

RANGELAND ECOLOGY AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

REWM 4150/5150

BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT OF GRAZING HERBIVORES

SPRING 2011

SYLLABUS

Objectives:

This course is designed to introduce students to the concepts of using management strategies singly or in combination with behavior and/or behavioral modification(s) to optimize production and performance of wild and domestic animals. In addition to the animal response, the response on the natural, habitat/grazed resource will be considered. The course will provide scientific and practical knowledge and information to the student that will aid them in more efficient use, understanding and management of wild and domestic animals, along with lands and resources they require and utilize to survive, grow and reproduce. Management may be described in terms that include animal species and type, animal dominance and aggression, predator prey relationships across and within animal species (both predator and prey species alike), along with forage species and stage of development, fencing, herding, water availability, topography, weather, season of the year, animal dietary selectivity and what drives/controls it, normal marketing and production practices and cycles, possible alternatives to conventionally accepted practices (such as altering calving/lambing times to coincide with birthing of the wild prey base as a way of altering predation) that influence how complementary use and/or animal to animal or animal to human interactions impact the overall behavioral pattern of animals in varied environmental and natural, as well as artificial situations. Information on various types of predators, how they kill and feed on or consume their prey will also be explored. Students will learn the techniques and procedures used for low stress handling and movement of domestic and wild animals, in confined and extensive situations.

Lectures: 10:00-10:50 am, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Room 4041 Agriculture Bldg.

Instructor: J. W. Waggoner, Room 2029 AG. 766-2365 (office) and 742-4871 (home).

Instructor=s office hours: As posted.

Students are welcome to contact me at any time that I am in my office for assistance on lecture material or problems you are having with the class material. Calling ahead for an appointment will be helpful in effectively processing your needs. I have extension, and other teaching responsibilities in addition to this class. These additional responsibilities may result in time away from my office. If you have an emergency and can=t reach me, please contact our secretary, Denise Manore, in the main office at 766-2263.

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Text: None, however, publications, articles, etc. may be handed out to supplement the class notes.

Grading: Four lecture exams ----- 400 points
Final exam ----- 100 points
Class participation ----- 25 points
Total points possible ----- 525 points

Graduate students will be expected to complete an in depth term paper on some aspect of animal behavior and /or behavioral modification directed at achieving management objectives of the grazed resource and animal management/production response. The topic of this paper will be decided upon in consultation with the instructor.

Make-up exams are not ***automatically*** given. If you cannot attend a regularly scheduled exam, notify the instructor ***ahead of time*** to make arrangements or bring an exceptionally good excuse. **Arrangements to make-up and take any missed exam must be made prior to the next class period or as soon as you are able.**

Short unannounced quizzes, ***without*** opportunity for make-up, maybe given at anytime during the normally scheduled lecture.

Exam schedule:

Exam # 1: Monday (February) 7, 2011

Exam # 2: Wednesday (March) 2, 2011

Exam # 3: Friday (April) 1, 2011

Exam # 4: Wednesday (April) 27, 2011

January 17, 2011 is Martin Luther King Day. (No Class)

Spring break is March 14-18 2011. Easter break is April 22-24, 2011.

Final exam is May 4, 2011, from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm.

Graduation is May 7, 2011.

“If you have a physical, learning, sensory or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible. You will need to register with, and provide documentation of your disability to University Disability Support Services

(UDSS) in SEO, room 109 Knight Hall.