RCH 2101 Ranch Skills 1
Fall 2018

Instructor:
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday morning. 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.

Equipment:
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.
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 and record keeping skills by checking cattle on a regular basis
2. Students will be able to check, repair, and maintain water improvements
3. Students will be able to safely operate and maintain a skid steer
4. Students will improve truck and trailer maintenance and operation skills
5. Students will develop skills to read maps and learn and navigate a pasture
6. Students will develop basic communication skills including journaling, reporting and self assessment

Student Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management
1. Students will be able to identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Students will be able to communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.

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.

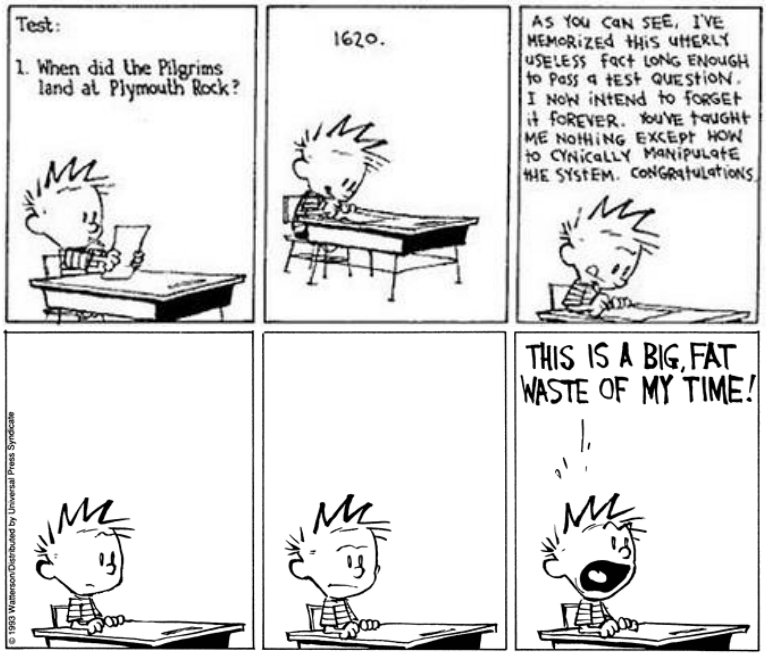
4. If you miss a lecture or activity, you may obtain notes from a willing classmate. Handouts, and assignments may be obtained from me

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:

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;



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

The Sustainable Ranch Management Program at Sul Ross State University has identified the following student learning outcomes (SLOs) for the program:

1. Students will be able to identify and apply the principal concepts, ideas, skills, and practices in the multiple areas of ranch management. (*Functional Areas*)
2. Students will be able to understand and apply the relevant theories and principles associated with the economics of the ranching industry and use relevant technical information to understand trends and make decisions. (*Economics and Business*)
3. Students will be able to evaluate the natural environment of a ranch or land area and make decisions with an ecosystem approach *(Ecology)*
4. Students will be able to recognize social, legal and ethical principles in ranching and apply them to decision making. *(SocialLegal/Ethical Principles*)
5. Students will be able to employ appropriate quantitative methods, qualitative methods, and physical skills to support daily operations and decisions. (*Technical Skills*)
6. Students will be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing. (*Communication Skills*)
7. Students will be able to demonstrate analytical and critical-thinking skills in the context of decision making. (*Analytical/Critical-Thinking Skills*)
8. Students will be able to demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, leadership ability, and the ability to work successfully in teams. (*Interpersonal Skills*)