

Aerial Photo Interpretation 3 Credits

(Content-Focused Syllabus)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course teaches the fundamentals of aerial photography as aids for fieldwork and preliminary information gathering. The course covers three-dimensional views from the photos, features on the photos as they relate to the same features on topographical maps and on the ground, and estimation of areas of land and heights of features on photos. Vegetation typing, basic principles of photo attributes, and the use of photos as basic maps in the field are also included. *(A typical content-focused course description lists the topics covered in the course, but does not include what the students will do or what is expected of them.)*

COURSE GOAL

The purpose of this course is to provide the fundamentals of photograph interpretation. *(The goal says that the course will provide the fundamentals of photograph interpretation, when in fact it is the instructor who provides the information and knowledge base. This goal focuses on the instructor and what he/she will do.)*

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To explain how to navigate using aerial photographs.

2. To show how to select and set up photos for stereoscopic viewing.

3. To illustrate relationships between aerial photos, maps, and the ground.

4. To demonstrate through interpretation a variety of ground features and conditions visible on aerial photographs.

5. To give formulas on measuring area, distance, and height information from aerial photographs.

(These course objectives are very traditional, and again relate to the instructor. "To explain... to show... to illustrate... to demonstrate... to give formulas..." all describe what the instructor will do, not what the students will do.)

TEXT

How to Use Aerial Photography in Natural Resource Applications, 1988, Caylor, J.A., required

Log Scaling and Timber Cruising, 1988, Bell-Dilworth, recommended

(This is a short list of resources. The topics covered come from the textbook.)

COURSE SCHEDULE

(In a traditional content-focused syllabus, topics covered are listed, as they are here.)

WEEK	TOPICS
Week 1	Introductions and course overview
Week 2	Geometry of aerial photos, principles of stereoscopy
Week 3	Photo scale concepts and application
Week 4	Measurement and displacement, navigation with aerial photos
Week 5	Scale continued, area determination
Week 6	Angles on aerial photos MIDTERM
Week 7	Photo image interpretation Larch Mountain: team navigation
Week 8	Theme Extraction, vegetation typing
Week 9	Landform and Drainage pattern
Week 10	Heights and elevation change
Week 11	FINAL EXAM

Class Policies

CLASS AND LAB ATTENDANCE	Attendance at all classes is expected. Most labs cannot be made-up because they occur in the field or required extensive equipment set up. 10% of the grading is based on class attendance. <i>(This is common in a content-focused syllabus, grading students for sitting under an instructors' tutelage, rather than on something they have done.)</i>
MAKE-UP EXAMS	Requests to take a make-up exam or to make up an in-class assignment must be made prior to the scheduled date.
GRADING	We will have one midterm exam <i>(content-focused, knowledge-based exam)</i> in addition to six homework or in-class assignments. In-class assignments will be completed during the class time and turned in at the end of class. The final will be comprehensive and include a lab practical <i>(knowledge-based and skill-based)</i>. Your grade will be calculated by these proportions: 10% Attendance 25% Midterm 25% In-class Assignments/Homework 40% Final Exam