Texas A&M University

Departmental Request for a Change in Course
Undergraduate • Graduate • Professional
• Submit original form and attachments •

1. This request is submitted by the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course: RLEM 604, Grazing Management and Range Nutrition

3. Change requested
   a. Prerequisite(s): From: To:
   b. Withdrawal (reason):
   c. Cross-list with: [Cross-listed courses require the signature of both department heads.]
   d. Change in course title and description. Enter complete current course title and current course description in item 4; enter proposed course title and proposed course description in item 5.
   e. Change in course number, contact hours (lab & lecture), and semester credit hours. Complete item 6. Attach a course syllabus.

4. Complete current course title and current course description:

5. Complete proposed course title and proposed course description (not to exceed 50 words):

6. a. As currently in course inventory:

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   b. Change to:

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   Approval recommended by: [Signature] 9/7/08

   Head of Department

   Date

   Head of Department (if cross-listed course) Date

   Submitted to Coordinating Board by: [Signature] 9/10/09

   Date

   Effective Date

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8201.
Curricular Services – 11/07
Course Overview
I look forward to interacting with you this semester as we explore rangelands and the plants and animals that live on them. We will begin by considering how plants grow and how this impacts animals and how animals impact plants. We will study growth and development at the individual plant level and then move to the community level as we consider how vegetation responds to grazing and fire. Various grazing methods will be considered along with the carrying capacity concept and management of stocking rates. Characteristics of plants that determine forage quality will be related to kinds and classes of herbivores. We will study concepts for nutritional ecology of herbivores such as anatomical, physiological, and metabolic characteristics of herbivores, diet selection, intake, digestion, metabolism, and assimilation of nutrients from grazed forages and supplements. Last, we will outline principles of nutritional management, including supplementation, of grazing animals for maintenance, growth, lactation, and reproduction. The course includes extensive fieldtrips to evaluate different applications of grazing management and range animal nutrition. We will also have a hands-on exercise of developing and evaluating a grazing management plan for a ranch.

Learning Outcomes
1. Describe the processes of plant growth and development that are important to grazing management.
2. Describe concepts and applications for plant community dynamics in response to grazing and fire.
3. Describe concepts for stocking rates and grazing systems on rangelands.
4. Develop and evaluate a grazing plan for a ranch.
5. Evaluate applications of grazing and fire management on rangelands and pasturelands.
6. Identify plant factors that affect forage quality.
7. Identify principles of nutritional ecology of herbivores.
8. Explain the concepts and applications for nutritional management of grazing animals.
9. Develop and evaluate a grazing plan for an actual ranch.

Learning Approach
You will be expected to learn through independent reading, lecture, class discussion, field trips and developing synthesis reports. Your grade in this course will depend upon your regular participation in and completion of all of these activities. You will be expected to read assigned material prior to lecture and come to each class prepared to participate. The course does not have any prerequisites except your willingness to do the assignments on time and to participate in the class. We will focus on principles and concepts and how to apply them to the management of grazing, fire, and rangeland herbivores. All quizzes and assignments will be take-home.

Grading: A 90-100%; B 80-89%; C 70-79%; D 60-69%; F <60%
- 50% Take-home quizzes (Quiz A due at mid-semester; Quiz B due at the end of semester)
- 20% Grazing management plan (Due April 24)
- 20% Field trip report (Due April 10)
- 10% Participation in class discussions

Policy for late work
All exams and reports are to be completed as take-home assignments. Suggested due dates are included, but work will be accepted without penalty until the last day of class.

Text
Classnotes available at Copy Corner at 2307 Texas Avenue South, College Station
Selected references posted on WebCT.
Field Trips
The field trips are an integral part of the course and participation is required.
(3/06) ½-day -- Gene Sollock (Iola); Bermudagrass-Ball clover management (8:00 AM - 12:00 PM)
(3/27-29) 3 days -- Edwards Plateau; six stops evaluating vegetation, livestock, & wildlife mgt.

OFFICE HOURS: I am available to meet with students throughout the week. You are welcome to drop by my office or to contact me to arrange an appointment.

ADA POLICY STATEMENT: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities, in Cain Hall or call 845-1637.

Academic Integrity Statement
“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.”
As a student at Texas A&M University, it is your duty to know and live by the Aggie Honor Code. For details, please refer to the Honor Council Rules and Procedures on the web at www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor

Plagiarism
Plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own the ideas, words, writings, etc., which belong to another. You are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of that person. Evidence of plagiarism will result in an automatic null mark for the assignment or test. If you have any questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the latest issue of the Texas A&M University Student Rules, under the section “Scholastic Dishonesty.”

Attendance
Attendance policy shall follow Rule 7, which can be found at http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule7.htm

For any other questions or concerns, please refer to http://student-rules.tamu.edu
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