



BCIT School of Construction and the Environment
Forest and Natural Area Management Program

To: 1st Year Forest and Natural Area Management Students (2015-2016)
From: Program Staff

Re: Program Expenses for Computers, Field Equipment and Field Lab Supplies

Welcome to the Forest and Natural Areas Management Program. You have chosen an exciting career path! The program is especially focused on practical outdoor field labs and educational opportunities.

BOOKS: At the commencement of each course your instructor will provide a list of required texts and guides. Estimated cost of books for the two years is **\$400-\$500**. Most will be available at the Campus Bookstore but some are also readily available at most major bookstores.

COMPUTERS: It is **mandatory** that you own a laptop while attending the program. Some course delivery & field exercises require students to use their own laptops. A PC laptop with Windows 7 or 8 is preferred, but an Apple laptop is acceptable as long as it also runs both Linux and Windows 7 or 8 (see instructions that follow). Your laptop should have a minimum of 3 GB of installed memory (RAM). Microsoft Office (including Access) should also be installed on your laptop.

Instructions for Mac users: Much of the software we use runs on PCs, so it is essential that your Mac laptop run Windows 7 or 8 as well. There are two ways to run Windows on a Mac and both are described here: <http://www.macworld.co.uk/how-to/mac/how-run-windows-on-mac-3497251/>). The first approach is to set-up a dual boot at start-up. The second approach involves running Windows using virtualization software. Both will require you to purchase a Windows licence (student price ~\$70; e.g.

http://www.microsoftstore.com/store/msusa/en_US/pdp/Windows-8.1-Pro-for-Students/productID.288769600).

OTHER EXPENSES: In addition to tuition fees, books, supplies and equipment; you may incur expenses for transportation to field labs, field trips and various certification courses. Estimated expenses for the two years \$1000 - \$1500.

FIELD EQUIPMENT and SUPPLIES: It is important that you are prepared and have basic field equipment and supplies necessary to have a successful experience in your courses. Our staff has developed this list of equipment and supplies, most of which will be needed within the first month of classes. The equipment will also form a necessary part of your “field toolkit” in your career and will last for many years.

Estimated expenses for field equipment and supplies are between \$600 and \$800 during the first year and \$200-\$400 during second year. ***During the first week of class there will be a vendor on campus, giving you the opportunity to purchase most of the equipment and supplies at a reasonable savings.***



REQUIRED FIELD EQUIPMENT and FIELD LAB SUPPLIES:

- ✓ Compass with hinged sighting mirror and declination adjustment. (Suunto or equivalent)
- ✓ Suunto Clinometre: with % and degree scales
- ✓ Diameter Tape – metric (FRR 283D5M)
- ✓ 14cm X 18.5cm six ring field notebook binder
- ✓ 8 column waterproof field note book paper;100 sheet pkg
 - Must have 8 column note page with a facing metric grid map page
 - 6 hole punched that fits above note book
- ✓ Field Pocket Scale rule (CTH 10029) with 1:5000, 1:10000, 1:20000 scales
- ✓ Tri-Scale Ruler (Staedtler-Mars 987-18-1)
- ✓ Metric Navigational Protractor
- ✓ 10x or 16x mineral hand lens
- ✓ Air Photo/Map kit - includes:
 - waterproof see-through case large enough for a 25cm x 25cm aerial photo
 - Staedtler-Mars omni-chrome pencils – Blue, Red, Yellow, Green
 - 20cm x 25cm metric area dot grid 4 dots per sq cm
- ✓ Hard hat – recommend a wide brim style or a regular hard hat with a rain shield, preferable with 6 point suspension
- ✓ Personal 1st Aid kit, with additional field dressing
- ✓ Personal safety whistle (Marine, Fox40 or equivalent) make sure it is pea-less
- ✓ Cruiser Field Vest - with Worksafe regulation required hi-vis stripes
- ✓ Rain jacket and pants good for off trail bush walking. (Keep your expensive gear for recreational use)
- ✓ Safety Boots: As you spend much of your field training time off-trail in forested settings, we require caulk boots for safe off- trail footing. Make sure you size the boots with insoles and wearing a minimum two pairs of socks.
- ✓ Safety glasses (will need in 2nd year)

Optional items things you might find useful:

- ✓ Ear plugs
- ✓ Bama Socks: helps to keep feet warm and dry, make sure you fit with boots
- ✓ Pocket flashlight
- ✓ Pocket stereoscope for viewing aerial photos
- ✓ Binoculars, 8x42 or similar power
- ✓ Pocket knife: folding with a locking blade or a sheath-knife (with sheath). Used for probing, vegetation sampling etc.
- ✓ GPS enabled mobile device (iPhone, smartphones, tablets) with camera

Note: Shop around for the best price and fit. Items such as binoculars, work boots, knives, and waders are available at most outdoor stores, major department stores etc.