

RNG 236: INTRODUCTION TO RANGE MANAGEMENT

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

RNG 236: Introduction to Range Management (14413), 3 credits, 11:00-11:50AM MWF, Western Star Career and Technology Center 127

Course Description: Principles of range management which include plant identification, range evaluation, and range improvement.

INSTRUCTOR

Jessalyn Bachler, Western Star Career and Technology Center 129, 701-774-4532
jessalyn.bachler@willistonstate.edu

Office Hours: M, Tu, W 12:00-1:00PM, Th 10:30AM-12:30PM

TEXTBOOK & MATERIALS

Range Management: Principles and Practices, 6th Edition - Holechek, Pieper, & Herbel - ISBN: 9780135014165

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES

- 1.) Students will demonstrate effective communication skills.
- 2.) Students will use reasoning skills to analyze and solve problems.
- 3.) Students will demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures and value systems.
- 4.) Students will apply health-related knowledge to promote physical and mental well-being.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- 1.) Demonstrate effective oral and written communication.
- 2.) Demonstrate problem solving strategies within the agriculture industry.
- 3.) Identify agricultural needs within society.
- 4.) Identify how agriculture affects personal and community health.

COURSE OUTCOMES

- 1.) Express possible improvements through range/pasture evaluation, planning and monitoring.
- 2.) Identify common range plants found in ND and correlate each plant with proper indicators.
- 3.) Identify different types of grazing systems.
- 4.) Use grazing system management for specific scenarios.

ASSESSMENT TASKS (FOR COURSE OUTCOMES)

- 1.) Complete textbook readings, questions, and problems demonstrating mastery of both concepts and process skills.
- 2.) Complete examinations demonstrating mastery of both concepts and process skills.
- 3.) Complete physical labs to demonstrate the understanding of rangeland concepts, including plant ID and pasture/grazing management.

PROCESS SKILLS

- History and overview of range management
- Range plant ID of grasses, forbs, sedges, rushes, and woodies
- Understanding of growing point locations
- Understanding of vegetative and reproductive stages
- Understanding of ecosystem processes and relationships
- Monitoring plants and managing grazing
- Identify different grazing systems and opportunities with each
- Monitor and improve pasture conditions

CONCEPTS & ISSUES

- Rangeland and human interactions
- Plant physiology
- Plant morphology
- Ecology
- Inventory control and stocking
- Grazing systems
- Pasture management

ASSESSMENT PORTFOLIO

Each degree seeking student is required to maintain an assessment portfolio on Blackboard for his/her time at Williston State College. For this class you should include evidence of completing institutional learning outcomes of what you learned in this class.

GRADING SYSTEM

Required Assignments	Points	Percentage (%)
Tests (2): Final Exam/Midterm	150 x 2 = 300	27
Quizzes (2)	75 x 2 = 150	14
Papers (4)	50 x 4 = 200	18
Lab Reports (6)	50 x 6 = 300	27
Range Tour	150	14
Total	1,100	100

*****Bonus points will be awarded throughout the semester; be present and pay attention!**

GRADING BASIS

Letter	Percent
A	=>90
B	=>80
C	=>70
D	=>60
F	<60

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION

- Only two tests will be given throughout the semester, a midterm and a final; they will be comprehensive and given in an online format.
 - **Failure to complete the final exam will result in an “F” for a final grade in the course.**
- The two quizzes will only cover current material, and will not be comprehensive.
 - **Tests/quizzes must be completed by the due date, or a “0%” will be given. Arrangements must be made ONE CLASS PERIOD prior to when the test/quiz is given in order to make up test/quiz beforehand. You will not be allowed to take the test after the due date – NO EXCEPTIONS.**
 - **Taking tests/quizzes with other classmates is unacceptable and considered cheating. If students’ test/quiz times overlap or similar answers are given, a “0%” will be received with no option to retake.**
- Four two-page papers and six one-page lab reports will be assigned throughout the semester. These papers/reports will be written double-spaced in Times New Roman font, 12 pt. In the header, will be the class and assignment label, the date, and your name; this is shown below:

RNG 236 – Paper #1

8-31-23

Your Name

- All assignments/papers are to be turned in on Blackboard by the due date.

- All assignments are due one week after assigned. For each business day assignments are late, 20% will be deducted until the grades reaches 0%.
- The class will attend a range tour field trip for our class project, composing of 14% of your grade.
- More detailed guidance and rubrics will be provided for each of the assignments.

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF THE COURSE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Week	Chapter	Assignment/Lab/Test
1	1 – Rangeland and Man	Paper #1 – Challenges in Range Management
2	2 – Range Management History	Lab #1 – Range Overview Native/Tame
3	3 – Rangeland Physical Characteristics 4 – Description of Rangeland Types	
4	5 – Range Plant Physiology	
5	WSC Range Management Tour	Lab #2 – Range Tour
5	6 – Range Ecology	
6	7 – Range Inventory and Monitoring 18 – Range Management Planning, Computers, and the Future	
6	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 18	Quiz #1
7	8 – Considerations Concerning Stocking Rate	Lab #3 – Clipping Squares and Range Monitoring Paper #2 – Rangeland Monitoring
8	REVIEW	MIDTERM
9	9 – Selection of Grazing Methods	Lab #4 – Grazing Systems
10	10 – Methods of Improving Livestock Distribution 11 – Range Animal Nutrition	
11	12 – Range Management for Multiple Use	Lab #5 – Forest Service Guest Lecture
12	Multiple-Use Comparison Article	Paper #3 – Rangeland Multiple-Use Systems
13	13 – Range Livestock Production 14 – Range Wildlife Management	
13	9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	Quiz #2
14	15 – Manipulation of Range Vegetation	Paper #4 – Range Management Systems
15	16 – Range Management in Developing Countries	Lab #6 – Range Scientist Guest Lecture
16	17 – Range Economics	
17	REVIEW	FINAL

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

Williston State College is committed to providing equal access to students. If you have a disability which may impact your performance, attendance, or grades in this course that requires accommodations, you must first register with the WSC Accessibility Support Office. Please note that classroom accommodations cannot be provided until your instructors receive an Accommodations Form, signed by you and the Accessibility Support Office.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Last day to drop: 8-30-2023**
- **Last day to withdraw (with W): 11-9-2023**
- For important dates concerning holidays, last date to withdraw from class, etc., please visit the WSC catalog available on the website: www.willistonstate.edu.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Take advantage of academic resources available to you at Williston State College:

- **Communication Lab:** Supplemental instruction is provided to assist students who are either having difficulty or desiring extra help with specific subjects. The Communication Lab assists with composition, writing, communication, and public speaking. The Communication Lab is located in Stevens Hall 120. Students should make appointments at wsc.writinglab@willistonstate.edu.
- **Math Lab:** Supplemental instruction is provided to assist students who are either having difficulty or desiring extra help with specific subjects. The Math Lab assists with all math needs. The Math Lab is located in Stevens Hall Science Lounge.
- **Learning Commons:** It's not just the Library anymore. In addition to the normal library functions (book checkout, research assistance, etc.), the Learning Commons serves a number of other functions. In the Learning Common you can check out study rooms, check out graphing calculators, utilize computers and print school related materials. Technical support for your online courses is also available in the Learning Commons. For technical support please stop in the Learning Commons or call 701.774.4590 or email wsc.extendedlearning@willistonstate.edu. For library support or questions call 701.774.4226.
- **NetTutor:** Web based service that provides on demand tutoring across a wide variety of subject areas. With NetTutor you can access live tutors, ask a question, and come back later for a response and/or submit written work for review. This program can be accessed through the NetTutor link in any WSC Blackboard course. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Extended Learning at wsc.extendedlearning@willistonstate.edu.

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Work submitted for this course must follow Student Academic Integrity as cited in the WSC Student Code of Conduct:

- Acts of cheating and plagiarism are prohibited. Cases of academic dishonesty may be treated as an academic matter or as a disciplinary matter at the discretion of the instructor.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment. It includes using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.
- Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work or ideas as your own, with or without their consent, by incorporating it into your work without full acknowledgement. All published and unpublished material, whether in manuscript, printed or electronic form, is covered under this definition.
- Self-plagiarism is the use of one's own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously.

- The instructor may reflect the incident of academic dishonesty through the assignment of the student's grade in the course. If the student has a grievance related to this action, that grievance would be directed to the Chair of the department in which the course is housed.
- Alternatively, the instructor may refer the case as a disciplinary matter to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Vice President for Academic Affairs may refer the case to the Student Review Committee for action.

Breach of academic integrity may result in failure of the assignment, exam, and/or class.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- You are expected to read the relevant materials and participate in class discussions in a timely manner.
- You are expected to respect your fellow students and the instructor in online and on campus discussions.
- It is your responsibility to ask questions when you are uncertain about assignments or course materials.
- If you have questions concerning grades, you should contact the Instructor immediately. You are responsible for checking Blackboard in a timely fashion to ensure that the grade recorded is your correct grade.
- It is your responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible if you are encountering any issues that would hinder your performance in this class.
- You are responsible for earning your grade (with the instructor making every effort to help you learn the material).
- If you are concerned about your grade, you should speak to the Instructor **NO LATER** than mid-term. No consideration will be given to request to adjust your grade at the end of the semester unless there is an error in calculations.

TEAMS ETIQUETTE:

- For distance or online students, this class will be taught using Microsoft Teams. The following etiquette must be followed at all times while in class over Teams:
 - Join the Teams meeting/class on time
 - The Teams invitation link will be sent in Outlook and posted on Blackboard
 - Use your real name, as is shown in Blackboard
 - No recording Teams meetings
 - **Keep your camera on the entire class period**
 - Stay muted, unless speaking
 - Participates in class discussions
 - Ask questions as needed
 - **Be present, pay attention!**

GRIEVANCE POLICY

Occasionally, students are dissatisfied with some dimension of the course. In such cases, students should first schedule a meeting with the instructor. If the student and instructor cannot reach a satisfactory resolution, the student should schedule a meeting with the Chair of the Department. (See the Student Code of Conduct.)

TITLE IX

Survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, and sexual harassment: please be aware that as an instructor, I am legally obligated to report all instances of sexual assault, domestic violence, and sexual harassment involving students. If you would like to speak to someone confidentially, please contact the WSC Counselor at (701)774-4212 (they are NOT mandated to report such instances).

FINAL EXAMS/ACTIVITIES

Students are required to take the final examination or engage in the final activity on the date and at the time presented as part of the course syllabus. Exceptions may be made only in emergency situations and in the case of scheduling conflicts with college sponsored events by promptly submitting a written request detailing the circumstances to the instructor of the course. **Your meeting time for your final is: Wednesday, December 13th from 11:00AM-1:00PM.**