apply appropriate analytical tools for the interpretation of financial statements.
5. Apply different investment appraisal techniques and evaluate their limitations.
6. Determine the corporate cost of capital.
7. Analyze the key characteristics of working capital and its individual elements.

MAJOR CONCEPTS OR METHODOLOGIES:

Concepts:
This course enables students to develop strong analytical skills and critical thinking, apply financial and accounting methods to analyze environmental business problems, analyze financial reports, and understand the operations of financial markets in a functioning enterprise.

**Methodologies:**

1. Accounting principles and concepts
2. Accounting equation and double entry bookkeeping systems
3. Valuation of accounts receivables, inventory and fixed assets
4. Analysis and interpretation of financial statements including ratio analysis and statement of cash flow
5. Time value of money and the valuation of stocks and bonds
6. Investment appraisal techniques including payback period, average accounting return, internal rate of return, net present value, profitability index, incremental cash flows, and capital budgeting.
7. Cost of capital techniques including Beta, Cost of Equity, Cost of Debt, Weighted Average Cost of Capital

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Three hours of lecture per week.

Prerequisite(s): None.

**COURSE HISTORY:**

This course has never been taught at ESF.
Last approved: never.

February 3, 2011