



	Instructor	Teaching Assistant
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Term:	Spring 2019
Class Meeting Days:	TR
Class Meeting Hours:	11-12:15
Class Location:	Forestry 127
Course Credits:	3

Course Overview

Fire is an important component of ecosystems worldwide. In this course, we will explore the concept of the fire regime, plant and animal adaptations to fire regimes, fire history methods, community and ecosystem responses to fire, and current issues in fire management.

Course Goals and Objectives

Upon completing this course, you should be able to:

Understand and predict qualitatively the interactions among topography, weather, fuels, and fire behavior.

1. Recognize in plants and animals morphological, behavioral, and life history adaptations to fire, and predict qualitatively the tolerance of any given species to fire.
2. Understand the basic approaches for determining fire histories and fire regimes-their methodologies, appropriate applications, and limitations
3. Describe the characteristic fire regimes, past, present, and future, of several major types of ecosystems in North America and the world
4. Understand the basic science, philosophical context, and historical origins of current issues and controversies in fire management policy from an ecological perspective

Course Prerequisites

One course in Ecology (eg LIFE320 or LAND220/LIFE220) Have a basic understanding of ecology, ecological concepts and terminology.

Required Texts and Materials

There are no required texts. All assigned readings will be available on canvas

Library & Research Help

The CSU Libraries Help Desk provides basic research and technical assistance either in person at Morgan Library or by phone at 970-491-1841. Virtual assistance is also available via the Libraries' Ask Us chat and email services (<http://lib.colostate.edu/help/ask-us>). Jocelyn Boice is the librarian supporting the Forest and Rangeland Stewardship Department and this course. Contact her for in-depth assistance at: jocelyn.boice@colostate.edu / 970-491-3882.

Important Dates to Remember

University Wide

Classes Begin: Jan 16, 2018
End Restricted Drop Classes: Jan 19, 2018
Spring Break: March 12th - 16, 2018
Withdrawal Deadline: March 19, 2018

Course Specific:

Abstract of proposed research paper due February 8
Brief bibliography for research paper due February 22
Midterm Exam March 7
Annotated biblio/outline for research paper due March 29
Written research paper due April 19
Research paper presentations May 2, 7, and 9
Final Exam Thursday May 16th, 9:40-11:40

Course Schedule and/or Schedule of Assignments

Week Topic

Week 1 Introduction: Combustion
Week 2 Influence of weather, fuels, and topography on heat release
Week 3 Fire regimes and Quantifying Fire History
Week 4 Fire History: methods and pitfalls
Week 5 Fire effects on plants and vegetation low severity regimes versus high severity
Week 6 Fire effects on plants and vegetation low severity regimes versus high severity
Week 7 Evolution of fire adaptations and flammability in fire loving ecosystems
Week 8 Vegetation communities and landscape dynamics
Spring Break
Week 9 Fire effects on hydrology and erosion
Week 10 Fire effects on animals
Week 11 Fire in ecosystems across the globe
Week 12 Managing Fire Regimes
Week 13 Future Fire Regimes
Week 14 Research presentations
Week 15 Research presentations
Final Exam

In class and take home assignments

There will be several in-class and take-home exercises assigned during the semester. These are designed to help reinforce concepts from class and readings.

Research paper

You will choose between two possible topics either (1) choose a noteworthy historical fire that interests you and write a research paper on the circumstances of the fire and its ecological impact, or (2) choose two ecosystems to compare fire regimes and fire histories.

Class Participation

Your participation grade will be based on attendance and active participation. Attendance will be taken at a random 10-12 times during the semester. Each absence results in a deduction of your participation grade. Frequent and thoughtful active participation can boost your grade.

Exams

Exams will be an essay and short answered based on all subjects previously discussed. Complete and coherent sentences are expected and points will be deducted for answers written in poor English.

Basis for Final Grade

Assessment	Points	Percent of Final Grade
Midterm	200	20%
Final	250	25%
In class and take home exercises	150	15%
Participation	100	10%
Research Paper and Presentation	300	30%
	1000	100%

Grading Scale (%)
94-100% = A
90-94%=A-
87-89.9%=B+
84-86.9% = B
80-83.9% = B-
77-79.9%=C+
74-76.9%=C
70-73.9%=C-
67-69.9%=D+
64-66.9% = D
60-63.9%=D-
0-59% = F

Course Policies

Late Work Policy

Late work will be marked off 10% for everyday it is late. Only medical emergencies accompanied with a doctor's note on letterhead or a work emergency will not be penalized

Extra Credit Policy

Some extra credit opportunities may exist like attending relevant graduate student defenses or seminar series.

Grades of "Incomplete"

Per university policy, an instructor may assign temporary grade of Incomplete to a student who demonstrates that he or she could not complete the requirements of the course due to circumstances beyond the student's control and not reasonably foreseeable. A student must be passing a course at the time that an Incomplete is requested unless the instructor determines that there are extenuating circumstances to assign an Incomplete to a student who is not passing the course. When an instructor assigns an Incomplete, he or she shall specify in writing using the Department Incomplete Grade Form the requirements the student shall fulfill to complete the course as well as the reasons for granting an Incomplete when the student is not passing the course. The instructor shall retain a copy of this statement in his or her grade records and provide copies to the student and the department head or his or her designee. (Section I.6 of the *Academic Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual*)

Disability Access

Colorado State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need accommodations must first contact Resources for Disabled Students before requesting accommodations from the professor. Resources for Disabled Students (RDS; <http://rds.colostate.edu/home>) is located in room 100 of the General Services Building. Their phone is (970) 491-6385 (V/TDD). Students who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. Attendance will be taken at a random 10-12 times during the semester. Each absence results in a deduction of your participation grade. You will be allowed to make up these for the below approved absences.

Students must inform their instructors prior to the anticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established University procedures. For the purposes of this regulation, University-sanctioned activities include competitions, events and professional meetings in which students are officially representing the institution. Appropriate sanctioned activities include:

- a. Intercollegiate athletics;*
- b. Collegiate club sports and competitions;*
- c. Conferences and workshops recognized by the University not related to academics;*

- d. Commitments on behalf of the University (ASCSU, band, etc.); and
- e. Professional activities recognized by the University related to academics.

Department heads or their designated representatives must approve sanctioned professional and departmental activities. Other sanctioned activities must be approved by the appropriate program director on record with the Division of Student Affairs offices or the Department of Athletics.

Religious Accommodation

Participation in official University activities, e.g., an out-of-town athletic event, or special religious observances may provide a legitimate reason for an excused absence. The student is responsible for discussing this with the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Final Exam Policy

Final examination week is part of the regular semester. Student attendance shall be consistent with University policy.

If a student has three or more final examinations (not classes) scheduled for the same day or if conflicts of examination times occur, the student may negotiate a time change with the instructors involved. If the parties involved cannot find a mutually agreeable time, the Registrar's Office indicates which courses must be changed. **Note:** The Registrar's Office must be notified at least one week prior to Final Examination Week to allow instructors time to make appropriate accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to initiate negotiations.

Any student who has a conflict with the examination schedule must inform the instructor as soon as possible before the examination. If an agreement cannot be reached between the instructor and student as to the appropriateness of a make-up examination the student should appeal to the department head.

<http://www.registrar.colostate.edu/final-exams>

Professionalism Policy

Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, etc. **must be silenced** during all classroom and lab lectures. If a text or phone call is answered you owe the class treats of some kind otherwise your attendance points will be penalized. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, etc., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.

When emailing the instructor or TA, please include your full name, CSU ID, and the course number in your email.

Academic Integrity

The Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship takes academic integrity seriously. At minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way:

Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating.

Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding "credit be given where credit is due."

Source: (Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism.

<http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/guide.cfm?guideid=17>)

If you plagiarize in your work you could lose credit for the plagiarized work, fail the assignment, or fail the course. Each instance of plagiarism, classroom cheating, and other types of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to the principles published in the CSU General Catalog (under "Academic Integrity/Misconduct: <http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/policies/students-responsibilities/> .)

Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes regular class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students. Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars, and citizens, we will ask to you sign the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing all of our major assignments. While you will not be required to sign the honor pledge, we will ask each of you to write and sign the following statement on your papers and exams:

"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."

Title IX Information

CSU's Student Sexual Harassment and Violence policy, following national guidance from the Office of Civil Rights, requires that faculty follow CSU policy as a "mandatory reporter" of any personal disclosure of sexual harassment, abuse, and/or violence related experiences or incidents shared with the faculty member in person, via email, and/or in classroom papers or homework exercises. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of personal relational abuse, relational/domestic violence, and stalking. While faculty are often able to help students locate appropriate channels of assistance on campus (e.g., see the CSU Health Network link below), disclosure by the student to the faculty member requires that the faculty member inform appropriate CSU channels to help ensure that the student's safety and welfare is being addressed, even if the student requests that the disclosure not be shared.

For counseling support and assistance, please see the CSU Health Network, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/>. And, the Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential resource for students that does not have a reporting requirement and that can be of great help to students who have experienced sexual assault. The web address is <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.

Source: <http://oeo.colostate.edu/title-ix-sexual-assault>

Non-Discrimination Statement

Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or pregnancy. The University complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, related Executive Orders 11246 and 11375, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and all civil rights laws of the State of Colorado. Accordingly, equal opportunity of employment and admission shall be extended to all persons. The University shall promote equal opportunity and treatment in employment through a positive and continuing affirmative action program for ethnic minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services. Source: <http://oeo.colostate.edu/non-discrimination-statement>