Forages
Stephen F. Austin State University
Department of Agriculture
Semester: Fall 2020

Courses:  
Forages (AGRI 4347)  3 credits  
Forages Lab (AGRI 4047)  0 credit  

Location and time:  
Lecture  TR  12:30 PM – 01:45 PM  Agriculture 108  
Laboratory 001  R  02:00 PM – 04:00 PM  Agriculture 108  

Information:  
https://d2l.sfasu.edu (D2L)  
All course information, supporting documents and scores for this course will be maintained on this website so check the site regularly for updates. All course related communication will be conducted via your SFA email (@jacks.sfasu.edu), not the D2L email. Course fee $15 and lab fee $10.

Instructors:  
Dr. Jodi Hill  
Jodi.Hill@sfasu.edu  
936-645-3276 I receive text messages best. Do not hesitate to contact me via text anytime.

Dr. Franta Majs  
majsf@sfasu.edu (preferred contact)  
936-468-4390 office phone

Office hours:  
Dr. Jodi Hill- BY APPOINTMENT only, via ZOOM, phone, or text  
Dr. Franta Majs- In person @ Agriculture 122A ONLY by appointment, or  
Online  WRF  09:00 AM – 09:50 am  T  2 pm – 3 pm

Covid-19 mask policy:  
Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


Required Materials:  
non-programmable, non-graphing scientific calculator, cell phone app cannot be used  

Textbook:  
Authors: Ball, Hoveland, and Lacefield  
Publisher: International Plant Nutrition Institute  
ISBN: 978-0996019927
**Instructional Methods:** The classroom component of the course will consist of lectures augmented with visuals aids. Lecture is a time when I can explain important concepts in the study of agronomy. Some concepts learned in lecture will be further illustrated in laboratory and on field trips. Attending lecture and laboratory is thus very important.

**Course Description:** An introduction to forage management. Study of annual and perennial forages, including their management for hay and grazing. Includes characteristics, adaptability, establishment, maintenance, harvesting and quality of the forage.

**Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs):**

1. The student will demonstrate entry level skills needed for success in agronomy, horticulture and related fields
   a. Plant physiology and anatomy,
   b. Practical experience in plant management systems,
   c. Basic knowledge of plant genetics and reproduction,
   d. Identification and knowledge of crops, and
   e. Management of soils and soilless media.
2. The student will demonstrate quantitative competence related to agronomy, horticulture.
3. The student will exhibit problem solving skills based on quantitative and analytical reasoning.
4. The student will demonstrate effective communication skills
5. The student will exhibit leadership and other interpersonal skills needed for career placement and advancement.

**Proficiency Levels for PLOs for B.S. Agriculture**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>PLO 1</th>
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<td>AGRI 4047</td>
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<td>NA – not applicable</td>
<td>B – Basic</td>
<td>I – Intermediate</td>
<td>A – Advanced</td>
<td>M – Mastery</td>
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**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completing this course students will:

1. Use proper forage terminology in written and oral communication
2. Explain the major principles and practices of forage production and management
3. Relate forage management to animal agriculture with emphasis on animal nutrition and economics
4. Carry out basic forage analysis including yield and rate calculations as well as measurements of forage quality

**University Policies:**

**Academic Integrity** is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism. **Academic Dishonesty** includes both cheating and plagiarism. **Cheating** includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. **Plagiarism** is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas
of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp. Academic Dishonesty could result in a grade of F.

Disability Accommodations: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/. Accommodations cannot be provided retroactively.

Student Code of Conduct: Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This policy applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the iCare: Early Alert Program at SFA. Information regarding the iCare program is found at www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp or call the office at 936-468-2703.

University Closings / Cancelled Classes: When SFA State University campus is closed, students, faculty and staff will be notified via emergency notification system; update your contact information! If classes are meeting, but you feel that you cannot find a safe way to get to class, you should notify the Instructor as soon as possible.

Course Policies:

Electronic Devices: The use of any electronic devices, including cell phones, during class is not permitted. Especially during examination there will be no electronic devices within reach or in sight. During lectures, electronic devices may be used only if required for compliance with a directive by The Office of Disability Services or for note taking.

Food and Drink: There should be no food in the classroom. Beverages are permitted only in spill-proof containers. No beverages are permitted in the classroom when any chemicals are used.

Attendance, Unforeseen Emergency, and Preparation: Students are expected to attend every class and actively participate*. Unsatisfactory attendance may result in a failing grade. You are responsible to inform your instructor concerning any expected absences ahead of time. In the event of an unforeseen emergency on an exam day, contact me as soon as possible. You may be asked to document your excuse. Acceptable unforeseen emergencies include severe illness, family emergencies, or other unavoidable events including dangerous weather conditions and serious car accidents. Proper communication MAY create a possibility to make up missed exams. Students are expected to read the assigned sections of the textbook or other material prior to class.

*Participation = engage in discussion and in class assignments, being on time, paying attention during class, keeping good lecture notes, and keeping laboratory notebook.
Laboratory: Some laboratory activities may occupy more than one period. You will receive score for each laboratory period or assignment. To receive a score for the period you must complete all associated activities such as quiz, report or assignment. Your overall lab score will be calculated after two lowest scores from the maximum number of periods are dropped, these may be two zeroes for missed lab and/or assignment. The laboratory is designed to help you understand the forage terms and concepts presented in lecture and in the readings. Following the completion of this course you will be able to use these terms and concepts in real world situations.

Every student is expected to keep laboratory notes and may be asked to present their notes to the instructor for evaluation. **Laboratory assignments and reports** are to be prepared in Microsoft Word. All assignments, laboratory reports, including tables and figures, are to be prepared with great care, and attention to accuracy and aesthetic values. Please submit your work via D2L before the deadline. **Late assignments** are subject to a 10% score reduction per day with a 50% maximum (i.e. five days’ worth). No work will be accepted after the day five and student will receive zero points on the attempt. Some class activities will occur in outdoor setting, forage plots and experimental plots at Overton, and you are expected to **dress for the occasion**.

Testing: You will learn many new terms and concepts in this class. Because I want your learning to be incremental, you will be tested frequently on your understanding of these terms and concepts. In addition, three lecture exams will be given and a final. All exams will be comprehensive. The exams are closed book. Makeup lecture exams will be allowed only with preapproval of the instructor and for acceptable reason, though the format may be different, i.e. oral exam. Final exam has been scheduled for Tuesday, 8 December 2020, 10:45 am – 1:15 pm; www.sfasu.edu/registrar/.

Grading: Laboratory, assignments, etc. 25%
Quizzes 5%
Exams: 10% + 15% + 20% = 45%
Final exam 25%
Total score 100%

Letter grade: A > 90.0%  B > 80.0%  C > 70.0%  D ≥ 60.0%  F < 60.0%

**Incomplete** – Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of **WH** will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Amending this Syllabus: The instructor may initiate changes to this syllabus. Any changes will be clearly communicated via email and posted on https://d2l.sfasu.edu (D2L). The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the course schedule (attached) and to make changes to the grading policy that are of benefit to ALL students enrolled in the course. Neither of these two types of changes is subject to student vote/approval.
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<thead>
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Tentative Course Schedule</th>
<th>Lab</th>
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<td>21 Oct</td>
<td>Last to drop a class without WP or WF</td>
<td>Biomass production</td>
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<td>Forage sampling</td>
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<td>5 Nov</td>
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<td>Forage evaluation</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>10 Nov</td>
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<td>East Texas Plant Materials Center*</td>
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<td>Farm fertilization</td>
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<td>19 Nov</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>24 Nov</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break – No classes all week</td>
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<td>Final exam, 10:45 am – 1:15 pm</td>
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*Availability pending on CoVid-19 related restrictions
Topics by Weeks


Week 2: Review definitions, Chapters 1-8. Planting calculations, seed quality, planting equipment.

Week 3: Review definitions, Chapters 9-13. Quiz on calculations. Student reports on their forage crops


Week 5: Review definitions, Chapter 16. Quiz on calculations. Student reports on their forage crops

Week 6: Exam, Visit East Texas Plant Materials Center


Week 8: Review definitions, Chapter 17. Quiz on calculations. Student reports on their forage crops

Week 9: Forage harvesting, student presentations

Week 10: Forage Systems, Chapter 25

Week 11: Definitions, Chapters 22-24

Week 12: Catch Up

Week 13: Forages and livestock enterprises, Chapters 26-31

Week 14 & 15: Forage System presentations.