Rangeland Resource Management REWM 5000
1:20 - 2:30 T&Th Ag 22
Dr. Ann Hild available by appointment via email Preferred times: Tuesday-Thursdays, 2:30 - 5:00pm
office: AG Room 6 email annhild@uwyo.edu or phone 766-5471

Suggested Readings: many files are available on the course WyoWeb site or online as indicated below. Be sure you know how to access course files.


Stubbendieck, J., S. Hatch & K. Hirsch. 2001. North American Range Plants, (5th ed.) Univ. of Neb. Press. (If you are a “plant person”, this book is probably not necessary. For others, it is a great resource for common rangeland species which includes distribution maps and detailed line drawings.)


Other helpful resources:

Course description: In the framework of ecologically sound management, students will develop an understanding of major N. American rangeland ecosystems, and domestic livestock uses of these rangelands. We will examine influences of herbivory on rangeland vegetation and discuss commonly used grazing management systems. We will discuss current theory and historic approaches to assessing rangeland condition and current management issues. The course will initially be more lecture, until you have more basic knowledge of rangeland systems, plant components and herbivores. Then, as the semester progresses, we should have fun discussing the readings and considering important concepts for management of rangeland resources.

Attendance: Your presence in class is expected. Please notify me in writing (email works best), in advance, if you need to miss class. If you miss class, please keep up with readings and consult with your peers in the class about discussions you missed. Please inform me if you require special assistance in order to attend this class.

Grading: Grading will be based upon both an understanding of topics covered during the semester and upon your ability to communicate your knowledge in writing and discussions. There are two papers, a plant id quiz, and a final. More detailed assignment descriptions will be provided. Grading is based entirely upon points attained and will not be curved. Late papers will be penalized one point daily.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Paper assignments</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Based upon course readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant ID quiz</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>comprehensive synthesis of all materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total points</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Field trips. Field trips for this class are arranged based upon the interest and experience of the students. We will discuss the field trip plans together to determine interest and timing of trips. Some class meetings will be cancelled during the semester, to compensate you for time spent on field trips.

Plant identification quiz: You will be asked to identify common rangeland grasses, forbs and shrubs. On the test, you will be asked the common name of mounted specimens and must match it with the scientific name, whether plants are annual or perennial, and native or exotic. You will have instruction on plant id and mounted specimens to study. Approximately 40 of the plants on your list can be found within 50 miles of Laramie.

Final Exam. The exam topics will include all items we have covered in class: your knowledge of different range ecosystems, exotic invasions, grazing systems and terminology. The final will be comprehensive, and will ask you to synthesize the lecture, discussions and readings. You will be asked to apply concepts to specific resource management issues. You will be given example questions prior to the final exam.

Writing assignments. Two paper assignments are used to cover concepts contained in readings and lectures on defoliation, and range condition assessment. The papers should be formatted following scientific journal style. Paper assignments cover specific details on your readings, theoretic implications and their applications. Writing assignments will be discussed in more detail as paper deadlines approach. Page limits are for text and do not apply to title pages, references, figures, and accessory pages. Late paper grades will be decreased one point per day late, including weekends. Papers should be submitted electronically as a word file attachment via email. Attach a document tile with the name “your last namePaper#”, as “SmithPaper1”.

Guidelines for Writing Assignments

Format for all papers should follow scientific style (e.g. refer to the Style Manual for Rangeland Ecology and Management (available online and in the library). You are writing a synthesis paper rather than a research report (styles are demonstrated in recent issues of this journal). Double space lines. Number pages and put your last name in the footer.

1. Use topic headings to divide your paper into sections. The assigned questions may be answered in any order. Beyond that general format, you should arrange the answers to the questions in a way that makes most sense for you and which flows well from one topic to another. You will have to read all assigned papers in order to write complete answers for the questions. Please keep the font large enough to read easily.

2. Whenever possible, use specific, detailed examples of plant and animals and ecosystems to illustrate your points and to be exact.

3. Use author & year citations in the text and literature cited at the end (not numbered references).

4. Not more that 5 pages of text excluding references (less than 2000 words).

5. Email me an electronic copy on the due date, and hand in a hard copy in class.