

# **INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE**

# FOR-269

Forestry, Statistics, and Data Processing

Effective Term Fall 2018

# INSTRUCTIONAL PACKAGE

## Forestry Management Technology Department & Program Mission Statement

The mission of the Department, the Programs and its faculty is to support the broader College's goals as detailed above, but also provide a comprehensive silviculturally based environmental education that recognizes the broad multiple uses demanded from the forest environments of South Carolina, the Southeastern United States and the nation.

- We want our graduates to recognize how their daily decisions will have a lasting impact on the social, cultural, economic, and environment fabric of our state, region and country.
- Their natural resource decision making process must be based on the highest professional and ethical standards for the long term protection and promotion of a high demand resource.
- We strive to prepare well trained forest, wildlife and natural resource technicians for both public and private sector employers and promote career opportunities for our graduates.

#### Part I: Course Information

Effective Term: Fall 2018

COURSE PREFIX: FOR-269 COURSE TITLE: Forestry, Statistics, and Data

**Processing** 

CONTACT HOURS: 2 Lecture, 3 Lab CREDIT HOURS: 2-3-3

#### **RATIONALE FOR THE COURSE:**

This course is designed to help the student gain a sound understanding of the importance of the following four subject areas: the organization of large volumes of data for technical written or oral presentation; financial computations that affect forestry investment decisions; microcomputer applications in forestry, including field data recorders; and basic statistical analyses of forestry data.

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course covers measuring, recording, and summarizing various forestry field data and its presentation in technical form. Basic statistical and finance computations, interest, and discount computations are included.

#### PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:

(Credit level FOR 154 Minimum Grade of D or Credit level FOR 154 Minimum Grade of TC) and (Credit level FOR 156 Minimum Grade of C or Credit level FOR 156 Minimum Grade of TC) and (Credit level FOR 106 Minimum Grade of C or Credit level FOR 106 Minimum Grade of TC)

#### **REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

No textbook is required for this course.

Please visit the Bookstore online site for most current textbook information. Use the direct link below to find textbooks. <u>BOOKSTORE</u>. Enter the semester, course prefix, number and section when prompted and you will be linked to the correct textbook.

#### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Each student should wear long pants and boots or other adequate footwear for the outdoor lab portion of this class. In addition, students will need to have a simple statistical calculator (\$10); a flash drive (\$10) and a pocket engineer's scale (10 units / inch) (\$5).

## **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Access to Desire2Learn (D2L), HGTC's student portal for course materials. WaveNet and D2L email access.

## **CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:**

As a matter of courtesy to other students and your professor, please turn off cell phones and other communication/entertainment devices before class begins. If you are monitoring for an emergency, please notify your professor prior to class and switch cell phone ringers to vibrate.

#### LAB EXERCISE SAFETY:

Prior to going to the woods for a field lab, the instructor will hold a safety briefing identifying the boundaries of the study area, any known hazards and the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment assigned to that exercise. Students are reminded to be alert at all times, and <a href="mailto:think">think</a> safety at all times.

## Lab Listing:

- 1. Univariate Analysis of DBH (Field Measurements & Classroom Analysis in Excel)
- 2. Bivariate Analysis of DBH vs. Total Height (Field Measurements & Classroom Analysis)
- 3. Bivariate Analysis: Sapling Growth Response (Sapling Ground Diameter vs. Height)
- 4. Bivariate Analysis: Live Crown Ratio vs. Total Height for Loblolly pine
- 5. Bivariate Analysis: DBH vs. Total Height for Loblolly pine
- 6. Bivariate Analysis: Crown Diameter vs. DBH for Loblolly pine
- 7. 3 Variate Analysis: DBH, Ground Diameter & Total Height utilizing a Stump Cruise Format
- 8. Analysis of Tree Cores for Current Annual Radial Growth, Lifetime Average and Periodic Radial Growth
- 9. Calculating Age and Site Index for various pine and hardwood species. (Proper coring techniques, reading a core, etc.)
- 10. Calculation of Total Tree Growth Rates using Tree Core information, Total Tree Heights, Age, and Site Index Calculations
- 11. Calculation of Total Tree Growth Rates using Tree Core information, Total Tree Heights, Age, and Site Index Calculations (Physical Growth Calculations, Financial Rate of Return and Discount Rates)

12. Calculation of Total Tree Growth Rates using Tree Core information, Total Tree Heights, Age, and Site Index Calculations (Physical Growth Calculations, Financial Rate of Return and Discount Rates)

# **Part II: Student Learning Outcomes**

#### COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES and ASSESSMENTS\*:

Module #1

Materials Covered: Statistical Graphing, Basis Statistical Sampling

\*Assessment(s): Complete class review activity.

**Unit Test** 

## **Learning Outcomes:**

1. Design the various types of statistical sampling layouts for an in-woods survey to help solve various data sets or problems.

- 2. Explain the advantages of different graphic presentations for various forms of data.
- 3. Construct a frequency table, bar graph, pie chart, etc. from lab data.

## Module #2

**Materials Covered:** Basis Statistics Terminology & Calculations, Simple Random Sampling, Stratified Random Sampling and Systematic Sampling

\*Assessment(s): Complete class review activity.

**Unit Test** 

#### **Learning Outcomes:**

- 1. Explain the following terms: statistic, parameter, continuous variable, discrete variable, population, sample, and bias.
- 2. Explain the difference between Accuracy and Precision.
- 3. Perform various statistical tests to determine: Mean, Mode, Median, Standard Deviation, Standard Error, Confidence Intervals, Co-variance and Simple Linear Regression.

## Module #3

**Materials Covered:** Financial Analysis – Interest Rates, Return on Investment (ROI), Rate of Return (ROR), and Discount Rate.

\*Assessment(s): Complete class review activity.

**Unit Test** 

## **Learning Outcomes:**

- 1. Identify the principles of Simple and Compound Interest.
- 2. Identify the concepts of Return on Investment, Rate of Return and Discount Rate in evaluating an investment opportunity or management alternatives.

Module #4

**Materials Covered:** Growth and Yield Analysis of Trees and Forest Products.

\*Assessment(s): Complete class review activity.

**Unit Test** 

## **Learning Outcomes:**

- 1. Take a coring of a tree to compute the tree's age; its periodic growth rate; its annual growth rate and its lifetime rate of return.
- 2. Using the trees height, diameter, age and growth projection tables, compute its periodic growth rate, its annual growth rate and its lifetime rate of return on both a physical and financial basis.
- 3. Identify the limitations associated with each of these techniques.

# **Grading and Assessment**

## **EVALUATION OF REQUIRED COURSE MEASURES/ARTIFACTS\***

Students' performance will be assessed and the weight associated with the various measures / artifacts are listed below.

#### **EVALUATION\***

Tests	45%
Assignments	5%
Weekly Lab Reports & Field Work	30%
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
	100%

<sup>\*</sup>Students, for the specific number and type of evaluations, please refer to the Instructor's Course Information Sheet.

#### **GRADING SYSTEM:**

This course follows the College's grading system as delineated in the Catalog. Please note the College adheres to a 10 point grading scale A = 100 - 90, B = 89 - 80, C = 79 - 70, D = 69 - 60, F = 59 and below. You must have your Dean's approval if changes in the scale are made.

Grades earned in courses impact academic progression and financial aid status. Before withdrawing from a course, be sure to talk with your instructor and financial aid counselor about the implications of that course of action. Ds, Fs, Ws, WFs and Is also negatively impact academic progression and financial aid status.

The Add/Drop Period is the first 5 days of the semester for **full term** classes. Add/Drop periods are shorter for accelerated format courses. Please refer to the academic calendar for deadlines for add/drop (<u>ACADEMIC CALENDAR</u>). You must attend at least one meeting of all of your classes during that period.

<sup>\*</sup>Students – please refer to the Instructor's Course Information sheet for specific information on assessments and due dates.

If you do not, you will be dropped from the course(s) and your Financial Aid will be reduced accordingly.

#### Part IV: Attendance

Horry-Georgetown Technical College maintains a general attendance policy requiring students to be present for a minimum of eighty percent (80%) of his or her classes in order to be eligible to receive credit for any course. However, due to the varied nature of courses taught at the College, a more rigid attendance policy may be required by individual instructors. At a minimum, a student may be withdrawn from a course(s) after he or she has been absent in excess of ten percent (10%) of the total contact hours for a course. Instructors define absentee limits for their class at the beginning of each term; please refer to the Instructor Course Information Sheet.

This course will follow the College's 80% attendance policy. The course is made up of 2 Lecture hours per week and 3 Lab hours per week. Students who miss any combination of missed hours exceeding 20% of the scheduled class / lab time will be dropped from the course with a W or a WF. Students missing a lab session are encouraged to join another section if possible to stay current.

## Part V: Student Resources

## The Student Success and Tutoring Center (SSTC)

The SSTC offers to all students the following **free** resources:

- Academic coaches for most subject areas, Writing Center Support, and college success skills.
- 2. On-line student success and academic support resources.

Visit the SSTC website: <u>Student Success & Tutoring Center</u> and visit the student services tab in your WaveNet account to schedule appointments using TutorTrac. For more information, call: SSTC Conway, 349-7872; SSTC Grand Strand, 477-2113; and SSTC Georgetown, 520-1455. Room locations and Live Chat is available on the SSTC website.

# **Student Information Center: WaveNet Central (WNC)**

WNC offers to all students the following **free** resources:



- 1. **Getting around HGTC**: General information and guidance for enrollment!
- 2. Use the <u>Online Resource Center (ORC)</u> for COMPASS support, technology education, and online tools.
- 3. **Drop-in technology support or scheduled training** in the Center or in class.
- 4. **In-person workshops, online tutorials and more services** are available.

Visit the WNC website: <u>Wavenet Central</u>. Live Chat and Center locations are posted on the website. Or please call one of the following locations: WNC Conway, 349-5182; WNC Grand Strand, 477-2076; and WNC Georgetown, 520-1473.



Proctoring can be accomplished either face-to-face at an approved site or online through RPNow, our online proctoring service. To find out more about proctoring services, please visit the <a href="Online Testing">Online Testing</a> section of the HGTC's Testing Center webpage.

The **Instructor Information Sheet** will have more details on test requirements for your course.

# **Disability Services:**

HGTC is committed to providing an accessible environment for students with disabilities. Inquiries may be directed to Jocelyn Williams, Director of Student Development on the Conway Campus Jaime Davis, Counselor/Advisor on the Georgetown Campus or Kristin Griffin, Counselor on the Grand Strand Campus. These individuals will review documentation of the student's disability and, in a confidential setting with the student, develop an educational accommodation plan.

Note: It is the student's responsibility to self-identify as needing accommodations and to provide acceptable documentation. After a student has self-identified and submitted documentation of a disability, accommodations may be determined, accepted, and provided.

# Statement of Equal Opportunity/Non-Discrimination Statement

Horry Georgetown Technical College prohibits discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and abuse, on the basis of race, color, gender, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, disability, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or pregnancy in educational programs and/or activities.

## Title IX Requirements

Horry Georgetown Technical College prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Any student who believe he or she has experienced or witnessed discrimination including sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking is encouraged to report such incidents to one of the College's Title IX Coordinators.

\*Faculty and Staff are required to report incidents to the Title IX Coordinators when involving students. The only HGTC employees exempt from mandatory reporting are licensed mental health professionals (only as part of their job description such as counseling services).

Inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:	
Student and prospective student inquiries	Employee and applicant inquiries concerning
concerning Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and	Section 504, Title II, and Title IX and their
their application to the College or any student	application to the College may be directed to the
decision may be directed to the Associate Vice	Associate Vice President for Human Resources.
President for Student Affairs.	
Dr. Melissa Batten, AVP Student Affairs	Jacquelyne Snyder, AVP Human Resources
Title IX Coordinator	Section 504, Title II, and Title IX Coordinator
Building 1100, Room 107A, Conway Campus	Building 200, Room 212A, Conway Campus
PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066	PO Box 261966, Conway, SC 29528-6066
843-349-5228	843-349-5212
Melissa.Batten@hgtc.edu	Jacquelyne.Snyder@hgtc.edu