

FORESTRY 4213—FOREST POLICY & LEGISLATION SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

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Teaching Assistant:

Course materials will be posted on WebCT.

INTRODUCTION

This course will consider relationships between forest resource policy and legislation in order to develop an understanding of forest policy analysis and development. Analysis, development and implementation of policy and legislation for forests and other natural resources are examined. A range of current issues in forest policy, and the institutions and stakeholders involved, will be examined.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

Objectives	Outcomes—You should be able to:
To gain a working knowledge of forestry legislation in the Province of Ontario	Describe & analyze the key elements of Ontario forestry legislation, in particular the Crown Forest Sustainability Act & regulations, the Environmental Assessment Act, the Environmental Bill of Rights & The Professional Foresters Act
To gain an understanding of different approaches to policy analysis in Canada	Use policy theory to explain current forest policy.
To understand the constitutional framework for natural resource management & related issues in Canada	Identify the jurisdictional responsibilities of various levels of government
To develop an awareness of policy initiatives at local, regional, national and international levels, with a specific focus on Ontario	Demonstrate a general knowledge of various forest policy initiatives at different scales with a more thorough knowledge of Ontario policy
To gain an appreciation of the importance of policy & how it influences changing forest management practices	Make the link between current forest management practices & their policy drivers
To understand the policy & legislative requirements to become a Registered Professional Forester in Ontario	Demonstrate a knowledge of how professional ethics & practice are determined through the Professional Foresters Act. Demonstrate professional behaviour in the classroom.
To understand the role of actors—Aboriginal Peoples, stakeholders, the media & the general public—in the formulation & changing of policy & legislation	Critically access the challenges that are transforming the public & corporate sectors. Demonstrate awareness of a range of current forest policy-related issues.
To become familiar with research tools available to track and analyse forest policy developments (newspapers, journals, the internet, organisations)	Demonstrate research skills in assignments.
To polish writing and speaking skills to contribute to better professional practice	Communicate effectively in class discussions, seminar presentations & in writing assignments.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS		DEADLINE*	MARK
Seminar group presentation	Oral component	During labs	10%
	Written component	Day of present'n	15%
Term paper (max 2,500 words or 10 pages, double-spaced, Literature Cited additional)	Brief description of topic (title + 1-2 paragraph description)	In lab Mon Sep 28	No mark
	Annotated bibliography	In class Fri Oct 9	10%
	Submission of first draft, to be handed to another student for peer review	In lab Mon Oct 26	No mark
	Peer reviews returned to instructor for marking (hand in paper + 2 copies of peer review) and return to original author for revisions	In lab Mon Nov. 2	5% (peer review)
	Submission of final revised paper to instructor	In lab Mon Nov 9	35%
Group Project	Individual written report on hearings	In class Oct16	15%
	Group work & final lab	Lab Mon Nov 30	10%
TOTAL MARKS			100%

* Penalty for late submission of assignments: 1% loss per day late.

WRITING AND SPEAKING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Forestry 4213 is also the WAC Forestry 0390 course for HBES students. Please check to make sure you are registered in F0390. All written and presented material must conform to the Faculty of Forestry and the Forest Environment Writing Manual. The 9th Edition of the Manual (2007) is available on line on the Faculty website at <http://www.lakeheadforestry.ca/pdfs/wm.pdf> under Student Life or in hard copy at the Bookstore. If you are having difficulty in writing, Jane Parker, the WAC Consultant is available to help. In addition to the Forestry Writing Manual, a supplementary writing manual for further guidance on writing and editing is helpful. I recommend *The Canadian Style: A Guide to Writing and Editing* (Dundurn Press, 1997).

The course will also focus on speaking skills, developed through oral presentations that will be marked by both instructors and students, with a focus on constructive criticism.

ASSIGNMENTS

- 1. SEMINAR GROUP PRESENTATIONS (25%):** You will present a group seminar (30 minutes maximum), including a discussion period. Seminar topics and groups will be chosen in lab. Marks for the oral component (10%) will be based on both peer and instructor review. Each individual in the group will also provide a written critique (15%) of a peer-reviewed article (can be a chapter from the course text) related to your topic. See handout and mark template on Written Critical Review.
- 2. TERM PAPER:** You will write a term paper (maximum 10 pages or 2,500 words, double-spaced in length, not including title page, table of contents, abstract and literature cited sections). The paper will address some aspect of forest policy or legislation currently influencing forest practices at any one or at a number of levels—local, provincial, national or international. You may choose the same topic as your seminar presentation. The paper should include the following considerations, although you are free to explore other elements:
 - What are the objectives of the policy or legislation?
 - What laws or policy documents state the policy?
 - How is the policy or legislation implemented?
 - What were the historical factors that led to the policy or legislation, including social, economic and

political factors?

- How did different stakeholders, interest groups or “actors” influence the development of the policy or legislation and how do they currently view it?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the policy or legislation and how would you suggest it might be improved?

You will develop the term paper through the following steps. In total, the work that goes into your term paper is worth 50%.

- ⇒ You will hand in a topic in lab with a title and brief (1-2 paragraph) description of how you intend to analyze the topic.
- ⇒ You will prepare an annotated bibliography (see separate handout) with at least 10 references, five of them from academic, peer-reviewed sources. The annotated bibliography is worth 10%.
- ⇒ You will submit a first draft of the paper. This draft will be distributed to another student for peer review. There is no mark assigned for this first draft.
- ⇒ You will review another student’s paper (see separate handout on peer review), giving constructive feedback without assigning a mark. Peer reviews will be handed in during lab and returned to the author. In addition to including comments on the paper itself, your peer reviewer will provide a typed summary of comments for the author and course instructor. This summary of the peer review will receive a grade worth 5%. The mark will be based on the quality of the peer review (editing for grammar, suggestions for improvement in content and analysis). Please hand in two copies of the peer review summary with the reviewed paper, one for marking by the instructor, the other for the author.
- ⇒ The original author will then revise the paper based on the peer review and submit the final version to the instructor in lab. For HBES students, your term paper will be used to assess your WAC III standing of pass or fail. The final paper is worth 35%.

3. **GROUP PROJECT—TENURE & PRICING REVIEW (25%):** In August 2009, the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines & Forestry announced that it would be redesigning Ontario’s tenure and pricing system. Public input is being sought, with hearings scheduled across Northern Ontario between Sep 17-Oct 14. The Thunder Bay hearing will be on Thursday, Oct 1. Your group project will be to follow this policy process, analyze it and come up with your own proposals on tenure and pricing reform. You will be divided into groups of “actors” in lab on Mon, Sep 21 and will work together until the last lab. At the last lab, we will have a policy round table where you will come up with your recommendations (worth 10%). In addition, you will attend the Thunder Bay hearing on Oct 1 and prepare a written report on your observations (worth 15%). If you are unable to attend the hearing, you will submit a report based on media coverage and a survey of relevant actor websites, including the MNDMF website <http://www.ontarioforestenure.ca>.

LECTURE/LAB SCHEDULE: See separate handout.

COURSE READINGS

REQUIRED:

Howlett, Michael (ed.). 2001. Canadian Forest Policy: Adapting to Change. University of Toronto Press, Toronto, ON. 446 pp.

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES:

Forest policy is rapidly evolving and becoming more complex with increasing interactions among different scales of government from local to provincial, national and international, as well as increasing public participation. The internet is a useful source for following recent developments from the perspective of the actors/groups involved in influencing policy; however, be careful about internet sources and recognize that sites hosted by agencies—whether environmental groups, the provincial forest ministries, forest industry associations, the federal Canadian Forest Service and others—all have their own biases and should be

viewed critically.

National:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca> Government of Canada Parliament
<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/> Federal legislation
<http://cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/> Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources
<http://www.ccfm.org/> Canadian Council of Forest Ministers
<http://cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/subsite/fnfp> First Nations Forestry Program

Provincial (Ontario):

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Forests site at <http://ontariosforests.mnr.gov.on.ca/> has a section on Forest Legislation and other relevant publications. The site also has a section on the Forest Class Environmental Assessment. On June 24, 2009, Ontario announced it was moving some forestry responsibilities from OMNR to the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines & Forestry. It is not clear yet who will be responsible for what, so also check the MNDMF website at http://www.mndm.gov.on.ca/default_e.asp.

International:

<http://www.iisd.ca/> International Institute for Sustainable Development
<http://www.iied.org/> International Institute for Environment and Development
<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/> The United Nations Forum on Forests which continues an international dialogue on the Statement of Forest Principles made at the 1992 United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio.
<http://www.tebtebba.org/> Tebtebba Foundation covers international Indigenous Peoples' issues.
<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/> Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
<http://www.fao.org/forestry/home/en/> Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Miscellaneous:

<http://www.opfa.ca/> Ontario Professional Foresters Association
<http://www.abcfp.ca/> Association of British Columbia Professional Foresters
<http://www.cif-ifc.org/> Canadian Institute of Forestry. The Forestry Chronicle is now fully digitized back to its first issue in 1925. Student memberships are \$25.00.
<http://www.fsccanada.org/> Forest Stewardship Council Canada. FSC International's website is <http://www.fsc.org>
<http://www.certificationcanada.org/> Canadian Sustainable Forestry Certification Coalition keeps tabs on different certification systems, including which companies have achieved certification under which systems
<http://www.nafaforestry.org/> The National Aboriginal Forestry Association's goal is to increase Aboriginal participation in forest management in Canada. NAFA has a Resource Centre on Aboriginal Issues in Canada at http://nafaforestry.org/forest_home/
<http://www.ofia.com/> Ontario Forest Industries Association.
<http://www.fpac.ca/> Forest Products Association of Canada (formerly Canadian Pulp and Paper Assoc.)
Three environmental non-governmental organizations have been instrumental in forest policy formulation in Ontario. The Partnership for Public Lands includes the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society-Wildlands League <http://www.wildlandsleague.org/>, Ontario Nature <http://www.ontarionature.org/> and the World Wildlife Fund <http://www.wwf.ca/>