

Syllabus

Course description

Course title	Forest planning and protection forestry
Course code	47031
Scientific sector	AGR/05 -AGR/09
Degree	Master in Environmental Management of Mountain Areas (EMMA)
Semester	II
Year	I
Academic year	2024/25
Credits	9
Modular	Yes

Total lecturing hours	18 + 18 + 18
Total lab hours	
Total exercise hours	12 + 12 + 12
Attendance	
Prerequisites	
Course page	https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/agricultural-environmental-food-sciences/master-environmental-management-mountain-areas/course-offering/

Specific educational objectives	<p>The course belongs to the category of "characterization," specifically falling within the scientific disciplinary area of forestry and environmental sciences. It is a component of the <i>Environmental Protection</i> curriculum. The course comprises three modules that are closely interconnected.</p> <p>The educational objectives of the <i>Protection Forestry</i> module are to provide knowledge about the role of mountain forests in mitigating and preventing natural hazards without compromising the provision of other ecosystem services. The focus of this module is forest management specifically oriented to enhance the protective function of mountain forests. For each natural hazard and forest category in the Alpine area, the most suitable forest management approach will be discussed, also referring to real case studies.</p> <p>The educational objective of the <i>Forest Inventories</i> module is to impart knowledge about methods and techniques for measuring forest resources. Through lectures, students will learn about innovative ground and remote sensing approaches, while practical activities will provide them with opportunities to apply acquired knowledge using data and software. Participants will</p>
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	<p>become familiar with some of the newest technologies used to estimate forest cover, biomass, and potentially carbon stocks.</p> <p>The educational objective of the <i>Forest Harvesting and Logistics</i> module is to impart knowledge on several key aspects: the primary features of machines utilized in forest harvesting within mountainous regions, the fundamental procedures for selecting and planning machine usage for both ground and aerial logging operations, the technical, operational, and economic performances of specific technology systems, and the analysis of strengths and weaknesses of various mechanization solutions, with particular emphasis on safety issues.</p>
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Module 1	Protection Forestry
Lecturer	<i>Prof. Roberto Tognetti</i>
Scientific sector of the lecturer	AGR/05
Teaching language	English
Office hours	9
Teaching assistant (if any)	
Office hours	
List of topics covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of protection forests; definition of hazard and risk; principles of risk management; main natural hazards in the Alps; protection forestry and forest planning. • Recalls about main characteristics and organs of a tree; roots and soil properties; tree crown, forest cover and rain/snow interception; tree stem, stability, and protection functions. • Extreme events and return period. • How to identify protection forests. • Definition of target profile (species composition, forest structure, regeneration); indicators plots; forest stand dynamics. • Protection forestry and landslides: recalls on landslides (susceptibility assessment, types); vegetation and landslides; dendro-geomorphology application to landslides; forest management and landslides. • Protection forestry and avalanches: definitions; avalanches and forests dynamics; forest and avalanches; forest management to enhance protective role against avalanches; case studies. • Protection forestry and rockfalls: definitions; protective measures; target diameter and stand density; forest management; case studies.

Teaching format	This module is based on frontal lectures, assignments, and fieldtrips. Practical parts and excursions will also involve local forest managers and stakeholders. Power Point presentations will be available in Team group.
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Module 2	Forest Inventories
Lecturer	Tomelleri Enrico K Building, Room 3.04, email: enrico.tomelleri@unibz.it
Scientific sector of the lecturer	AGR/05
Teaching language	English
Teaching assistant (if any)	
Office hours	9 – by appointment
List of topics covered	<p>Introduction to the topic of forest inventories including general definitions and an overview of the course objectives.</p> <p>Description of approaches for measuring forests like relascopy and terrestrial laser scanning.</p> <p>Introduction to remote sensing with relevant platforms and sensors.</p> <p>Use of remote sensing for mapping forests with some examples of applications.</p> <p>Applications of light detection and ranging.</p> <p>UAV-borne sensing forest applications with a focus on photogrammetry.</p> <p>National forest inventories – an overview of how forest inventories are conducted in different countries.</p> <p>Forests and carbon accounting.</p>
Teaching format	The module is based on frontal lectures. Hands-on exercises and excursions will permit the students to test the acquired knowledge on real world problems.

Module 3	Forest Harvesting and Logistics
Lecturer	Giovanni Carabin
Scientific sector of the lecturer	AGR/09 – AGRICULTURAL MECHANICS
Teaching language	English
Office hours	9 – by appointment
Teaching assistant (if any)	-
Office hours	-
List of topics covered	<p>FOREST OPERATIONS – Peculiarities of forest work and consideration of the limits related to forest operations; knowledge of the basics of work safety applied in forestry; consideration of the impact of the use of different equipment on the health of the operator.</p> <p>HARVESTING SYSTEMS – Introduction to the main harvesting systems used in mountain areas and related machinery. General description of the different machinery used for logging activities according to the different levels</p>

	<p>of mechanization. OPERATIONAL MONITORING SYSTEMS – Estimations of work times, work organization and scheduling, concepts of work rate and workability. Economic performances: exercise costs of forestry processes.</p>
Teaching format	<p>This is a lecture-lab module in which topics are presented by the Professor. Practical activities (field excursions) are led by the Professor eventually assisted by an expert of the sector invited on demand. Slides pdf-presentations will be available in Team group.</p>
Learning outcomes	<p>Knowledge and understanding The course is aimed to provide knowledge and the scientific basis about the role of mountain forests in mitigating and preventing natural hazards, the different methods and techniques used to quantify forest resources and the forest machinery used in mountain areas, with related aspects on ergonomic, safety and work organizations.</p> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding By the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manage protective forests according to specific natural hazard and target to protect. 2. Select the best approach to properly quantify forest resource at plot and regional scale. 3. Plan logging and timber harvesting activities in mountain areas, in various environmental and production contexts. <p>Making judgments Students will have the ability to integrate knowledge, formulate judgments and handle complexity of the management of protective forests, assessment of forest resources, and planning of logging and timber harvesting activities in mountain areas.</p> <p>Communication skills Students will be able to present the acquired skills with a correct technical language.</p> <p>Learning skills Students will be able to autonomously extend the knowledge acquired during the study course by reading and understanding scientific and technical documentation.</p>
Assessment	<p>The assessment will be carried out either by written student assignment or oral exam as communicated by each lecturer during the course.</p>
Assessment language	English
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	<p>The final grade for the entire course will be calculated as the average of the results obtained in the three modules.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment criteria for the assignments include soundness of the proposed approach, critical thinking, clarity and originality in the presented solution, mastery of the technical language, quality of presentation. • Relevant for the oral exam assessment are correctness of the answers, mastery of the technical language, ability to produce critical judgment, capability to create connections between the topics of the course.
Required readings	Slides pdf-presentations
Supplementary readings	The supplementary material will be made available on Teams/OLE during the course.