

**NRM 2301 – Range Resources**  
**Dept. of Natural Resource Management, Sul Ross State University**

**Spring 2024 – Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Dr. Carlos E. Gonzalez

**Email:** [carlos.gonzalez@sulross.edu](mailto:carlos.gonzalez@sulross.edu)

**Office:** 114 RAS

**Office hours:** Monday and Wednesday, 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

**Lecture location:** RAS 130

**Time:** Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

**Description.** Rangelands are vast landscapes covering most of western North America and the earth. Students will examine the ecological principles that cause these grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, and deserts to change or stay the same. The modern challenges of rangeland management must be met with broad thinking and new, sustainable practices to maintain and restore rangelands and the human communities that rely on them. Because of this, we will explore how humans use and manage these ecosystems and the services they provide.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Understand the ecological concepts relevant to restoring ecosystems and critically think about the scientific/logistic challenges of applying these concepts.
2. Learn how to think critically regarding the structure and relationships of ecosystem modules.
3. Learn the ecological processes that control a specific ecosystem's structure and function

**Course Outline. \*Tentative and subject to change\***

Introduction to class and syllabus

Rangeland history

Rangeland and man

Rangeland Physical Characteristics

Description of Rangeland Types

Range Management and Multiple Use

Range Ecology

Range Ecology

- **Exam 1**

Range Inventory and Monitoring

Considerations Concerning Stocking Rate

Selection of Grazing Methods

Methods of Improving Livestock Distribution

Range Animal Nutrition

Range Plant Physiology

- **Exam 2**

**Spring Break**

**Spring Break**

Range Livestock Production  
Range Wildlife Management  
Manipulation of Range Vegetation  
Range Management in Developing Countries  
Rangeland Economics  
Planning, Technology, and the Future  
Conclusions and review

- **Exam 3**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup> Dead Day**

**Final Exam**

**Grading.** The grading scale will be A = 90-100%, B = 80-89.9%, C = 70-79.9%, D = 60-69.9%, F = 59.9% or less.

Three comprehensive one-hour exams will be given during the semester. Additionally, one final comprehensive one-hour exam will be given at the end of the semester.

- Only the top three grades of the four exams will be used for your final grade.
- All exams will be done in person.
  - You will have 75 minutes.
  - No makeup exams. If you miss an exam for any reason, you will be given a 0. If you know you will be missing an exam, talk to the instructor before missing the exam.
  - The material tested on the final exam covers all the information from the entire semester.

<u>Grading</u>	<u>Points</u>
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Exam 3	100
Final Exam	100

**Attendance:**

Attendance in lectures is not required but strongly encouraged, as we will cover material in class that students will not be able to get from any other source.

**Course material:**

Lecture presentations and PDF files with the PowerPoint slides will be uploaded weekly to Blackboard.

**Class etiquette:**

Please turn cell phones off at the beginning of each class. Put away all computers during lectures and do not web surf or email during class. In this course, we value a positive and respectful learning environment. Please adhere to the following class etiquette guidelines to ensure a smooth and productive experience for everyone. Attend all classes regularly and arrive punctually, notifying the instructor in advance if you must miss a class. Actively participate in class discussions, respecting the opinions of your classmates. Use respectful language in all forms of communication, maintaining professionalism in emails. Keep the classroom clean and organized. If you bring an apple for the instructor on the second day of class, you will earn one extra point on your first exam. Uphold principles of academic honesty and integrity. Dress appropriately for the learning environment and provide constructive feedback to peers and the instructor. Your commitment to these guidelines contributes to a positive and enriching learning atmosphere.

***Academic Dishonesty:***

Academic dishonesty includes copying, sharing, or obtaining information from an unauthorized source, attempting to take credit for the intellectual work of another person, falsifying information, and giving or receiving information about a test, quiz, or assignment to other students. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will receive no credit (0) for work done and/or may be penalized in accordance with published University Rules.

***Counseling and Accessibility Services:***

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. Email: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

***Students with Special Needs:***

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the Student's responsibility to initiate a request. Please contact me, Ms. Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Director/Counselor, Accessibility Services Coordinator, Ferguson Hall (Suite 112) at 432.837.8203; mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students should then contact the instructor as soon as possible to initiate the recommended accommodations.