

RWM 4333

Range Wildlife Management



Instructor: Mr. Ruben Cantu

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Office: VIN 218

Office Hours: MW 9-11am, T 9am – 4pm, Anytime my office door is open

Course Information

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the history, ecology and management of wildlife populations and their habitats, particularly in the context of rangelands that are managed for livestock production. Emphasis will be placed on both habitat and population management including: survey techniques, population ecology and dynamics, predator- prey relationships, and management problems impacting wildlife populations in Texas.

Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses

None

Prerequisite Skills

None

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Understand the basic concepts and ecological principles of wildlife management.
- 2. Have a clear understanding of habitat and the tools used by wildlife managers for managing wildlife.

Course Delivery

This is a face-to-face course with online components that students are expected to access in Blackboard.¹

Required Texts and Materials

None. Information from this course come from a variety of sources. For any aspiring natural resources manager who wants to add to their personal reference library, the following books are recommended: *Wildlife Biology* by Raymond Dassman; *Introduction to Wildlife Management...the Basics* by Paul Krausmann; and *Wildlife Ecology and Management* by Eric Bolen and William Robinson.

Technology Requirements

Students may find reading assignments and or lab materials posted on Blackboard.

Communication

I will normally respond to email and/or telephone messages within 24 hours during working hours Monday through Friday. Weekend messages may not be returned until Monday.

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Grading

Evaluation and Grades

Course grades will be determined as indicated in the table below.

Assessment	Percent of Total Grade
Lecture Exams Four per semester	60
Lab Exams Two per semester	30
Reading Summaries, Five per semester	10
Total	100%

Grading System

Course grades will depend on completing course requirements and meeting the student learning outcomes.

This course uses the following grading scale:

A = 90.00-100 points

B = 80.00-89.9 points

C = 70.00-79.9 points

D = 60.00-69.9 points

F = 0-59.9 points

Your grade at the end of the semester will reflect the total number of points that you have earned. The course is designed so that you can earn a respectable grade if you participate in class and turn in all of your assignments. If you have a problem turning in your assignments or in attending class, please let the instructor know. If you have a valid excuse, then you will be allowed to turn in your assignment(s) late with no loss of points on your assignment grade.

Assignment and Activity Descriptions

Lab:

In lab, wildlife identification and wildlife habitat (quantity and quality) for successful wildlife management will be our primary focus. Additionally, lab will cover discussions on wildlife population dynamics, and harvest data analysis. There may be guest speakers/presenters that will cover various subject matter may be a part of the lab and the information they provide can be used in exams.

Exams:

Exams will/may cover all material up to the date of the exam, i.e., tests are cumulative. It is important that you study all material and develop good study habits rather than trying to cram new material for a test. Repetition of notes and materials is key to effective studying.

Readings:

There will be assigned required readings throughout the course. These readings address issues that are relative to our lectures. Students are expected to read these prior to class and prepare a discussion summary (one page per reading) to be turned in at the beginning of class. In class, we will have group discussions to address specific questions posed by the instructor and followed by a class discussion. Appropriate readings for the topic material covered in lecture will be handed out to students during

lecture and must be turned in (typed) on the assigned date as instructed by the Mr. Cantu. These will be graded on a point system of up to 20 points each. These are easy points to attain and the equivalent of one exam grade.

If you do not turn your discussion summary in on the assigned date, you will have one week to complete the assignment for no more than 70% credit.

The most efficient way for students to learn is through participation in class especially during discussion periods. There is something to be said about taking notes and you will have ample opportunity to do so and will be encouraged to do so.

Attendance:

Each student will have the opportunity to have three unexcused absences in lecture or lab with no negative consequences. Official school trips or otherwise advising the instructor ahead of time that you will not be in attendance do not count toward your three absences. Coming to class and sleeping through class counts as an absence...stay awake. If you have three unexcused class periods, know that on your fourth unexcused absence you will lose five points from your final calculated grade and each absence thereafter will cost you one additional point off your final grade. For example, a total of six unexcused absences during the course of the semester will result in seven points off your final grade.

Expectations of you:

I expect your full attentiveness in this course, no sleeping in class, and to show up on time prepared to learn and take notes and to participate in discussions. I expect you to study the material each and every day...it is my experience that those students who study well do well in class and your grade generally reflects the effort put forth in studying.

Expectations of me: Expect me to cover lots of material but also expect me to slow down if asked...I have no problem doing so. I will listen to you and try to address any questions you may have and provide as much information as possible and make clear any aspect of lecture or lab that is not understood.

General Policies Related to This Course

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- [Angelo State University Student Handbook](#)²

- [Angelo State University Catalog](#)³

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university's [Statement of Academic Integrity](#).⁴

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the [Student Disability Services website](#).⁵ The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dr. Dallas Swafford
Director of Student Disability Services
Office of Student Affairs
325-942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

Incomplete Grade Policy

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 [Grading Procedures](#)⁶ for more information.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU's [Academic Integrity policy](#)⁷ in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else's work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one's own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the [ASU Writing Center](#).⁸

Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 [Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day](#)⁹ for more information.

Title IX at Angelo State University

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: [Incident Reporting Form](#)¹⁰

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: michelle.miller@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State's policy please visit the [Title IX website](#).¹¹

Information About COVID-19

Please refer to ASU's [COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Updates](#)¹² web page for current information about campus guidelines and safety standards as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Modifications to the Syllabus

This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification on potentially short notice based on developing circumstances.

Course and Lab Schedule

Spring Semester 2022 RWM 4333 Range and Wildlife Introduction Lecture Schedule

<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Subject</u>
1-19	Introduction, Syllabus, and Overview
1-24	What is, Management and Species classifications
1-26	What is Habitat
1-31	Era of Exploitation
2-2	Habitat
2-7	Habitat Succession
2-9	Wildlife Management what is needed? HABITAT
2-14	EXAM #1
2-16	Ecological Principles
2-21	Basics of Habitat Management
2-23	Population Ecology
2-28	Population Ecology

3-2	Habitat Selection and Management
3-7	North American Model of Wildlife Conservation
3-9	Exam #2
3-21	Challenges to the NAMWC
3-23	Sampling the Biota
3-28	Predators and Prey
3-30	Predators and Prey
4-4	Genetics and Wildlife Management
4-6	Population Sampling and Manipulation
4-11	Exam #3
4-13	Conservationists and their Contributions
4-18	Wildlife Restoration and Funding
4-20	The Wildlife Professional
4-25	Human Dimensions in Wildlife
4-27	Human Dimensions in Wildlife
5-2	Contemporary and Classical Issues in Wildlife Management
5-4	Contemporary and Classical Issues in Wildlife Management
5-9	Final Exam #4 (8:00-10:00am)

IMPORTANT: Lecture topic by date is subject to change at any time.

**Spring Semester 2021
RWM 4333 Range and Wildlife Introduction
Laboratory Schedule**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	Expectations for the class and safety orientation
2	Identification of key wildlife forages
3	Identification of wildlife species
4	Identification of wildlife species
5	Habitat management and walkabout
6	Wildlife habitat management
7	Wildlife habitat management
8	Lab Quiz #1
9	Wildlife habitat management
10	Leopold's tools (cow)
11	Leopold's tools (plow)
12	Leopold's tools (axe)
13	Leopold's tools (fire)

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- ¹ <https://blackboard.angelo.edu/>
 - ² <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/>
 - ³ <https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/>
 - ⁴ <https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96>
 - ⁵ <https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/>
 - ⁶ <https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures>
 - ⁷ <https://www.angelo.edu/live/files/27603-student-handbook-2020-21#page=96>
 - ⁸ https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php
 - ⁹ [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)
[of](#)
 - ¹⁰ <https://www.angelo.edu/incident-form>
 - ¹¹ <https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix>
 - ¹² <https://www.angelo.edu/covid-19/>