NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus. Summer term courses may be accelerated – please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes for more information.

FES/HORT 455/555
Urban Forest Planning, Policy And Management

COURSE CREDIT:
(4) This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
FES 350 or HORT 350 for undergraduate students

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Examination of planning, policy, and management strategies used in the stewardship of urban natural resources. Fundamentals for developing effective programs to maximize the economic, environmental, and social values and benefits of urban forest landscapes. CROSSLISTED as HORT 455/555. Typically offered Fall Quarters.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Instructor: Paul D. Ries, Director – Graduate Certificate in Urban Forestry program, OSU Dept. of Forest Ecosystems and Society, Email: paul.ries@oregonstate.edu,

Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the ECampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.

LEARNING RESOURCES:
- **Required Text:** None.
- **Required Readings:** One or two professional journal articles or other urban forestry readings will be assigned each week. One or more website visits required each week. Expect 20+ pages of reading per week.
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes
Successful urban forestry programs are the result of thoughtful urban forest planning, deliberate urban forest management actions, and sound urban forestry policies. This course is designed to help students gain an understanding of what makes an urban forestry program successful, and how urban forest resources can be managed for the benefit of society. Specifically, this course will help students:

- Analyze the economic, ecological, and social values, benefits, and issues of urban forests,
- Identify and describe the various components of an effective municipal urban forestry program,
- Critically assess the managerial, political, and administrative aspects of urban forestry programs,
- Compare and contrast various approaches to how urban forest plans and policies are developed,
- Describe how public support is established for urban forestry programs and policies,
- Identify internal and external factors that influence the management of urban forest ecosystems,
- Apply selected policy and management strategies to real-life urban forestry situations.

In addition to the above items, Graduate level learning outcomes include helping graduate students:

- Critically analyze contemporary urban forest management issues or conflicts, and identify and communicate tools and strategies to address the situations,
- Articulate and evaluate urban forest management standards and practices,
- Synthesize and extrapolate this material to individual areas of interest, expertise, and graduate study.

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:

SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE - (Subject to Change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Urban Forest Planning Policy and Management (course overview, urban forestry players, research, resources, review of FOR/HORT 350 concepts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Planning for Urban Forest Sustainability – Planning processes and plans (UF plan development, strategic planning, performance measures, program evaluation, public input)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>An Ecosystem Approach to the Urban Forest (Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem Services)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Turning Urban Forestry Plans into Policy (Ordinances, Tree Politics, Legal Issues, Financing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Balancing Trees and Development – (Land Use, Zoning, Tree Preservation Ordinances, Urban/Rural Interface Issues, Forest Fragmentation, Native Forest Remnant Management)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6 | **Urban Forestry Public Policy**  (Hazard Tree Risk Assessment, Public Safety, Storm/Pest Response)

7 | **Urban Forest Assessment and Valuation**  (Inventory, Mapping, Cost/Benefit Analysis, Canopy Assessment, Tree Evaluation and Appraisal)

8 | **Managing the Relationship Between Trees and People**  - Tree Boards, Non-profits, Citizen Involvement

9 | **Municipal Urban Forestry; Student Team Presentations**  – managing municipal urban forestry programs (summation of previous weeks); group project presentations

10 | **Connecting Urban Forestry to Societal Issues and Needs**  – Current trends and issues in the profession, needs analysis, public opinions and beliefs about trees, Communications and Marketing

11 | Final Exam Week

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**EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:**

Typical Evaluation of Student Performance (Subject to change):

1. **Discussion Board Participation**  15%
   
   Each week’s content will include one or more discussion pages to further online learning from lectures or readings from the week. Everyone brings something to offer to the class, whether it is personal experience, insight into the readings, or a unique perspective. The instructor will reward active, informed participation in class discussions.

2. **Individual Assignments (3)**  30%
   
   Students will complete three individual assignments, each worth 10% of their grade. These assignments are to: 1) attend a meeting of a local tree board, planning commission, or other deliberative body where tree issues are discussed, and provide a critique of it, 2) EITHER attend an urban forestry seminar or event (pre-approved by instructor) and provide a report on it, OR produce an urban forestry related educational product, and 3) write a two page essay on an urban forestry topic or issue from a list provided by the instructor.

3. **Group Project**  25%
   
   A class project will be assigned to introduce students to the collaborative nature of being an urban forestry professional. Students will work as a team in assigned roles to produce an urban forest management plan for a community. This activity will be graded with both an individual peer evaluated (5%) and a group component (20%).

4. **Exams**  30%
   
   One Midterm (15%) and one final exam (15%) will make up this grading component. The midterm will be an online exam. The final exam will be a “take-home format” - an essay assignment mailed to you two weeks prior to the due date. This will simulate an actual assignment you might receive if working as an urban forestry professional, so you may use all resources available to you, including class notes, lectures, and the Internet. Neither exam requires a proctor.
COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

Additionally, Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a vendor statement certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)
Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:

Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
Policy On Disruptive Behavior

PLAGIARISM
You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”

Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

Turnitin Plagiarism Prevention
Your instructor may ask you to submit one or more of your writings to Turnitin, a plagiarism prevention service. Your assignment content will be checked for potential plagiarism against Internet sources, academic journal articles, and the papers of other OSU students, for common or borrowed content. Turnitin generates a report that highlights any potentially unoriginal text in your paper. The report may be submitted directly to your instructor or your instructor may elect to have you submit initial drafts through Turnitin and you will receive the report allowing you the opportunity to make adjustments and ensure that all source material has been properly cited.

Papers you submit through Turnitin for this or any class will be added to the OSU Turnitin database and may be checked against other OSU paper submissions. You will retain all rights to your written work. For further information on Turnitin please click HERE.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

COURSE DEMO
GETTING STARTED

TUTORING
For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:

Writing Center
Online Writing Lab

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING
The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available in week 9 and close at the end of finals week. Students will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. Students will log in to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION

Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.