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 614, Advances in Range Improvement Practices

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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>Title (excluding punctuation)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RLEM</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>Advances in Range Improvement Practices</td>
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<th>SCH</th>
<th>CIP and Fund Code</th>
<th>Admin. Unit</th>
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b. Change to:

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<th>Course #</th>
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<td>ESSM</td>
<td>612</td>
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<th>Admin. Unit</th>
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Approval recommended by: ___________ 8/7/09

Head of Department  Date

Head of Department (if cross-listed course)  Date

Submitted to Coordinating Board by: ___________

Associate Director, Curricular Services

Date  Effective Date

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845-8201.
Curricular Services – 11/07

1 of 5 C32
ESSM 612
ADVANCES IN RANGE IMPROVEMENT PRACTICES
Class Meets TR 9:35 – 10:50 in room 133 Animal Industries Building
Fall 2008

INSTRUCTOR: Wayne Hamilton
Room 213 AI Building
(979) 845-5589
Email: wt-hamilton@tamu.edu
Secretary: (979) 845-5501

Course Description:
Principles and recent advances in brush and weed control with mechanical, chemical, burning and biological methods; interrelationships of brush management with grazing, wildlife and watershed management; planning and economic analysis of range improvement practices

Prerequisites:
None

Learning Outcomes:

1. Able to select and apply range improvement practices for manipulation of rangeland vegetation

2. Capability to project vegetation and animal responses from grazing and brush and weed management, integrate brush management with resource goals and analyze economic feasibility.

3. Familiarity with selected current research in grazing and brush and weed management methods and management systems. Familiarity with the most prevalent problem woody plant species in Texas and field methods for measuring woody plants and estimating their influence on forage production.

4. Familiarity with field application of technologies studied in class (field trip).
**Topical Outline:**

II. Course Outline and course orientation. Background and sources of problems associated with vegetation changes on western rangelands.

III. Alternative methods for management of problem range vegetation, plant and animal responses and research application.
   A. Mechanical
   B. Chemical
   C. Biological
   D. Burning

III. Integrated brush management systems - concepts, development, implementation and monitoring.

IV. Brush management and multiple resource uses, including livestock grazing, watershed, wildlife, recreation, and nature-based tourism.

V. Techniques and considerations for economic analysis of brush management.

VI. Computer software to facilitate selection of brush management technology.

VII. Field Trips.

VIII. Term research papers.

**Test Dates:**
Test dates to be determined

**Course Grading:**

A midterm exam will be administered and there will be a final exam. A term paper is required. Titles and subject matter for term papers must be approved by the instructor. A written analysis of the field trips will be required. Grading will be as follows:

- Midterm exam 30%
- Term research paper 20%
- Field trip analyses 20%
- Final exam 30%

100%
Grade Distribution:

90+ = A
80-89 = B
70-79 = C
60-69 = D
<60 = F

The following texts will be used as references in the course:


The second listed publication is available at the Center for Grazinglands and Ranch Management, room 203 Animal Industries Building for $25. The first and third listed publications are available at the Texas A&M University Press at a discount price. Additional readings and/or notes will be provided in class or made available at a copy center for purchase.

NOTE: The class presentations will be on e-learning within the first few days of the semester.

Late Work/Make-up Policy:

If you miss a regularly scheduled examination, only written excused absences will be accepted as a pass to take a make-up examination. An excused absence means that illness or some other problems beyond your control prevented you from preparing for, or being present at, a scheduled exam. You must register your excused absence within 7 days of the missed exam. Exercises and reports shall be submitted on the due date; if late they will only be accepted with a written excuse.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance will only be taken the first few class periods until drops, adds and other variables that may affect the final enrollment are addressed. Thereafter attendance will not be taken. If you are absent for an extended period you should notify the instructor of the nature of your absence. Only excused absences will be allowed.

Americans with Disabilities Act (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.”

For more information see the Honor Council Rules and Procedures on the web at: http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor

**Aggie Honor Code**

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.”

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the Texas A&M University community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. For additional information please visit: www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/

On all course work, assignments, and examinations at Texas A&M University, the following Honor Pledge shall be preprinted and signed by the student:

“On my honor, as an Aggie, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this academic work.”

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