

WILDLAND PLANTS

NRM 3305

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

FALL 2022

Instructor: Jeff Keeling

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Course Meeting Times: TR 3:00 – 4:50 p.m. in RAS Room 130

Office Hours: MW 3:30 – 5:15 p.m., F 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Feel free to email me at any time (please expect a delayed response on weekends), and we can also meet up virtually on Blackboard Course Room.

Recommended Text:

Plant Identification Terminology (2nd ed.): An Illustrated Glossary, James Harris and Melinda Harris

Trees and Shrubs of the Trans-Pecos, A. M. Powell

Grasses of the Trans-Pecos, A. M. Powell

Guide to Texas Grasses, R. Shaw

North American Wildland Plants, Stubbendiek, Hatch, Bryan and Dunn, 3rd edition

Range Plants of North Central Texas, R Linex

Wildflowers of the Davis Mountains and the Marathon Basin, B. H. Warnock

Wildflowers of the Guadalupe Mountains and the Sand Dune Country, B. H. Warnock

Woody Plants of the Big Bend and Trans-Pecos, L. Harveson et.al.

Flowering Plants of Trans-Pecos Texas and adjacent areas, Powell and Worthington

Course Description: A study of wildland plants and plant communities, including identification and taxonomy; growth and phenology; forage and browse value; restoration value; and economic and ecological impacts.

Tentative Schedule of Lectures and Topics (subject to change)

Week 1 (8/22 – 8/26)	Introduction, <i>Kiss the Ground</i> , Texas Ecoregions
Week 2 (8/29 – 9/2)	Evolution of Plants
Week 3 (9/12 – 9/16)	Taxonomy and Distribution; Pollination, Ecology, Biodiversity; INTRO EXAM REVIEW
Week 4 (9/19 – 9/23)	Plant list #1 – Roadsides and Swales; INTRO EXAM
Week 5 (9/26 – 9/30)	Plant list #2 – Desert Grasslands I; Quiz 1



Week 6 (10/3 – 10/7)	Plant list #3 – Desert Grasslands II; Quiz 2
Week 7 (10/10 – 10/14)	Plant list #4 – Desert Grasslands III; Quiz 3
Week 8 (10/17 – 10/21)	Plant list #5 – Gravelly Hills and Slopes I; MIDTERM REVIEW
Week 9 (10/18 – 10/22)	MIDTERM; Herbarium Workshop
Week 10 (10/24 – 10/28)	Herbarium Field Trip; Plant list #6 – Gravelly Hills and Slopes II
Week 11 (10/31 – 11/4)	Plant list #7 – Hot Desert Plants; Quiz 4
Week 12 (11/7 – 11/11)	Plant list #8 – Sky Islands & Surrounding Chihuahuan Desert I; Quiz 5
NOVEMBER 14	LAST DAY TO DROP WITH A “W”
Week 13 (11/14 – 11/18)	Plant list #9 – Sky Islands & Surrounding Chihuahuan Desert II; Quiz 6
Week 14 (11/21 – 11/25)	CDRI Field Trip; THANKSGIVING BREAK
Week 15 (11/29 – 12/3)	Plant list #10 – Sky Islands & Surrounding Chihuahuan Desert III; Quiz 7; FINAL REVIEW
Week 16 (12/6 – 12/10)	FINAL

Grades:

INTRO EXAM	ca. 98 points
ID Quizzes	ca. 570 points
MIDTERM	ca. 165 points
FINAL	ca. 165 points
Plant Collection	200 points
Total	ca. 1200 points

Course Objectives (including lab):

1. Students will be able to identify important wildland plants of Texas and the western U.S.
2. Students will learn applied techniques for unknown plant identification.
3. Students will be able to identify uses for different wildland plants.

Student Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management

1. Students will be able to identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Students will be able to communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.

SRSU Attendance Policy. Roll will be taken during each class meeting. The SRSU catalog states “The instructor may, at his discretion, drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences. An absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class. Nonattendance in a one and one-half hour class will constitute one and one-half absences.” **RULE TO LIVE BY: DON’T MISS ANY CLASSES!**

Academic Integrity. Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent

participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

SRSU Disability Services. SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email rebecca.wren@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, SUI Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

Technical Support. SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Technical Support: Toll Free: 888.837.6055.

Email: blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

SRSU Library Services.

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

The Southwest Texas Junior College (SWTJC) Libraries at Uvalde, Del Rio, and Eagle Pass.

Offer additional access to library spaces and resources. Del Rio, Eagle Pass, and Uvalde students may also use online resources available through SWTJC website, <https://library.swtjc.edu>. The SWTJC Libraries serve as pick-up locations for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) and Document Delivery from the Alpine campus.

Classroom Climate of Respect

Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and the open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference. Still we will not be silenced by the difficulty of fruitfully discussing politically sensitive issues.

Diversity Statement

"I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of COVID, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you."