FOR 398: Field Course in Tropical Forestry

Instructors:
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Schedule:
• July 16-August 03, 2007
• Monday through Friday 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Pre-requisites:
• Background and interest in forestry.
• Coursework or experience in biology, soil science, and forestry.
• Ideal for forestry undergraduates, new grad students, or forestry professionals.

Objectives:
1. Learn about the diversity of tropical forests and the natural history of Hawaii's forests.
2. Evaluate the role of forest plantations in tropical forestry.
3. See first-hand the threats to tropical forest conservation.
4. Visit active forest conservation and restoration projects.
5. Review forest inventory and analysis techniques.
6. Develop a draft forest management plan to promote sustainable forestry in Hawaii.

Assignments: All assignments will be completed in small groups. Students will evaluate group member contributions.
• Use data supplied by instructors or gathered in the field to evaluate forest and forestry conditions.
• Discuss forest conservation, restoration, and sustainable forestry options for the tropics and Hawaii.
• Use forest inventory data to make growth and yield predictions.
• Final project: develop a preliminary forest management plan for a specific tropical forest in Hawaii.

UH-Hilo Summer Session Information
• Online Application: http://www.uhh.hawaii.edu/forms/summer.php
• Registration: http://www.uh.hawaii.edu/academics/ccecs/
• Campus Housing: http://www.uh.hawaii.edu/studentaffairs/housing/SummerHousing2007.php
• Problems registering? Contact Dori Yamada at UH-Hilo, 808-974-7664, dayamada@hawaii.edu
Course Schedule (subject to change)

Week 1: Introduction to Hawaii’s Tropical Forests

1. Tropical Forest Classification and Life Zones in Hawaii
2. Natural History of Hawaii's Forests and Forestry
3. Field Trips to Different Forest Life Zones
4. Assignments: Classifying Life Zones; Discussing Tropical Forest Management Challenges and Opportunities

Week 2: Plantation Forests and Forestry

1. Variety of Plantation Forests in the Tropics and Hawaii
2. Review of Forest Inventory and Analysis Techniques
3. Field Trips to Various Plantation Forests in Hawaii
4. Assignments: Forest Growth and Yield Predictions; Discussing the Role of Tropical Plantation Forests

Week 3: Forest Restoration and Conservation

1. Global to Local Issues: Loss and Alteration of Forest Cover, Invasive Species, Climate Change
2. Restoration and Conservation Initiatives in Hawai‘i
3. Field Trips to Forest Conservation and Restoration Projects in Wet and Dry Forests
4. Assignments: Develop and Present Miniature Forest Management Plan