



“URBAN FORESTRY” SYLLABUS

Basic data of the subject	
Academic Unit:	Life and Environmental Sciences Faculty
Course title:	Urban forestry
Program:	Forestry and Environmental Sciences
Level:	Bachelor
Course status:	Elective
Study year:	Third year
Number of hours per week:	2+1
Credit value – ECTS:	3
Time / location:	To be announced
Lecturer:	Prof. Asoc .Dr. Mirvjena Kellezi
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Course description:	<p>Urban forestry is the art and science of managing the biotic components in cities for the health and well-being of people. As people move to urban centers, they become increasingly disconnected from the natural and agricultural systems known to their ancestors. Students will learn how concepts of forestry, natural resource management, sustainability, urban planning, and landscape design blend in managing biotic and abiotic components of urban forest ecosystems to produce a safe and healthy environment for city dwellers.</p>
Course objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the effects of urbanization on natural ecosystems? • How is urban forest management the same and different compared to management of rural, agricultural, or more natural forest systems? • What aspects of the urban forest can be managed to improve the quality of life for the people living within it? <p>This course is intended for students to learn and apply principles of Urban Forest Management of vegetation in developed areas. Urban forestry as a profession is relatively new in response to society and landscapes that are increasingly becoming developed and urbanized. However, activities associated with urban forestry are historically rooted hundreds and thousands of years ago and have evolved to the current philosophic view of green infrastructure as an important component of an urban ecosystem. The students will develop skills and abilities in urban forest assessment, benefits, costs, uses, valuation methods, planning, management, and the roles of state, municipal, commercial, and utility urban forestry. By the end of this course, the students will be a knowledgeable resident of the urban forest social-ecological system. Through a combination of close reading of the urban forestry literature, discussion with experts in the field, and selected field exercises, we will learn to apply the principles of urban forest management to real world cases.</p>



Learning outcomes:	Upon completing the course, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the role of urban forest management and the scientific aspects of an urban forest ecosystem; • Measure and analyze urban forest structure, function, ecosystem services, and values; • Assess the biophysical and socioeconomic aspects of urban and natural resource management; • Apply problem-solving skills to management issues involving urban and urbanizing forests. 		
Contribution on student load (must correspond with learning outcomes)			
Activity	Hours	Days/week	Total
Lectures	2	9	18
Exercise theoretical/laboratory	1	8	8
Practice work	2	5	10
Contact with lecturer/consultations	1	10	10
Field exercises	2	2	4
Mid-terms, seminars	1	2	2
Homework	-	-	-
Individual time spent studying (at the library or home)	1	10	10
Final preparation for the exam	1	7	7
Time spent in evaluation (tests, quiz, final exam)	2	2	4
Projects, presentations, etc.	2	1	2
Total			75 hours (3 ECTS)
Teaching methods :	Lectures, discussions, laboratory exercises, expeditions consultations, seminars, independent projects, homework assignments, colloquium, course assignments, exams.		
Evaluation methods:	Exam 1: 10%, Exam 2: 10% Seminars or other engagements: 10%, Regular active attendance: 10% Final exam: 60%, Total: 100%.		
Literature			
Basic Literature:	Miller, Robert. Urban Forestry: Planning and Managing Urban Green Spaces, Third Edition. 2015. Waveland Press, Inc. Long Grove, IL ISBN: 978-1-4786-0637-6 Costello, L. (2013). Urban trees and water: An overview of studies on irrigation needs in the Western United States and a discussion regarding future research. <i>Arboriculture & Urban Forestry</i> , 39(3), 132–135.		
Additional Literature:	Alliance for Community Trees home page. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://actrees.org/		



	<p>Arbor Day Foundation. (n.d.). Tree City USA. Retrieved from http://arborday.org/</p> <p>Center for Urban Policy and the Environment at Indiana University. (n.d.-b). The Urban Forest Provides Measurable Economic Benefits for Hoosiers. Indianapolis, IN.</p> <p>Center for Urban Policy and the Environment at Indiana University. (n.d.-c). Entire Neighborhoods Benefit from Investments in Urban Forests (No. 07-C41). Indianapolis, IN.</p> <p>Darnell, G., & Huss, L. (n.d.). The City of Bloomington Tree Care Manual: A manual for the care of public trees. City (p. 27). Bloomington, IN.</p>
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Designed study plan:		
Week	Lectures	Exercises
<i>First week:</i>	Course introduction. Introduction to urban forestry. Tree biology	Introduction to urban ecology. Campus and city park walk.
<i>Second week:</i>	Urban forest structure, function and ecosystem services.	Measuring urban forest structure and their benefits.
<i>Third week:</i>	Urban forest inventories.	Introduction to group project.
<i>Fourth week:</i>	Measuring and assessing urban canopy cover.	Exam 1.
<i>Fifth week:</i>	Urban watersheds. Urban soils.	Trees and land development.
<i>Sixth week:</i>	Tree selection.	Landscaping.
<i>Seventh week:</i>	Urban greening.	Urban management planning.
<i>Eighth week:</i>	Land development field trip.	Exam 2.
<i>Ninth week:</i>	Arboriculture.	Plant health care.
<i>Tenth week:</i>	Disturbance in the urban forest.	Types of disturbances.
<i>Eleventh week:</i>	Tree risk and it's assessment.	Economic valuation of the urban forest tree.
<i>Twelfth week:</i>	Urban green spaces and wildlife.	Tree protection.
<i>Thirteenth week:</i>	Group project.	Group project.
<i>Fourteenth week:</i>	Ecology of urban stormwater management.	Urban site index.
<i>Fifteenth week:</i>	Sustainable subdivision field trip.	Field trip.
Academic policies and rules of conduct:		
Regular and active participation of students in lectures, exercises (practical part) and in seminar work. Keeping quiet in lecture, disabling mobile phones, timely access to the classroom, etc.		