

**NRM 4308**  
**BIG GAME MANAGEMENT**  
**FALL 2015**

**Lecture times:** Tuesday 14h00 – 14h50

**Lab times:** Thursday 14h00 – 16h50 (Lecture and lab times may interchange depending on subject matter).

**Instructor:** Ryan O'Shaughnessy

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Office: Everett E. Turner Range Animal Science Center, Room 115

Office hours: Monday 10h00 – 12h00, Wednesday 10h00 – 12h00

**Text:** Demarais, S. and P.R. Krausman. 2000. Ecology and management of large mammals in North America. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

**Catalog description:** Application of the principles of wildlife management to big games species; habitat management, production, population characteristics and management strategy for each big game species will be stressed.

**Course objective:** To provide a general overview of: (1) the ecology and conservation strategies of large mammals of North America; (2) the practices commonly used to manage big game species in North America.

**Grading:** Exam 1 – 15%  
Exam 2 – 15%  
Exam 3 – 15%  
Exam 4 – 15% (maybe substituted for practical experience?)  
Species profiles – 15%  
Reports – 15% (2-3 page summations of guest speaker presentations and/or field trips)  
Active participation in classes and labs – 10%

**Scale:** 90 -100% = A  
80 – 89% = B  
70 – 79% = C  
60 – 69% = D  
< 60% = F

**Attendance:** No make-up quizzes, assignments, or exams will be given for unexcused absences. An excused absence is one where you notify the instructor PRIOR to being absent.

**Species profiles:** Each student will select one big game species that occurs in the Chihuahuan Desert to profile. Once a species has been selected, the student will conduct a literature review of the species as it pertains to the Chihuahuan Desert. A bibliography (15 citation minimum) is due on the **2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015**. Actual paper copies of the articles must be attached to the bibliography. Using their respective bibliographies, each student will write a 8-10 page paper on the life

history of the species as it relates to the Chihuahuan Desert. A first draft of the paper is due on the **6<sup>th</sup> November**, and the final draft is due on the **4<sup>th</sup> December**.

**Reports:** Throughout the semester we will have a variety of guest speakers. A 3 page report (12 pt, double spaced) of the presenters material is due ONE week following the presentation.

**Labs:** A variety of field trips, guest presenters, and lab practical's have been scheduled throughout the semester. Not all lab activities will occur during the regularly scheduled lab time - therefore, labs may not meet every week. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements to participate in all lab activities, as you are responsible for any content delivered during labs.

**Active participation:** Students who show an active interest in classes and labs, and who actively participate in class discussions and practicals will gain extra credit.

**Accommodations:** It is up to Sul Ross State University to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of physical, mental, or learning disabilities please contact the ADA coordinator for Program Accessibility located in Room 206 of the Briscoe Administration Building, or call 432-837-8203.

#### **Program learning objectives:**

##### **Program Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management**

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.
4. Conduct range and wildlife inventories in a team setting.
5. Apply knowledge about elements of an ecosystem into an appropriate conservation management plan.

##### **Program Learning Outcomes for the M.Agr. in Range and Wildlife Management**

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Apply statistical concepts and procedures to natural resource data
2. Evaluate literature and references as they apply to the natural resource field
3. Demonstrate their knowledge of the fundamentals and advanced concepts of range and wildlife management.

##### **Program Learning Outcomes for the M.S. in Range and Wildlife Management**

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Apply statistical concepts and procedures to natural resource data
2. Evaluate literature and references to substantiate an applied research project.

3. Examine, select, and utilize appropriate resources, materials, and data collection instruments to implement research projects.
4. Justify and defend the research questions and design.

**Tentative class and lab schedule for NRM 4308 – Big Game Management – Fall, 2015**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Subject</b>
8/25 – 8/27	1	Introductions, Syllabus, Taxonomy and Biodiversity, Hybridization
9/1 – 9/3	2	Human values, Population parameters
9/8 – 9/10	3	Modeling population dynamics, Nutritional ecology
9/15 – 9/17	4	<b>Exam 1 (9/17)</b> , Carrying capacity
9/22 – 9/24	5	Population regulation, Behavioral ecology
9/29 – 10/1	6	Harvest management, <b>Bibliography (10/2)</b> , TPWD management (Billy Tarrant)
10/6 – 10/8	7	H-D and Conflict resolution, Genetic applications, <b>Exam 2 (10/8)</b>
10/13 – 10/15	8	Big game ranching, Big game management on Tribal land, History of big game management
10/20 – 10/22	9	Pronghorn (Shawn Gray), Field trip to Marathon
10/27 – 10/29	10	Desert Bighorn (Froylan Hernandez), Field trip to EMWMA (Mark Garrett/Dewey)
11/3 - 11/5	11	<b>First draft (11/6)</b> , Non-game species - Black bears and mountain lions (Patricia Harveson)
11/10 - 11/12	12	<b>Exam 3 (11/12)</b> , exotics – hog, elk, and aoudad, Field trip to Davis Mountains (Mike Sullins/James Weaver)
11/17 – 11/19	13	Mule Deer (Shawn Gray), Field trip – drop net deer
11/24 – 11/26	14	Thanksgiving Break – NO CLASS THIS WEEK
12/1 – 12/3	15	<b>Final draft (12/4)</b> , white-tailed deer (Ryan Luna), Scoring big game (Cody McIntyre)
12/8 – 12/10	16	Semester review, <b>Exam 4 (12/8)</b>