FOREST TECHNOLOGY (A.A.S.)

https://colsa.unh.edu/thompson-school-applied-science/program/aas/forest-technology

Description

Forestry is an exciting and rewarding career field, in which practitioners work to solve today's pressing natural resource and environmental challenges. Graduates of the Forest Technology program can become career-ready in two years and learn fundamental forestry skills, techniques, and science. Students are introduced to forest ecology, silviculture, wildlife ecology, forest mapping techniques, wood science, and timber harvesting practices. They learn how to inventory natural resources; design, plan, and supervise forest harvesting operations; harvest timber and mill lumber; map and survey forestland; develop a forest management plan; and identify and mitigate forest health issues – all while applying principles of conservation and sustainability. Students interact with a wide variety of professionals as part of their coursework and often go on to work in wood products-related industries, public forestland management agencies, private forestry consulting firms, urban tree care companies, and a range of conservation organizations. After obtaining an associate degree in forest technology, qualified students may then transfer to the university's accredited four-year forestry program and obtain a bachelor's degree in two additional years with a full-time course of study or move right into an exciting career.

Career Opportunities

Forestry consultant, forest fire control and use technician, mapping technician, geographic information systems/global positioning systems (GIS/GPS) technician, timber and log buyer, log scaler, lumber grader, sawmill technician, arborist, urban tree care specialist, timber cruiser/forest inventory technician, or forestry equipment/products sales representative.

Requirements

Candidates for a degree must take 20 credits of Discovery courses in addition to satisfying the requirements of the Forest Technology program. Forest Technology students are required to take:

Code	Title	Credits
BIOL 528	Applied Biostatistics I	4
or MATH 420	Finite Mathematics	
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
FORT 470	Applied Silviculture	4
KIN 501	First Aid: Responding to Emergencies	1
FORT 527	Forest Ecology	4
FORT 564	Arboriculture	3
FORT 572	Mensuration	4
FORT 573	Management Operation & Analysis	4
FORT 574	Industrial Forest Management Tour	1
FORT 576	Forest Products and Wood Science	4
FORT 577	Forest Harvesting Systems	4
FORT 578	Ecology and Management of Forest Stressors	4
FORT 579	Forest Fire Control and Use	2
FORT 581	Applied Geospatial Techniques	4
FORT 597	Work Experience	0
NR 415	Natural Resources Field Methods	2
NR 425	Field Dendrology	4
NR 433	Wildlife Ecology	4
Social Science Discovery or Humanities Discovery		4
Discovery Course		4
Total Credits		**65**

Degree Plan

Forest Technology Program of Study

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing (WS Discovery)	4
NR 425	Field Dendrology	4
FORT 527	Forest Ecology	4
NR 415	Natural Resources Field Methods	2
	Credits	**14**
Spring		
BIOL 528 or MATH 420	Applied Biostatistics I (or other) or Finite Mathematics	4
FORT 470	Applied Silviculture	4
FORT 581	Applied Geospatial Techniques	4
Social Science or Humanities Discovery [RMP 511 Recommended]		4
KIN 501	First Aid: Responding to Emergencies	1
	Credits	**17**
Second Year		
Fall		
NR 433	Wildlife Ecology (BS Discovery)	4
FORT 572	Mensuration	4
FORT 577	Forest Harvesting Systems	4
FORT 597	Work Experience	0
Discovery Elective: FPA, HP, ETS, WC, PS		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
FORT 564	Arboriculture	3
FORT 573	Management Operation & Analysis	4
FORT 574	Industrial Forest Management Tour	1
FORT 576	Forest Products and Wood Science	4
FORT 578	Ecology and Management of Forest Stressors	4
FORT 579	Forest Fire Control and Use	2
	Credits	**18**
	Total Credits	**65**

Student Learning Outcomes

- Identify the flora and fauna of regional forests and understand their role in ecological communities.
- Apply the concepts of forest and wildlife ecology to sustainable natural resource management for the benefit of society.
- Measure, collect, and analyze field data using appropriate technologies to make sound forest management decisions.
- Understand harvesting and processing of forest products.

- Navigate in forested settings, and locate and map property boundaries and natural resource features.
- Identify land cover types and incorporate spatial data to facilitate forest management.
- Identify and evaluate appropriate management strategies in the context of forest insects and pathogens.
- Lead field crews to safely and productively accomplish forest management goals.
- Communicate effectively and professionally in written and oral formats with clients, related agencies, and the general public.