

Department of Forestry
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Forestry 485
Social Influences on Forestry
Fall 2006 - Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Jean Mangun

Office: 186-E Agriculture Bldg.

Office Hours: Mon. 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Tues. 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Weds. 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Drop in during office hours; Other times available by appointment.

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Class Meets: Mon. & Weds. 4:00 - 5:15 PM, Room 166 AG

- Texts (Required):**
1. Cordell, H. K. and C. Overdevest. 2001. **Footprints on the land: An assessment of demographic trends and the future of natural resources in the United States.** Sagamore Publishing, Champaign, IL;
 2. Fink, A. and J. Kosecoff. 1998. **How to conduct surveys: A step-by-step guide, 2nd edition.** Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks, CA;

Note: Copies of all texts and supplemental readings will be put on reserve in the Forestry Reading Room, Ag 190A).

Course Objectives:

1. Students to be familiarized with sociodemographic trends and communication techniques that continue to influence forest and recreation resource management as practiced in the U.S.;
2. Students to prepare and present an issue brief on a contemporary societal influence on forest management practices;
3. Students to learn and demonstrate basic methodological skills necessary for acquisition and analysis of quantitative social science data commonly used in natural resource decision making.

Course Outline:

- A. Influencing public attitudes toward forest management practices
 1. Persuasive messages from special interest groups
 2. Tradition of American Forest Congresses
 3. Collaborative Decision Making
- B. Changes in social structure and cultural perspectives
 1. Demographic Changes
 2. Distinct User Groups within Activities
- C. Social Science Research: Quantitative Methods
 1. The survey instrument
 - a. Questionnaire format
 - b. Questions, scales, and sequence
 2. Sampling design
 - a. Sample size
 - b. Probability and nonprobability sampling
 3. Data collection
 - a. Pretest

- b. Response rate
- 4. Data entry & analysis
- 5. Presenting results
 - a. Descriptive statistics
 - b. Tables and figures

Requirements for Class Assignments/Projects:

1. Individual and Group Contemporary Issue: This assignment has both an individual and a group component. The objectives are: 1) each student to become thoroughly familiarized with a contemporary social influence on forestry; 2) each student to prepare an issue “brief” on the topic; 3) to reach a group consensus on which issue the group should present to the class; and 4) to help prepare a class presentation summarizing the consensus topic as part of a team effort.

2. Survey Research Project: The objectives of this project are to construct, pilot, administer, analyze, and present your own original survey research project as part of a team effort. The detailed instructions for this important class requirement are as follows. It is in your best interest to identify a team of **three to four** individuals as soon as possible. Groups submit one folder of printed support information and prepare a poster presentation of their research results (150 possible points).

I. Project Summary Materials in Folder: This part of project involves preparing an executive summary or overview of your project’s objectives, procedures, and most important findings. Any required written elements can be presented in “bullet” or outline format.

Each team’s folder should contain the following:

1. Title of Survey Research Project and **names of individuals in team;**
2. At least one project objective (i.e., what research question were you trying to answer?);
3. Clearly stated null and directional research hypotheses;
4. Draft Questionnaire
 - Include one filled-out pilot (draft, pre-test) survey;
 - Describe any modifications made to survey design as a result of pilot testing;
5. One copy of final Questionnaire form actually administered;
6. Data Analysis Summary
 - a. At least one figure of interest that addresses your hypotheses: these can be bar graphs, tables, or linear plots -- print extra copies or photocopy as necessary before assembling poster;
 - b. A conclusion statement on whether your null hypothesis was supported or rejected;
 - c. Note any interesting or unexpected findings.
7. Completed folders are due 4:00 PM, Weds. Dec. 6, 2006
8. One folder submitted for each group

II. *Class Poster Presentation: All team members are required to be present on Mon, Dec. 4, 2006 for Poster Symposium. All Forestry faculty will be invited. Each team should select a spokesperson to explain project to Symposium visitors.

III. Point Breakdown of Survey Research Project (150 pts.) As important as the poster presentation is to your grade -- don’t neglect the summary folder!

Summary Folder:

--original, appropriate topic	5 points
--correctly formulated hypotheses	25
--pilot & final survey design	20
--analysis & completed folder	20

Poster Presentation: 80 points

Total Survey Project 150 points

Course Grading Policy:

Quiz	50
Hour Essay Exam	100
Individual Issue Brief	100
Group Issue Presentation	100
Overall Class Participation	75
Survey Research Project	150
Final Exam	100
Total Possible Points for Course	675 points

Grading Scale: 90 - 100%= A; 80 – 89+= B; 70 – 79+= C; 60 – 69+= D; and < 60%= F.
Regular attendance is expected. Roll will be taken at discretion of instructor.

No make-up exams are offered without an official university excuse. If you do have a problem with any exam or assignment due date, please contact me **before the exam or due date has passed**.

Lecture, Assignment, and Exam Schedule:

Week	Date	Topic	Readings/Assignments
1	Aug 21	Class Orientation: What to expect	-----
	Aug 23	Societal Impacts on Forests & Forestry; Communication in Resource Management Assignment 1: Contemporary Issues	-----
2	Aug 28	“Propaganda” Videos on Forestry Issues I Meet in Lawson Hall, Room 101	Arrive on time! Take notes!!
	Aug 30	“Propaganda” Videos on Forestry Issues II Meet in Lawson Hall, Room 101	Arrive on time! Take notes !!
3	Sep 4	Labor Day Holiday	-----
	Sep 6	“Propaganda” Videos on Forestry Issues III Meet in Lawson Hall, Room 101	Arrive on time! Take notes !!
4	Sep 11	Re-cap of Videos; Quincy Library Group: Consensus Building & Collaborative Decision Making	Supplemental Reading #1
	Sept 13	Responding to Change: Early Efforts toward Consensus Building (American Forest Congresses)	Supplemental Reading #2
5	Sep 18	Group exercise: Model American Forest Congress Forest	
	Sep 20	Quiz (on class notes, video content, & readings) Group exercise: Present individual issue to group	Individual Part of Assignment 1 Due
6	Sep 25	Group exercise: Select single group issue and start to plan presentation	-----
	Sep 27	Americans & the Environment	Cordell Text: Chap. 1, pp. 1 – 38;
7	Oct 2	Changing Population Size & Distributions	Cordell: Chap. 2, pp. 43 – 66

	Oct 4	Increasing Social Diversity	Cordell: Chap. 3, pp. 69 – 85
8	Oct 9	Urban Expansion / Rural Transition	Cordell: Chap. 4, pp. 95 - 111; Chap. 5, pp. 113 – 129
	Oct 11	Trends in Leisure and Outdoor Recreation; User Groups & Typologies	Cordell: Chap. 7, pp. 185 – 227; Reading 3
9	Oct 16	Survey Research Project Introduction (Assignment 2) a) The Survey “Instrument” b) Schedule upcoming lab times	Fink Text: Chap.1, pp. 1 -8
	Oct 18	Hour Essay Exam (on Cordell Text Chapters)	-----
10	Oct 23	Ag Computer Lab (Group 1)- Intro to SPSS (Meet only once)	Fink Chap. 6, pp. 59 -64, 74 - 77
	Oct 25	Ag Computer Lab (Group 2)- Intro to SPSS (Meet only once)	Fink Chap. 6, pp. 59 -64, 74 - 77
11	Oct 30	Questions: Types, Scales & Levels of Measurement	Fink Chap. 2, pp. 9 – 20
	Nov 1	Hypothesis Formulation; Probability Sampling	Fink Chap. 3, pp. 27 – 37; Chap. 4, pp. 39 – 46
12	Nov 6	Group Issue Brief Presentations I	Group Part of Assignment 1 Due
	Nov 8	Group Issue Brief Presentations II	-----
13	Nov 13	Data entry/analysis: Individual Group Appointments (appointment only - no lecture)	-----
	Nov 15	Data entry/analysis: Individual Group Appointments (appointment only - no lecture)	-----
14	Nov 20	Thanksgiving Break	-----
	Nov 22	Thanksgiving Break	-----
15	Nov 27	Presenting Survey Results	Fink Chap. 7, pp. 79 - 88
	Nov 29	Public Private Partnerships (Valles Caldera National Preserve)	-----
16	Dec 4	Poster Presentation "Symposium" (Seminar Room, Ag 209)	Presentation of Survey Project Results
	Dec 6	Review for final; Awards for best posters	Survey Summary Folders Due
Final	Dec 15	Final Exam (Multiple Choice on Survey Mechanics) 12-15-2006 (Friday) 5:50 - 7:50 PM	-----

Note: Final exam is in same room but at a different day & time than class usually meets.

The last day to drop a course without penalty is October 16, 2006 (Monday of the 9th week).

Incomplete work: A grade of incomplete “I” is **only** awarded if a student cannot complete all course requirements due to some unforeseen serious circumstances **and** appropriate arrangements have been made with the instructor. A grade of incomplete “I” is **not** awarded in cases where a student simply ceases to attend class and reappears at the very end of the

semester. In those cases in which a student stops attending **without** officially dropping the course, a grade of “WF” will be assigned.

Academic Honesty Policy: The academic honesty policy enforced will follow the Student Conduct Code, Section II, Article A.

ADA Special Accommodations: In keeping with the goal of the implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), all students for whom the act applies should notify the instructor no later than the second session of the course so that arrangements can be made for accommodations to meet your educational needs and maximize learning.

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3. **leave subject blank**
4. **message should read: SUB AGRICULTURE-L
 first name, last name**

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