

FOR 512, WFS 512, AND FWF 612
GRADUATE SEMINAR IN FORESTRY, WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
Spring 2014

Instructors: Drs. Matt Gray and Charlie Kwit
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Meeting Time & Place: Wed, 12:20 – 1:10 p.m., 160 Plant Biotechnology Building

Course Goal: To provide an opportunity for forestry, wildlife and fisheries graduate students to practice delivering professional presentations and to increase opportunities for graduate students and faculty to interact.

Expected Outcomes: Students will develop skills in constructing and delivering PowerPoint presentations and in answering questions related to their graduate research and natural resource principles, concepts and issues.

Weights of Academic Assessments:

- Presentation 85%
- Attendance 15% (1.07% per seminar, 15 Jan – 2 May)

Your course grade will be determined using the following scale:

Grade	Final Weighted Percent		Grade	Final Weighted Percent
A	90–100%		B	80–86%
B+	87–89%		C+	77–79%

Tentative Schedule:

8 Jan = Introduction
 15 Jan = Presentation Example: Types I and II
 22 Jan = Presentation Example: Type III and PowerPoint Tips
 29 Jan = **Dr. Becky Trout Fryxell (UT-EPP)**
 5 Feb = **Erin Patrick (USDA)**
 12 Feb = Graduate Student Presentations
 19 Feb = Graduate Student Presentations
 26 Feb = Graduate Student Presentations
 5 Mar = **No Seminar (TN-TWS Meeting)**
 12 Mar = Graduate Student Presentations
 19 Mar = **No Seminar (Spring Break)**
 26 Mar = Graduate Student Presentations
 2 Apr = Graduate Student Presentations
 9 Apr = Graduate Student Presentations

There will be a maximum of 1 faculty or 2 students presenting per seminar (except for 2 May if necessary)

Enrolled students must sign up for a presentation date by **15 Jan** and provide a draft presentation title by **29 Jan**.

16 Apr = Graduate Student Presentations

23 Apr = Graduate Student Presentations

2 May = (Friday, 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 pm) = Graduate Student Presentations

Attendance Policy

- (1) Attendance is mandatory for all **enrolled students** every time seminar meets, starting on 15 January. Your final grade will be reduced 1.07% for each unexcused absence. Up to **3 excused absences** will be permitted.
- (2) Attendance is mandatory by all **students not enrolled** that are pursuing a graduate degree in Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries or Natural Resources during faculty and graduate student presentations. A tally of attendance will be distributed to the department chair and faculty at the end of the semester.

Presentation Policy

Students are required to present on their sign-up date. Failure to present on this date will result in a 10% reduction in your final grade. Students are permitted to switch presentation dates with others without a penalty; however, Dr. Gray must be notified ≥ 7 days prior to the presentation date.

Presentation Requirements:

A) First Seminar (Type I):

- (1) Oral presentation using PowerPoint on your proposed M.S. or Ph.D. research.
- (2) Required Components: Introduction and Justification for Research, Objectives, and Proposed Methods.
- (3) Your presentation can include preliminary results if you have them and want to share with the group but they are not required and will not be graded.

B) Second Seminar (Types II and III):

- II. Oral presentation using PowerPoint on results from a side study or a portion of your thesis research that will not be presented during your defense. The required components for this presentation are: Introduction and Justification for Research, Objectives, Methods, Results, Discussion of Possible Mechanisms Influencing Results, and the Applied or Theoretical Implications of Results.

OR,

- III. Oral presentation using PowerPoint on a contemporary natural resource topic (e.g., impacts of global warming on wildlife distributions, impacts of the Gulf Spill on deepwater fisheries, efficiency of biofuel production, socioeconomic challenges of controlling invasive species, spread of viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus in U.S. fish populations, AIC modeling). This presentation should be given in lecture format and handouts (e.g., abstracts from peer-refereed papers, websites) provided.

Presentations must be 15-20 minutes. Five minutes will be allowed for questions.
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