



THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, AKURE

Department of Forestry and Wood Technology

FWT 511 – Environmental Impact Assessment of Forestry Projects

COURSE PARTICULARS

Course Code: FWT 511

Course Title: Environmental Impact Assessment of Forestry Projects

No. of Units: 2

Course Duration: two hours of theory and one hour of practical per week for 15 weeks.

Status: Compulsory

Course Email Address: fwt511@gmail.com

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is to provide knowledge on principle of environmental impact assessment (EIA), definition; history and law related to EIA and tools for evaluate impact. Principles of EIA on physical, biological, human use and quality of life are focused. As a practical course, to meet the set objectives, we will engage in lectures, small group and large group discussion, field work in environmental testing, analyzing data, and writing an environmental impact assessment report. This will assist the students in understanding the theory and practical of environmental impact assessment, including approaches dealing with biophysical, cumulative, social and strategic impacts. Identify the steps in the EIA process and describe how EIA and forest management in Nigeria are linked. Topics to be covered include assessment methodology and mitigation measures, preparation and evaluation of EIA reports and case studies of selected forestry and forestry-related projects for assessment of their environmental impacts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this course are to:

- introduce students to environmental impact assessment principles, process, and necessary techniques for environmental impact assessment, mitigation and monitoring;
- analyze impact on resources and environment as well as evaluate impact from development project; and

- develop a critical, personal position on appropriate roles for EIA in sustainable development.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / COMPETENCIES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will become familiar with:

- roots and history of EIA in Nigeria and elsewhere;
- legislation and government processes for EIA;
- identify the steps in the EIA process;
- parties involved in EIA and their attitudes, actions, roles and responsibilities;
- application of EIA to various kinds of developments; and
- various approaches, methods and techniques used in EIA.

Develop skills in:

- evaluating EIA processes, studies, and documents;
- undertaking EIA studies ; and
- making oral presentations and writing technical papers related to EIA.

GRADING SYSTEM FOR THE COURSE

This course will be graded as follows:

Class Attendance	10%
Assignments/Test	20%
Field work/writing of EIA report	30%
<u>Final Examination</u>	<u>40%</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>100%</u>

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Attendance: It is expected that every student will be in class for lectures and also participate in all practical exercises. Attendance at classes is your own responsibility. You will learn much more by being there and being attentive. Punctuality is key. Attendance records will be kept and used to determine each person’s qualification to sit for the final examination. In case of illness or other unavoidable cause of absence, the student must communicate as soon as possible with the instructor, indicating the reason for the absence.

Academic Integrity: Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances are prohibited. You are not allowed to make copies of another person’s work and submit it as your own; that is plagiarism. All cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the University Management for appropriate sanctions in accordance with the guidelines for handling students’ misconduct as spelt out in the Students’ Handbook.

Assignments and Group Work: Students are expected to submit assignments as scheduled. Failure to submit an assignment as at when due will earn you zero for that assignment. Only under extenuating circumstances, for which a student has notified any of the instructors in advance, will late submission of assignments be permitted.

Code of Conduct in Lecture Rooms and Laboratories: Students should turn off their cell phones during lectures. Students are prohibited from engaging in other activities (such as texting, watching videos, *etc.*) during lectures. Food and drinks are not permitted in the laboratories.

LITERATURE RESOURCES

You will avail yourselves mainly of two sources of literature: (a) University library and (b) Internet. In addition, I have an extensive library of EIA materials, to which you may have access. You will learn best by reading a lot about the subject matter that we cover in class.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Topic	Remarks
1	Introduction and Course Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History and legislation processes for EIA Component of the environment 	During this first class, the expectation of the students from the course will also be documented.
2 &3	Goals and principles of EIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition Classification of Environmental Impacts Benefits and roles of EIA EIA stakeholders Timing of EIA 	
4 &5	Methods and Process of EIA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment methodology EIA process Mitigation measures 	
6	Strategies for effective EIA, EIA Problems and Potential Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key elements of effective EIA system. Conditions for effective EIA. Stakeholder involvement in EIA. 	
7	Environmental management plan	MID-SEMESTER TEST
8 & 9	Preparation and evaluation of EIA reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outline of EIA reports Procedure for EIA Evaluation of EIA reports 	
10 & 11	Forestry projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classification and characteristics of forestry projects 	Students will be divided into groups and requested to discuss, design and prepare the semi-

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case studies of selected forestry and forestry-related projects for assessment of their environmental impacts 	structured questionnaire for data collection during the field exercise
12	Field work	The group of students will be assigned to carry out EIA exercise at selected forestry and forestry-related projects.
13 & 14	EIA report on the field work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing of the EIA of the field exercise • Oral presentation of the EIA report 	The groups will make slides presentation of the EIA report.
15	REVISION	This is the week preceding the final examination. At this time, evaluation will be done to assess how far the students' expectations for the course have been met

