

# RGSC/HORT 302V Online

## Instructor Information

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Phone: 575-646-3638

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Office Hours: M & W 10:30-noon (MT) or by appointment. You may either come to my physical office or contact me through Skype (Skype ID is “

## Course Information

Forestry and Society

Spring 2020

Log into [Canvas](#) at using your NMSU username and password

## Course Description

This course allows students to become familiar with important issues concerning the interaction between forests and society. The course also explores forest types around the world, forest management, the lumber industry and how forests affect human beings.

## Course Delivery Method

The course modules will be presented in a synchronous method, but not self-paced. Students will complete all assignments online, including learning modules, online quizzes, participate in discussions and submit assignments. All assignments need to be turned in on or before the due date. Late assignments will be accepted only in case of emergency (with a doctor's note or other proof). When possible, please contact me IN ADVANCE so that alternatives can be arranged. Work, other class loads, and travel are not considered emergencies. There are opportunities through the semester to earn extra credit.

## Course Goals

Upon completing the course, students will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate basic plant physiology, such as explaining photosynthesis and identifying parts of trees.
- 2) Evaluate and explain why and where trees grow around the world
- 3) Identify common trees on various morphological characteristics.
- 4) Compare and contrast various forest management practices in the US and worldwide.
- 5) Evaluate climate and ecological issues as they relate to society.
- 6) Develop an increased knowledge of the interconnection of nature and society.

## Textbooks and other required Materials

Required texts: *Introduction to Forest Ecosystem Science and Management*, Third Edition, R.A. Young and R. L. Giese, Eds. Wiley and Sons ISBN: 978-0-471-33145-2

Youtube videos:

*The Greatest Good Film, Parts1-4*

- Pt. 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RpeDd14oaYg&t=94s>
- Pt. 2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jLaYBi1m58I>
- Pt. 3 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSoTPTAncyw>
- Pt. 4 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UyiY1pny5FY>

*Florence Williams—The Nature Fix: Why Nature Makes Us Happier, Healthier and More Creative*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFi9K8WRs8w&t=9s>

## Course Organization

This course will be organized into different modules, according to a course map. The course map will show the overall plan for the course and the modules will spell out the various assignments, readings and assessments for each section.

## Communication

The majority of our communication will take place through Canvas email and announcements. Please set your Canvas account profile *New Announcements* in Notifications to *Right Away* (Go to Profile>Notifications, find *Announcements* and set to “ *Notify me right away*”. You may also wish to change the setting on other notifications and can get a daily summary of course interactions.)

I will send announcements to communicate with the class as a whole. Email and Skype will be used for one-on-one communication. I will respond to Canvas Inbox correspondence within 24 hours in general, usually less. It may take up to 48 hours on weekends and holidays.

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Online Preparation

I would expect you will spend 2 to 4 hours per week on this course. This is somewhat dependent upon your reading speed. Think of your time investment this way: this course in a face-to-face format would meet for 2.5 hours a week, plus time for homework and reading. Think of your time responding to discussion boards as taking the place of face-to-face class time. Your participation and thoroughness is linked to how much time you are willing to devote. You may wish to use this set of questions to help you determine if you're ready to begin in an online learning format. <https://online.nmsu.edu/online-readiness/>

## Required Technical Skills

Taking an online course requires technical skills as well as other soft skills. However, at a minimum you will need to meet certain technology abilities to complete work for this course. To begin in this course, you must:

- Be able to obtain access to an internet connection, preferably broadband, and a working computer for the duration of this course. Please use Google Chrome or Firefox for your internet browser as these work best with Canvas.
- Be proficient with Microsoft® Office applications.
- Be able to send and receive emails and email attachments in and out of class.
- Be able to navigate Canvas and change your Notification settings.
- Be able to maintain backups of all work you create for this course.

## Technology Requirements

### Computer Hardware & Software

- Access to a Windows or Macintosh desktop computer or laptop with internet access, sound, and speakers. A camera for Skyping is helpful.
- Canvas Learning Management System
  - [NMSU Canvas login](#)
  - [Canvas student FAQ](#)
- [Microsoft Office 2007 or higher](#)
- [Adobe Reader](#) (for reading PDF files)
- Adobe Connect – built into Canvas. No download needed.
- Option, depending on where you'll be working--headset with microphone.

### Web Browsers

Use only the latest version of Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox for Canvas. Safari, Internet Explorer, and Microsoft Edge have known issues that can interfere with performing basic tasks within Canvas. The links to download the recommended browsers as well as instructions on how to ensure you have the latest version are listed below:

- [Download Google Chrome](#)
- [How to update Google Chrome](#)
- [Download Mozilla Firefox](#)
- [How to update Mozilla Firefox](#)

Canvas does not fully support mobile devices; while there is a free Canvas mobile app available through iTunes store, a lot of functionality is unavailable when using a mobile phone. When you take this course, it is assumed you have access to a computer or laptop for full access to functionality in this course.

## Netiquette

Online discussions are an integral part of this course. The expectation is that you will conduct yourself in a professional and courteous manner and treat others with respect. Discussions may lead to disagreement and if they do, you are still expected to remain courteous and respectful. You will be required to sign a netiquette pledge that states you will adhere to these rules stated below.

- Don't flame (personally attack) someone. It is possible to disagree with an idea without flaming the person espousing the idea.
- Use emoticons and acronyms (such as smiley 😊 or winky 😜 faces or LOL) to convey your emotional intent in order to avoid misunderstandings.
- Remember that the concept of "politeness" is defined for us by the families and cultures of which we are a part. What is considered polite communication in one family or culture may be impolite in another. Sometimes you may inadvertently seem impolite or feel that someone else was being impolite. Talk it out instead of assuming the person meant to be rude.
- Think critically, seek clarity of meaning and understanding. If you're presenting a different viewpoint on a scientific topic, use scientific research and reputable websites to support your statements.
- Question ideas, not people.
- Attempt to see things from other perspectives.
- If you're uncertain about how to respond to a post, please wait a few minutes before posting a reply; allow yourself time to think about what has been said.
- If you feel you're being attacked, report it immediately to me. I will be monitoring discussions but not 24/7, so I may not be seeing things "live".

## Grading and Feedback

Online quizzes and exams (Multiple choice and T/F) will be graded immediately. If there are short answer questions, I post grades within one week of the due date.

Discussions will be graded within one week of the due date. Specific criterion for earning discussion points will be explained with each discussion posted.

Writing assignments will be graded within 10 days of the due date. I will post grading rubrics for each writing assignment and you will be required to evaluate your writing based on the grading criteria. If you believe your work deserves a B, for instance, you must explain how you satisfied EACH of the criterion. I will not grade your writing unless you have attached your own self-grading rubric.

For discussions and writing assignments, individual feedback will be provided using the Canvas Document Annotation tool and Assignments Comments. Here is information on how to access this feedback:

- [View Rubric results](#)
- [Access Document Annotation](#)
- [See Assignments Comments](#)

## Grading Policy

<Identify all major assignments required in this course. Include number of the assignments within an assignment type, points assigned per assignment, and overall weight for each assignment type. This information can be listed or placed within a table. >

### Assignments in this course:

Assignments	How many	Points each/total	Weight
Discussions	5	50/250	20%
Current events papers	3	100/300	15%
<i>The Greatest Good</i> paper	1	100	15%
Homework assignments	6	50/300	15%
Weekly online quizzes	5	50/250	15%
Exams	2	100/200	20%
Total	17	1,250	100%

## Grading Criteria

<Provide the grading scale that will be used to determine your final grade and indicate where students will be able to see their grades. This information can in the form of a list or a chart.>

### Grading Scale:

Percentage	Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59% and Below	F

## Late Work

As a general rule, late work is not accepted without a valid excuse. This can be in the form of a signed "note" or other unavoidable and unexpected circumstances.

## Incomplete Grades

The grade of "I" may only be assigned if the student is unable to complete the course due to circumstances beyond the student's control that develop after the last day to withdraw from the course.

## Class Withdrawals

Withdrawing from the course with a "W" is the responsibility of the student. The instructor will not initiate withdrawal. The last day to withdraw with a W in Spring, 2020 is **Thursday, March 19.**

## Academic Misconduct

**Academic and non-academic misconduct:** The Student Code of Conduct defines academic misconduct, non-academic misconduct and the consequences or penalties for each. The [Student Code of Conduct](#) is available in the [NMSU Student Handbook](#).

## Student Support

### Discrimination and Disability Accommodation

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) covers issues relating to disability and accommodations. If a student has questions or needs an accommodation in the classroom (all medical information is treated confidentially), contact:

Trudy Luken, Director  
Student Accessibility Services (SAS)  
Corbett Center Student Union, Rm. 208  
Phone: (575) 646-6840  
E-mail: [sas@nmsu.edu](mailto:sas@nmsu.edu)  
Website: <http://sas.nmsu.edu/>

New Mexico State University, in compliance with applicable laws and in furtherance of its commitment to fostering an environment that welcomes and embraces diversity, does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, spousal affiliation, or protected veteran status in its programs and activities, including employment, admissions, and educational programs and activities. Inquiries may be directed to:

Laura Castille, Executive Director  
Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator  
Office of Institutional Equity  
P.O. Box 30001, E. 1130 University Avenue  
Las Cruces, NM 88003  
575.646.3635; 575-646-7802 (TTY)

[equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu).

Title IX prohibits sex harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking and retaliation. For more information on discrimination or Title IX, or to file a complaint contact:

Laura Castille, Executive Director and Title IX Coordinator  
Office of Institutional Equity (OIE)  
O'Loughlin House, 1130 University Avenue  
Phone: (575) 646-3635 E-mail: [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu)  
Website: <http://equity.nmsu.edu/>

### Other NMSU Resources:

NMSU Police Department:	(575) 646-3311	<a href="http://www.nmsupolice.com">www.nmsupolice.com</a>
NMSU Police Victim Services:	(575) 646-3424	
NMSU Counseling Center:	(575) 646-2731	
NMSU Dean of Students:	(575) 646-1722	
For Any On-campus Emergencies:	911	

### Academic Resources

NMSU provides students with academic resources such as tutoring, final exam schedules, library and research, and transcript information on the [NMSU Current Student](#) webpage.

### Student Support Services

Find information and support on advising, registration, and financial aid on [NMSU Current Student](#) webpage. You will also find links to the academic calendar, Student Affairs, the student handbook, and Student technologies on this page.

### Technical Support

The ICT Customer Service Center is equipped to deal with all of your information technology (IT) and telecommunications needs at NMSU. Please feel free to contact them at (575) 646-1840 or via email at [helpdesk@nmsu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@nmsu.edu). You can also go to the Student Technology Help [Student Technology Help](#) web page and [Student Resources](#) located at the Canvas web page for additional

### Accessibility of eLearning Tools

This course uses several software programs and technologies. Please read the following for more information about their accessibility.

**Note:** A Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) is a standardized form developed by the Information Technology Industry Council to show how a software product meets key regulations of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.

- [Canvas Accessibility](#) Standards and help.
  - Canvas-compatible Screen Readers: [VoiceOver](#) (Mac), [JAWS](#) (PC)
- [Adobe Products Accessibility](#) for Adobe Connect 9, Adobe Acrobat, and more.
- [Apple Products VPATs](#) and [Accessibility features](#) for Safari Web Browser, Mac OS X, and more.
- [Microsoft Products: Section 508](#) and [Microsoft Accessibility](#) for Office, Skype, and more.
- [Google VPATs](#) and [Accessibility Products and Features](#) for Google Earth, Chrome Web Browser, Google Docs, and more.
- [Firefox Web Browser: Section 508](#) (version 3.5 and up)

## Privacy Policies

We take protecting and honoring your privacy very seriously at NMSU. Please note that several software and technology materials are used in the course. Their privacy policies are noted below.

- [Canvas Privacy Policy](#)
- [Adobe Privacy Policy](#)
- [FireFox Privacy Policy](#)
- [Google Product Privacy Guide](#) (e.g., Chrome, Google Drive, YouTube)
- [Microsoft Privacy Policy](#)
- [Apple Privacy Policy for software and devices](#)

## Course Schedule

Please note the schedule is subject to change. Should changes be required, you will be notified via Canvas announcements one week in advance.

More information about specific course activities, assignments and deadlines can be found in the Course Map (include link to course map).

Dates	Module Title	Module Objectives
Jan. 22-26	Module 0 –Getting started	1. Explain course objectives 2. Present course materials 3. Introductions
Jan. 27-Feb. 9	Module 1—All About Trees	1. Explain the parts, processes and functions of trees 2. Identify forest biomes of the world.
Feb. 10-Mar. 1	Module 2— Forest Ecology	1. Explain forest ecology and forest biomes 2. Identify forest pests 3. Describe the role of fire in forest health



Mar. 2-15	Module 3—Forest Products	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize different forest harvest methods</li> <li>2. Describe different forest products</li> <li>3. Explain economics of the forest</li> </ol>
Mar. 16-April 5	Module 4—Forest Stewardship	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain forest stewardship</li> <li>2. Describe silviculture</li> </ol>
April 6-26	Module 5—Forest Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. History of the US Forest Service</li> <li>2. Demonstrate multiple use management issues</li> <li>3. Non Industrial Private Forests (NIPF's)</li> </ol>
April 27-May 10	Module 6—Forests and Society	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Examine social and cultural impacts of forests on humans</li> <li>2. Summarize how climate change is impacting forests worldwide.</li> </ol>