

College of Forestry: Forest Engineering, Resources and Management Department (FERM)

Mission, Goal and Objective Statement for our Professional Programs

The overall mission of our profession programs, including the Forestry, Forest Engineering, and Forest Engineering - Civil Engineering dual degree, is to engage and educate the next generation of diverse scholars, practitioners and users of the world's forest resources. This mission is fundamental to Oregon State University's Sea-, Space-, Sun- and Land-Grant designation and to advancing the profession of forestry nationally and internationally. We provide the theoretical frameworks and practical experiential learning opportunities that permit our graduates to apply innovative forestry practices to solve emerging issues in sustainable forest management. And we create an open and inclusive learning environment in which to explore and solve the challenges of the future.

By graduation, our students are analytical problem solvers and professionals, able to 1) collect and understand a range of information available from forests, 2) use available tools to evaluate management options and make sound decisions, 3) work with a range of people and agencies to implement sound management, and 4) communicate information in both written and oral formats to a range of audiences.

Specific objectives for our degree programs:

- Teach the science and engineering principles necessary for sustaining forests and associated resources to achieve economic, environmental, and social objectives;
- Maintain ABET and SAF accreditations;
- Remain connected to the respective employers and groups who rely on our graduates; and
- Foster continued support from alumni and other donors for those degree programs.

The FERM department is a unique group of specialists in forest management, engineering, biometrics, hydrology, forest health, and silviculture that is working to support decisions for sustaining forest resources. Our teaching, outreach and research emphasize all aspects of active forest management for multiple land-use objectives.

Learning Outcomes for individual degree programs and options are detailed in Criteria 1.