Instructor:
Dr. Robert Kinucan
Room 101, Turner RAS Center
Phone: 432-837-8201
Office hours: M-F, 11:00 – 12:00, 1:30 – 3:00 & by arrangement

Expected Learning Outcomes:
This course is an introduction to the principles of rangeland resource management. The class includes a survey of the history, resources, policies, grazing regions, grazing systems, management, improvement, ecology, ecosystem elements, plant physiology and evaluation of rangeland ecosystems. By the completion of this course you should be able to demonstrate an applied knowledge in the following areas: 1) an historically-based knowledge of physical and biological characteristics of world rangelands, 2) a practical knowledge of physiological, anatomical, and ecological functions and requirements of rangeland plants and foraging animals, 3) a knowledge of ecosystem elements, and 4) a knowledge of the fundamental concepts of rangeland resource management, including vegetation inventories and monitoring, vegetation manipulation, and livestock grazing management strategies. Students completing the course will recognize rangeland ecosystems and their proper use and management as demonstrated through the successful completion of course exams and critical reflection. The Department of Natural Resource Management Program Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 2 (demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem) is addressed in this course.

TEA AFNR Educator Standards – Standard VIII. The AFNR teacher understands and applies knowledge of environmental systems, natural resource management, and the effects of agriculture, energy, and food processing on the environment.

Accessibility:
Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from Accessibility Services during the instructor’s office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation to a student until appropriate verification from Accessibility Services has been provided. For additional information, please contact Mary Schwartze with Accessibility Services in Ferguson Hall 112, or call 432 837-8203

Lecture:
Room 130, RAS; MWF, 9:00 – 9:50 a.m.

Textbook:

Grades:
Lecture: 3 one-hour exams @ 100 points ea 300 points
Comprehensive final 100 points
Several extra credit opportunities, by attending seminars and events, may be available during the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

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

All grades will be posted in Blackboard when they become available.

_Tentative Exam Schedule and assignment deadline:_
Exam 1 – Monday, February 19
Exam 2 – Monday, April 2
Exam 3 – Wednesday, May 2
Comprehensive Final – Tuesday, May 8, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Class Organization:**
1) Class notes, web links, outside readings and assignments, and student grades are available in Blackboard through the SRSU website. On some occasions, class assignments may be given in Blackboard in lieu of meeting in the classroom.
2) Most exam material will come from class discussion and lecture notes. Reading the textbook and outside sources may be needed to successfully answer all exam questions.
3) Email correspondence will take place through your official SRSU email address.
4) Attendance and class participation are important factors for you to achieve the grade you desire. Excessive absences during the semester may result in a grade of F. (See attendance policy in the university catalog).
5) 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.
6) Missed Exam Policy: There will be no make-up exams for an unexcused missed exam, i.e., if you miss an exam without an authorized absence, you will receive a score of 0 for that exam. For missed exams that are authorized, arrangements must be made with the instructor.
7) If you find it necessary to miss a class for any reason, be sure to contact me beforehand, if at all possible.
8) If you miss a lecture, for whatever reason, you are responsible for that material and you will want to obtain notes and assignments from Blackboard or a classmate.
9) Read the syllabus! It contains information you will need about how the class is conducted, including the test schedule. If you have additional questions, be sure to ask!
10) Accessibility Services Guidelines and Procedures can be reviewed on the SRSU website under student services.

**TOPICAL OUTLINE (2015)**

I. Course Overview (Blackboard Unit 1)

II. Rangelands and Range Management: Chapters 1 and 2 (Blackboard Unit 2)
   a. Definitions of range science terms and concepts (days 1-3)
   b. Land Policies and historical development important in range science (days 4-6)

III. Rangelands in Perspective: Chapters 3 and 4 (Blackboard Units 3 & 4)
   a. Physical features of rangelands (days 7-11)
   b. Rangeland ecosystems - grazing regions of the world, United States and Texas (days 12-14)
Exam 1: February 19

IV. Range Plant Development: Chapter 5 (Blackboard Units 5 & 6)
   a. Morphology (days 15-17)
   b. Physiology (days 18-19)
   c. Reproduction (days 20-21)

V. Rangeland Ecology: Chapter 6 (Blackboard Unit 7),
   a. Ecosystem components and functions (days 22-24)
   b. Succession and climax (days 25-27)
   c. Stability and competition (day 28)

Exam 2: April 2

VI. Range Condition and Trend Concepts: Chapter 7 (Blackboard Units 8 & 9) (day 29)
   a. Classic approaches (day 30)
   b. Contemporary approaches (days 31-32)

VII. Range Inventory and Monitoring concepts and methods: Chapter 7 (Blackboard Units 8 & 9) (days 33-35)

VIII. Range Livestock Nutrition: Chapter 11 (Blackboard Unit 10) (days 36-38)

IX. Grazing Management: Chapters 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 (Blackboard Units 11 & 12) (days 39-42)
   a. Utilization, stocking rates, distribution, kinds & classes of stock
   b. Grazing systems

X. Manipulation of Rangeland Vegetation: Chapter 15 (Blackboard Unit 13) (day 42)

Exam 3: May 2

Comprehensive Final: May 8 (8:00 a.m.)