

**Cooperative College (3+2) Program Agreement**  
**between**  
**Oregon State University**  
**Corvallis, Oregon**  
**and**  
**Willamette University**  
**Salem, Oregon**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provides a pathway to the Master of Forestry (MF) degree at Oregon State University (OSU) where participating undergraduate students at Willamette University complete at least three years at Willamette University and then enter a MF program in either the Sustainable Forest Management or Forest Ecosystems and Society graduate programs at OSU on conditional graduate student status. Within their first year at OSU, students complete the remaining curricular requirements for their Willamette University bachelor's degree, and then, on meeting OSU graduate admissions standards, will be granted unconditional graduate student status to complete the MF program at OSU.

The graduate programs in Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Ecosystems and Society at OSU are designed to provide graduate students with advanced knowledge to solve complex natural resource problems and support sustainable management of natural resources with a primary focus on forestry. The Sustainable Forest Management program is organized around six areas of concentration: 1) Forest Operations Planning and Management; 2) Forest Policy Analysis and Economics; 3) Forest Biometrics and Geomatics; 4) Silviculture, Fire, and Forest Health; 5) Forest Soils and Watershed Processes; and 6) Engineering for Sustainable Forest Management. The Forest Ecosystems and Society program is organized around seven areas of focus: 1) Forest, Wildlife, and Landscape Ecology; 2) Genetics and Physiology; 3) Integrated Social and Ecological Systems; 4) Science of Conservation, Restoration, and Sustainable Management; 5) Social Science, Policy, and Natural Resources; 6) Soil – Plant – Atmosphere Continuum; and 7) Sustainable Recreation and Tourism.

Willamette University and Oregon State University recognize the mutual benefits each institution and their students will receive from this MOU. The close proximity of Willamette University to the OSU main campus provides synergies to students in both programs and fosters student success.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

**A. Basic Understanding**

1. Students (cumulative undergraduate GPA  $\geq 3.0$ ) who have completed a course of study of at least three years at Willamette University will, upon application, be considered for conditional admission to an OSU MF program in Sustainable Forest Management or Forest Ecosystems and Society. Students must declare their intention to pursue this 3+2 pathway

by the beginning of their 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Willamette University and then must formally apply to OSU according to the Graduate School admission deadlines.

2. Students conditionally admitted to this 3+2 program will complete the remaining requirements for their undergraduate degree from Willamette University within their first year of study at OSU, and upon application for graduation, Willamette University will award the student the appropriate bachelor's degree. Any courses to be counted toward the MF graduate program at OSU must be graded C or higher and the student must maintain a  $\geq 3.0$  GPA on all work completed at OSU to remain in the MF program. Students not meeting the above criteria must develop a plan for success with their OSU graduate advisor and program director or have their program terminated.
3. Upon completion of the approved graduate program of study with a minimum 3.0 graduate GPA and passing their final examination, OSU will award the degree of MF.
4. Students participating in this 3+2 MF program will be subject to the OSU graduate student fee schedule during their time at OSU.
5. This MOU is effective for 5 years from the date of signed approval unless extended by mutual agreement of both parties.

## **B. Responsibilities of Willamette University**

1. Willamette University will offer a program of study that, upon satisfactory completion of at least three years, will prepare students for graduate study in the Sustainable Forest Management or Forest Ecosystems and Society MF programs at OSU. The program of study will be approved by both institutions. See the attached implementation plan for program of study development.
2. Willamette University will award the appropriate bachelor's degree after the student has satisfactorily completed their undergraduate requirements during their first year at OSU. (OSU will provide early assessment of student progress for classes taken in the Spring term).
3. Students of the environmental science, biology, and economics programs and similarly prepared students at Willamette University will be advised and supported by all appropriate means to successfully enter graduate professional study in the Sustainable Forest Management or Forest Ecosystems and Society MF programs at OSU.
4. To include a brief but complete description of the program in the undergraduate advising guide or catalog, and to prepare other more detailed materials for distribution to students and others who inquire about the program.
5. Designate a faculty or staff member to act as a primary liaison between Willamette University and the College of Forestry at OSU and as an advisor to students in this 3+2

program while they are at Willamette University. The OSU College of Forestry will be notified immediately should the responsibility of this advisor be reassigned.

Responsibilities of this advisor include, but are not limited to:

- a. Advise students in course programs at their schools, both to satisfy undergraduate degree requirements and to prepare them for study at OSU.
- b. Be aware of and advise students about requirements for admission to the MF graduate program in the College of Forestry at OSU.
- c. Provide, or secure from the appropriate person, an official recommendation on behalf of the student that includes a certification that all requirements of the cooperating school have been completed. If a student's program contains any deficiencies in meeting undergraduate degree requirements, these deficiencies must be identified before the student is admitted to OSU and a plan for satisfying such deficiencies must be agreed upon by the student and both institutions.
- d. Insofar as possible, provide a ranking of the student's standing in their class or in individual courses and transcripts as an aid for evaluation of academic performance.
- e. Facilitate a meeting between the student and the graduate coordinator of the desired MF program at OSU in the student's 3<sup>rd</sup> year to identify OSU faculty and initiate communication in the student's desired interest of graduate study.

### **C. Responsibilities of OSU**

1. To provide instruction / courses at OSU for completion of the undergraduate degree granted by Willamette University.
2. To provide instruction in Sustainable Forest Management or Forest Ecosystems and Society at the professional master's degree level (i.e., MF).
3. To decide on conditional graduate admission for all applicants. Although satisfactory completion of three years of undergraduate work qualifies a student for application, the final admissions decision rests with the Graduate School and the College of Forestry at OSU.
4. To provide a primary point of contact to act as a primary liaison on this MOU and this 3+2 program between OSU and Willamette University.
5. To provide a graduate advisor to guide graduate studies at the College of Forestry including advising the student during preparatory undergraduate coursework (e.g., typically year 4) and development of the graduate program of study.
6. To provide to each cooperating school through its designated advisor a statement of admissions policy and information of any subsequent changes in that policy.
7. To provide advice, when requested, on courses recommended as preparation for senior undergraduate and graduate study.
8. To provide to Willamette University documentation of the coursework (e.g., syllabi) completed by the student at OSU, and to confirm the full list of courses completed by the

student at OSU. To recognize Willamette University's May commencement schedule, OSU will provide early assessment of student progress for any classes taken in the Spring term.

9. To specify requirements for the completion of the professional MF degree programs in Sustainable Forest Management or Forest Ecosystems and Society at OSU and, upon satisfactory completion of such requirements, to award the MF degree.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Oregon State University**

**Willamette University**

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Dean of College of Forestry

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Dean Willamette University

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Graduate School

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Willamette University Administration