



Certified Wetland Delineator - Syllabus



Duration: 12 Weeks

Credit Hours: 36 Hours

General Information

The Swamp School's Certified Wetland Delineator (CWD) program is designed to provide a certification that identifies individuals as being highly skilled in all aspects of wetland delineation. A Certified Wetland Delineator is able to reliably demonstrate that he or she can accurately identify and depict land that would be subject to the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act regulations as administered by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Environmental Protection Agency. This certification will enable clients of a certified delineator to make informed decisions when choosing to engage these individuals for wetland delineator services.

To become a Certified Wetland Delineator (CWD) you will be asked to participate in an online wetland delineation methods program consisting of live, interactive, and online modules followed by an in-person field practicum examination. The required field practicum is offered several times a year in various locations and may require travel at your expense.

PREREQUISITES

“In order to register for this course, students must have successfully completed each of the three individual wetland certification modules which are Wetland Botany, Wetland Hydrology, and Wetland Hydric Soils. You will need to provide all three certification numbers before you will be able to start this class. Your certifications must also be in good standing.”

Course Description

This course covers a review of wetland training based on the 1987 Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Manual and the new Regional Supplements followed by several weeks of practice work out in the field preparing data forms at sites of your choice as well as a final wetland demarcation assignment all in preparation for a field practicum*.

Course Requirements

Students are expected to present original work for all weekly assignments, respond to weekly forum discussions, and provide responses to other students' discussions on or before the due date of the assignment. ALL information for course assignments (data forms, soil profiles, pictures, drawings, etc.) must be current and completed within the time frame of your published course start and end dates unless a specific exception to this policy is granted by the staff of the Swamp School. Submissions completed for an employer's work-related project will be accepted as long as they meet the time restrictions mentioned above. Weekly class assignments include the preparation of a submission that may include essays, pictures, maps, or other course-related material. Students must also successfully complete midterm and final exams.

Instructor Contact - Directly within the class via Moodle email.

Time Limits

Weekly assignments are to be turned in within the timeframe indicated for each assignment, normally ten days from the start of the lesson. Daily assignments in weeklong courses are due the next day. You must complete all class requirements by the official end date of the course. If you are unable to complete the class within that time frame you MUST notify the Swamp School in writing. Late work may be turned in after due dates but may be penalized. If you have not completed the course by the official end date, additional time extensions can be requested but may be subject to an additional fee. If you wish, you may transfer into the next scheduled session of the course, however, some or all of your previous coursework may not carry over to the new session and you may also be subject to a re-enrollment fee. The Swamp School reserves the right to modify this policy on a case-by-case basis.

NOTE: In the event that the student falls more than two weeks behind during the class term, the student's course access will be suspended without notice until the student contacts the Swamp School to discuss continuation in the class or transfer to another session. It is up to the student to contact the Swamp School to discuss re-enrollment options.

Plagiarism and Writing Standards

The Swamp School's expectation is that all student work will be original. A detailed description of our policy on proper submission of an assignment is outlined in our Plagiarism Statement and Writing Standards.

Grading*

Weekly assignments - 30%

Weekly class discussions - 20%

Field practicum – 30%

Midterm - 10%

Final exam - 10%

*A minimum overall grade of 80% is required to pass this class.

Quizzes and Tests

Quizzes and tests open and close on the dates specified in the activity. They cannot be taken early, and special permission is needed to take exams after they close.

Course Schedule

| Week | Topic |
|---------|--|
| Week 1 | Offsite assessment, on-site delineation, preparing a wetlands report |
| Week 2 | Review of data forms, hydrology, vegetation, and wetland soils, and wetland demarcation. |
| Week 3 | Wetland mapping |
| Week 4 | Data point 1 - wetland |
| Week 5 | Data point 2 - wetland |
| Week 6 | Waters of the US rules, Data point 3 - wetland |
| Week 7 | Data point 4 - wetland |
| Week 8 | Data point 5 - upland |
| Week 9 | Wetland delineation assignment Review for final exam |
| Week 10 | Final exam |
| Week 11 | Field practicum |

Certification

As a Certified Wetland Delineator (CWD) you will receive a certificate with an electronic seal that can be used for reports and proposals. This certification will remain valid for 5 years and is eligible for renewal with additional continuing education.