

Sustainable Ranch Management: A Practice of Science, Art, and Determination.

RCH Ranch Skills 1
Fall 2015

Instructor:

Bonnie Warnock
Office: 111A RAS
Phone: 837-8488
email: bwarnock@sulross.edu

Office Hours: 3:15-5:00 Tuesday and Thursday. I am also available at other times by appointment.

Course description:

This course covers basic skills necessary for successful ranch management, including communication, observation, record keeping, equipment operation, and basic implementation of ranch improvements.

Required Text:

None

Equipment:

You will be issued an ipad mini at the first of the semester and will use it to keep records and complete assignments.

You will be expected to dress for work in 100% cotton jeans and leather boots. This is for your safety, not to impinge on anyone's personal style.

On field trips you will be expected to wear your Ranch shirts. Please go by Big Bend Saddlery to verify your size. These will be purchased for you, but you are responsible for keeping them clean and pressed.

During the course of the semester you will be expected to start a tool kit so that you can complete assignments. Plan on purchasing a box or bag for your tool kit.

Learning objectives:

1. Students will improve cattle handling skills and increase understanding in cattle behavior
2. Students will be able to conduct basic ranch improvements on fence and water
3. Students will be able to safely operate and maintain a skidsteer
4. Students will improve truck and trailer maintenance and operation skills
5. Students will be able to keep basic ranch records and use a spreadsheet

Program Learning Outcomes

This course addresses the following Program Learning outcomes:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
- Integrate principles of economics into ecosystem management focusing on the sustainability of both the ecosystem and the business enterprise.

Respect. Grit. Vision.

Sustainable Ranch Management: A Practice of Science, Art, and Determination.

Class Organization:

1. Roll will be taken during each class meeting by participation. The SRSU catalog states "The instructor may, at his discretion, drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences. An absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class. Non-attendance in a one and one-half hour class will constitute one and one-half absences."
2. Cheating on any exam or assignment will result in an F for that material and possible expulsion from the class with a grade of F.
- 3.. Missed exam policy: No make-up exams will be provided for unexcused missed exam. If you miss an exam without an excused absence, you will receive a score of 0 for that exam. Makeup exams will be available for authorized absences but must be completed within one week of the original exam date.
4. If you miss a lecture, you may obtain notes from a willing classmate. Handouts, and assignments may be obtained from me
5. It is Sul Ross State University Policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility 837-8203.

Grades:

Pre Assessment report	100 points
Skid Steer demonstration video	100 points
Field Exercises/Attendance	100 points
Journal/Records	100 points
Final Assessment report	100 points

Grade assignment:

<60 = F; 60-69 = D; 70-79 = C; 80-89 = B; 90-100 = A;

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. Apply knowledge about elements of an ecosystem into an appropriate conservation management plan.

Respect. Grit. Vision.

Sustainable Ranch Management: A Practice of Science, Art, and Determination.

5. Demonstrate knowledge of basic statistical concepts and procedures.
6. Conduct range and wildlife inventories in a team setting (concentrations in Conservation Biology, Range Mangement and Wildlife Management only).
7. Integrate principles of economics into ecosystem management focusing on the sustainability of both the ecosystem and the business enterprise. (concentrations in Agricultural Business and Sustainable Ranch Management only)