Lecture Meetings: Mon 4:00-6:30 pm in FORS 222
Instructor: Jessica Glasscock, Ph.D.
Office: FORS 201 B
Phone: (936) 468-5984
Email: jessica.glasscock@sfasu.edu
Office Hours: T 10:30 am-12:30 pm, W 3:00-5:00 pm; or by appointment

Course Description: Theory and practice of managing big game species in Texas. Required field trips. Prerequisites FOR 1052-Intro to Wildlife Mgmt., FOR 2355-Vertebrate Natural History. Course fee required.

This course provides a review of current principles and practices related to the management of big game species. The majority of species covered are native to Texas but other species may also be included. The basic physiology and ecology of these species, along with strategies and practices for managing their populations and their habitats, will be reviewed.

Program Learning Outcomes:

The course is designed to address the following Program Learning Outcomes, as given in the M.S./PhD Forestry Program Matrix:

1. The student will demonstrate proficiency in research design, relative to their field of study.
2. The student will demonstrate proficiency in the process of reviewing scientific literature pertinent to their field of study.
3. The student will demonstrate proficiency in basic statistical analysis; relative to their field of study.
4. The student will demonstrate sufficient preparation in their field of study to pursue a professional career.
5. The student will demonstrate competency in oral and written communication skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>PLO 1 Proficiency in Research Design</th>
<th>PLO2 Scientific Literature Review</th>
<th>PLO3 Proficiency in Basic Statistical Analysis</th>
<th>PLO4 Preparation for Pursuit in a Professional Career</th>
<th>PLO5 Competency in Oral and Written Communication Skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FORS 5341</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Demonstrate an understanding of big game ecology and strategies for conservation and management. (PLO’s 1, 2, 3, 4).
2. Demonstrate competency in written and oral communication skills (PLO 5).
Recommended texts:

Grades:
Mid-term Exam – 100 points
Final Exam – 100 points
Oral Presentation – 50 points
Discussion Participation – 100 points (possibility of 10 points each class period – 0 points no questions/discussion; 5pts basic questions & some discussion; 10pts relevant-in-depth questions & high-quality discussion)
Class Assignments ~ 50 points
Graduate Student Research Project – 100 points
Total: 500 points

Grading: Course grades will be based on the percentage of total available points accrued during the semester, according to the following formula: 90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C, 60-69%=D, 0-59%=F.

Class Presentation: Each student will give one, 15-minute, powerpoint presentation that is related to that week’s lecture topic. The presentation must present research of a peer-reviewed publication that is focused on a big game species and has been published recently (no papers published prior to 2011). The presentation should focus on and discuss the purpose of the study, methodology, results, and major findings. The presentation should focus on primary research studies and not review papers. Students must have their research paper approved before they begin to work on their presentation. Students may go to any of the following journals to select a paper to present: Journal of Wildlife Management, Wildlife Society Bulletin, Journal of Range Management, Forest Ecology and Management, Wildlife Biology, Human-Wildlife Interactions, Wildlife Research, Journal of Mammalogy, Mammal Research, Biological Invasions, Ecology, Ecological Applications, Journal of Applied Ecology, Journal of Animal Ecology, Journal of Zoology, Canadian Journal of Zoology.

Graduate Student Research Project: Each graduate student will participate in a semester-long research project. Students will prepare a research proposal (to include a literature review, goals & objectives, and methods) on a topic related to Big Game in Texas. Each student will submit a written proposal and prepare a proposal presentation to be presented to the class at the end of the semester.

Exams: There will be 2 exams during the semester, including a mid-term and a final. Exams will cover lecture presentations, assigned readings, and other assigned material (videos, handouts, etc.).

Topics List: The following is a tentative list of topics that will be covered. The schedule and order of topics are subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Overview, Research Presentation Assignments</td>
<td>Jan 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Productivity Data Sampling</td>
<td>Jan 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Productivity Necropsy</td>
<td>Feb 05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTD Nutrition</td>
<td>Feb 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTD Populations</td>
<td>Feb 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WTD Harvest Mgmt. | Feb 26
---|---
Mule Deer Ecol. Mgmt. | Mar 04
Spring Break | Mar 11
Exam | Mar 18
Bighorn Ecol. & Mgmt. | Mar 25
Pronghorn Ecol. & Mgmt. | Apr 01
Predator Depredation – Kill Site Evaluations | Apr 08
Field Trip | Apr 15
Exotics in Texas | Apr 22
Honors & Graduate Project Presentations | Apr 29
Final Exam | May 06 (4:00-6:30pm)

**NOTE:** I will be assigning additional required readings each week throughout the semester.

**Class Policies**

**Lecture Notes:** Posting of lecture presentations is at the instructor’s discretion and complete lecture notes may not be provided. Those presentations that are provided will be uploaded to D2L and not until after the lecture therefore, I highly recommend attending lecture and taking notes.

**Make-up Policy:** Make-up exams will be given only in the case of a documented, university-approved excuse. In this case, a student who wishes to make up an exam will have 7 calendar days after they return. After 7 calendar days the student will receive a “0” for that exam. I do not give make-up exams for unexcused absences.

**Late Submission of Assignments:** It is your responsibility to submit assignments at the time they are due. All assignments should be done independently unless otherwise assigned. Late work will only be accepted for excused absences and will be due the next class period. For other information regarding make-up work, refer to the Make-up Policy section above.

**Communicating to your professor:** Email will be the primary means of communication for the course. So please, check your email often. Any correspondence to your professor should follow the following format: subject line: FOR 4350, to whom (Dr. or professor xx), statement, thank you, and student’s name. The professor has the right of not answering emails to those students that fail to follow this format. Note: Do not contact me via D2L as I do not utilize that method for class communication.

**Laboratory:** Although there is not a dedicated lab time, big game management is a topic that must be learned by observation and activity in the field; therefore, portions of this class will be conducted outside. Please dress appropriately for outdoor activities, including long pants, boots, and hard hats. If you do not have these, you will have to borrow them or receive an unexcused absence from lab. Most activities will be during scheduled class periods; however, a couple may run late or will require time outside the normal class periods.

**Other Policies:**

**Attendance:** I expect students to attend all lectures. Excused absences include participation in University-sponsored events, health problems, or family emergencies. Documentation for excused absences must be provided. Notification of planned excused absences should be provided.

[http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class-attendance-6.7.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class-attendance-6.7.pdf)
**Responsible Use of Technology:** It is expected that all students will only use cell phones, PDAs, laptop computers, MP3 players and other technology outside of class time or when appropriate in class. Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music or using a laptop computer for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class or other penalties. Put them away during any exam period; if I see a cell phone during an exam, I will consider that student to be cheating on the exam with appropriate consequences.

**Acceptable Student Behavior:** 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 (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). 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 prohibition 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 Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFASU students succeed. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct-10.4.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student-code-of-conduct-10.4.pdf).

**Ethics and Professionalism:** All of the students in this class and in the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture are expected to conduct themselves in an ethical and professional manner. For wildlife biologists and managers, The Wildlife Society has established a Code of Ethics to which these professionals are expected to adhere. Likewise, the Society of American Foresters has a published code of ethics for foresters and others in the forestry profession. I encourage you to read and abide by these guidelines, available at:


**Student Academic Dishonesty Policy (4.1):** 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.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty:** 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 [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf)

**Consequences of Academic Dishonesty in FOR 152:** Penalties for academic dishonesty (all forms outlined in the university policy) in this course will be applied to students who are determined to have violated
the policy. The first infraction will result in a zero (0) on the assignment or exam. The second infraction will result in a final grade of “F” for the course.

Course Grades Policy on Withheld Grades (5.5): 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. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/5.5_course-grades.pdf.

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities Policy (6.1): 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 http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.

Smoking, Vaping, and Use of Tobacco Products Policy (13.21): States that campus is tobacco and vape free. This includes all tobacco and vape-related products, and includes all activities during field labs! See: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/13.21_smoking-vaping-and-use-of-tobacco-products.pdf

Firearms, Explosives and Ammunition Policy (13.9): Concerns firearms and the concealed carry policy. Students with concealed carry licenses who choose to carry on campus are required to follow all Texas laws and University policies, and it is their responsibility to understand and comply accordingly. See: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/13.9-Firearms-Explosives-and-Ammunition.pdf

Student Services:

Mental Health: SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401
SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741