



FOR 3855
AGROFORESTRY IN THE SOUTHEASTERN U.S.
3 credits

Spring, 2012
An online course delivered via Sakai

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Office Hours: Email or call me anytime. The preferred email method is by using the Sakai mail tool on the course web site because this allows all course emails to be kept together as a record.

Course Description: This is an undergraduate, web-based, three-credit, distance education course **with a field exercise**. The target audience for the course is second-year students at community colleges having specialization in natural resources, junior and senior students in natural resource majors at UF and other universities, and non-traditional students interested in agroforestry throughout the Southeastern US.

Student learning outcomes: The overall course objective is to enable Bachelor-level natural resources and environmental graduates and professionals in the Southeast to offer appropriate agroforestry solutions to their future clients. In particular, the course will assist students to:

- Understand agroforestry history and practices, including region-specific agroforestry practices and agroforestry research
- Understand the basic biological and socioeconomic hypotheses underlying agroforestry
- Appreciate the characteristics of the Southeast that present opportunities for agroforestry
- Understand landowner decision-making procedures relevant to agroforestry practices
- Become familiar with resources available to support landowners desiring to implement agroforestry practices
- Be able to analyze a landowners goals and resources, and describe potential agroforestry solutions
- Be able to effectively communicate these situations and potential solutions to others

Format: All course communications, readings, exercises, and examinations will be accessed through the course Web page. Course material will be delivered as narrated PowerPoint presentations, supplemented with a series of video interviews with landowners who practice agroforestry and with researchers studying agroforestry. Email interactions and regular discussion sessions will be done through the course web site. Quizzes and examinations will be given through the web site.

Course Materials: No course text is required. Optional reference: Garrett HE (ed.). 2009. North American Agroforestry: An Integrated Science and Practice, 2nd edition, American Society of Agronomy, Inc., Madison WI. Selected readings will be made available on line.

Grading:

<u>Exercise</u>	<u>Percent of Class Grade</u>
Class Participation	15
Quizzes	20
Midterm	20
Term project	25
Final	20

Class Participation:

Students will be expected to take part in on-line discussions and to make their postings during the week in which they are assigned. Ten of the possible 15 participation points will be earned by participating in the weekly discussion sessions. Regular email contact with the instructor is recommended. Students are encouraged to interact with each other and the instructor so as to build a sense of community during the course.

Term Project:

To give students an opportunity to consolidate the information they have learned through the web site, they will be required to complete a field exercise on a farm or research station that practices or studies agroforestry. The field sites will be located according to the geographic distribution of the enrolled students to minimize transport time. The instructor will assist students in locating candidate farmers and researchers. A two-week period will be allotted for the project immediately after the course modules covering agroforestry case studies. These exercises require that each student visit and interview a farmer/researcher on site, then write a paper that describes the agroforestry practice or study. If a landowner is visited, the student will describe the system, how it is managed, the ecological and socioeconomic interactions taking place, and the reasons why the landowner has selected the practice. If a researcher is visited, the student will describe the study, the biophysical or socioeconomic variables being examined, and the potential importance and application of the study and the agroforestry practice to the Southeast. The students will be required to justify their observations based on the course text and related literature. In addition, each student will be asked to contact the appropriate county extension agent and solicit his/her opinion of the student's observations and conclusions.

Quizzes:

Four quizzes will be given during the course, each worth 5 points. Quiz 1 will cover the overview of agroforestry hypotheses and characteristics of the Southeast presented in weeks 2 and 3. Quiz 2 will cover biophysical interactions of agroforestry. Quiz 3 will cover economics, marketing, and policy. Quiz 4 will cover agroforestry practices and video case studies.

Exams:

Two exams will be given throughout the course: midterm and final. The exams will be multiple choice and short answer, and will test students' knowledge of the overall themes and information presented. The final will be cumulative.

Grading Scale

Final Percent	Grade
93.4-100	A
90- 93.3	A-
86.7-89.9	B+
83.4-86.6	B
80-83.3	B-
76.7-79.9	C+
73.4-76.6	C
70-73.3	C-
66.7-69.9	D+
63.4-66.6	D
60-63.3	D-
Below 60	E

Special Notes

1. Individuals should respect the deadlines for assignments and quizzes listed on the course site.
2. Students should complete on-line exams within the allotted time limit. If students need to miss a deadline due to special circumstances, then he/she should work with the instructor to identify a way to make it up.
3. Class participation is essential, and will be monitored by following students' interactions in discussion sessions and emails.

Other Information

Academic Honesty

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement: "I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University."

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

UF Counseling Services

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include

1. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, personal and career counseling;
2. Student Mental Health, Student Health Career Center, 392-1171, personal counseling;
3. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual assault counseling; and
4. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.

Software Use

1. All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161, sexual counseling;
2. Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career development assistance and counseling.

UF Computer Software Usage

All faculty, staff and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.



Class Schedule
AGROFORESTRY IN THE SOUTHEASTERN U.S.
FOR 3855 Spring 2007

Week	Topic
Week 1	Who are we and how does this course site work? What is agroforestry?
Jan 8-12	Introduction to the instructor and to the course web site, course administration, WebCT software, where to go to solve registration and technical problems, course overview, definition of agroforestry, practice email, discussion
Week 2	Concepts and Principles of Agroforestry
Jan 16-19	Origin of agroforestry in tropical and temperate regions
	Concepts and principles of agroforestry, agroforestry working hypotheses
Week 3	Characteristics of the Southeast that present opportunities for agroforestry
Jan 22-26	Landholding fragmentation, the wildland-urban interface, forests and tree plantations
	Water quality, other environmental issues, agriculture and forestry
	Quiz 1 released 26 January, covers Weeks 1 through 3
Week 4	Biophysical interactions of agroforestry
Jan 29- Feb 2	This is a more in-depth look at the biophysical hypotheses introduced in Week 2
	Agroforestry safety net hypotheses, competition, over-production
	Quiz 2 released 2 February, covers Week 4
Week 5	Economics, marketing, and policy dimensions of agroforestry
Feb 5-9	This is a more in-depth look at the socioeconomic ideas introduced in Week 2
	Economics, marketing, and policy in North American agroforestry.
	Quiz 3 released 9 February, covers Week 5
Week 6	Agroforestry trees for the southeast
Feb 12-16	We will take a look at several trees that are being used, or have the potential to be used, in southeastern agroforestry systems
	Review for mid-term
	Midterm exam released 16 February, covers Weeks 1 through 5
Week 7	North American agroforestry practices, case studies from the Southeast
Feb 19-23	Silvopasture module and text chapter
Week 8	North American agroforestry practices, case studies from the Southeast
Feb 26- Mar 2	Windbreak module and text chapter
Week 9	North American agroforestry practices, case studies from the Southeast

Mar 5-9	Alley cropping, module and text chapter
Mar 10-17	Spring Break, no new material covered this week
Week 10	North American agroforestry practices, case studies from the Southeast
Mar 19-23	Riparian buffer module and text chapter
Week 11	North American agroforestry practices, case studies from the Southeast
Mar 26-30	Forest farming, special applications modules and text chapters
	Quiz 4 , released 30 March, covers Weeks 6 through 11
Week 12	On-line resources for agroforestry
Apr 2-6	International, national, and local web sites of interest to agroforesters The SEADSS agroforestry decision support system
Week 13	Field exercise
Apr 9-13	Student interviews with agroforestry practitioners or researchers Students contact County extension staff and arrange appointments with the nearest farmer or researcher, visit them on site, and conduct the interview
Week 14	Field exercise
Apr 16-20	Continue field exercise interviews and write up Visit County extension agent to discuss field exercise Exercise: submit field exercise report to instructor via email, due 27 April
Week 15	Wrap up and course evaluation
Apr 23-25	Review for the final exam, field exercise report due, course evaluation Communication regarding important points and final exam preparation
Apr 30	Final exam