

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCES**  
**Sam Houston State University**

Course Description and Syllabus

**DEPARTMENT:** Agricultural Sciences  
**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** WMGT 3301.01; Wildlife Ranch Management  
**SEMESTER:** Spring 2018  
**LOCATION OF CLASS MEETING:** Pirkle Engineering and Technology Center, Room 300A  
**CLASS MEETING TIME:** Tuesday & Thursday, 1:00-2:20  
**INSTRUCTOR:** Mr. Chris Stewart, Lecturer- Wildlife Management  
**OFFICE LOCATION:** By appointment or after class  
**TELEPHONE:** Telephone: 832.493.0147 (cell)  
e-mail: [c\\_stewart3s@yahoo.com](mailto:c_stewart3s@yahoo.com), [crs003@shsu.edu](mailto:crs003@shsu.edu)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment or after class

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is designed for students interested in managing existing, or new ranches and lands for wildlife production. Students will cover various topics in ranch management from both a scientific and economic point-of-view in regards to native and non-native wildlife species. The focus of the class will be to design a profitable and sustainable ranch management plan, using wildlife instead of common domestic livestock species as the main source of income

**REFERENCE AND TEXTBOOK:** Exotic Animal Field Guide, Mungall, E.C. and W.G. Pond, 1st. Ed., Everbest Printing Co

The Wildlife Techniques Manual, edited by Nova J. Silvy, 7<sup>th</sup> Ed.. The John Hopkins University Press, MD

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. If a student misses an exam due to an **EXCUSED** absence, arrangements must be made **IN ADVANCE** with the instructor to take the exam. Otherwise, make-up exams will be comprehensive and scheduled at the end of the semester.

**EXAMS AND GRADING PLAN:** The course will consist of four exams. Grades will be determined based upon the equal weighing of four (4) lecture exams, and a final project

Exam I	20 %
Exam II	20 %
Exam III	20 %
Exam IV	20 %
Project	20 %
	100 %

Grade distributions will be based upon the following scale:  
A = 90 – 100; B = 80 – 89; C = 70 – 79; D = 60 – 69; F = <60

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Cheating **WILL NOT** be tolerated. Students caught cheating on an exam will be given a zero (0) for the exam or quiz grade and a letter will be written to the student's file.

**CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT:**

Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. **Cellular phones and pagers must be turned off before class begins. Should a student get caught texting during lecture they will be asked to leave the classroom, if caught while taking a test, it will be considered cheating and the student will receive a zero (0) for that exam. A student must dismiss themselves from the classroom if they need to receive an incoming or make a call.**

Students are prohibited from making offensive remarks, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engage in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT:**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request assistance with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting the Director of the Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling 936.294.1720.

**RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:**

University policy states that a student who is absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day shall be permitted to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence. A student who wishes to be excused for a religious holy day must present the instructor with a written statement describing the holy day(s) and the travel involved. The instructor should provide the student with a written description of the deadline for the completion of missed exams and/or assignments.

## **USE OF TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS:**

Sam Houston State University is a tobacco free campus and all tobacco products are prohibited in all buildings and outdoor public areas on campus.

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

- I. Orientation and Introduction
  - Introduction to Wildlife Management

- II. Use of Lands
  - A. Traditional versus Wildlife
  - B. Pros to Wildlife Use
  - C. Cons to Wildlife Use
  - D. Business versus Pleasure Use

- III. Stocking Your Lands
  - A. Native versus Exotic Species
  - B. Cervids, Bovids other Ungulates
  - C. Birds
  - D. Fishes

### **\*\* EXAM I \*\***

- IV. Economics of Ranch Management
  - A. Potential Sources of Income
  - B. Identifying expenses
  - C. Managing expenses
- V. Setting Prices for Services
  - A. Analysis of Cost of Inputs
  - B. Market Analysis
  - C. Target Market: Personal or Corporate
  - D. Analyzing Death Loss Estimates

### **\*\* EXAM II \*\***

- VI. Habitat Management
  - A. Plant Identification
  - B. Water Sources
  - C. Shelter Belts
  - D. Supplementation
- VII. Species Identification
  - A. Learning the Species
  - B. Understanding Requirements
  - C. Habitat Evaluation per Specie
  - D. Co-existence with other Species
  - E. Laws and Restrictions

### **\*\* EXAM III \*\***

- VIII. Marketing of Ranch and Services
  - A. Hunting/Outdoors Shows and Conventions
  - B. Internet/ Website/Email
  - C. Brochures, Cards, Mail outs
  - D. Word-of-Mouth
- IX. Carrying Capacity
  - A. Evaluating Habitats
  - B. Death Loss
  - C. Predator Control
  - D. Estimating Carrying Capacity
- X. Collecting Data for Management Plan
  - A. Herd Management
  - B. Herd Composition
  - C. Data Logs/Surveys
  - D. Future Animal Purchases
  - E. Economic Benefits
  - F. Tracking unforeseen expenses

**\*\* EXAM IV\*\***

**The Final Project in this course is a ranch management plan focused on showing a profit after selling surplus stock or hunting trophy animals and accounting for all yearly expenses incurred at a wildlife ranch. This syllabus is subject to change depending on time constraints. Grades will be equally weighed upon the change or modifications announced in class.**