PLS 326 Intro to Forages and Pasture Crops

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015

Instructor:  Curtis A. Jones, Ph.D  
Assistant Professor – Plant and Soil Science
Office Location:  AgIT 145  
Office Hours:  10:00 am – 10:50 am Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
Or by appointment  
Office Phone:  (903) 886-5354  
Office Fax:  (903) 886-5990  
University Email Address:  Curtis.Jones@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required: Southern Forages, Ball, Hoveland, and Lacefield 4th edition

Course Description:

Introduce students to the basic concepts of forage and pasture crops. Including and not limited to soils, production, species, weed control, and equipment.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Introduce students to the basic concepts of forage and pasture crops.

2. Develop the students’ understanding of forage and weed species.

3. Develop the students' understanding forage production and management.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Exams: Three 150 point exams, one 200 point final exam

Student Learning Outcomes 1 ,2, 3
Assessment: Vocabulary, Multiple Choice, True/False, and Short Answer Exam

Presentation: Plant profiles

Student Learning Outcomes: 1 & 2
Assessment: Graded according to the presentation rubric
Lab: Lab experiments, quizzes, reports, paper
(Described in detail in lab syllabus.)

Student Learning Outcomes: 1, 2, 3
Assessment: Assessed according to rubric

Testing Dates
February 23, 2015
April 1, 2015
April 29, 2014
Dates are subject to change.

Other important Dates
February 5, 2015 Last Day to drop with 100% refund
February 6, 2015 Last day for Graduation Application
March 16 – 20, 2015 Spring Break
April 24, 2015 Last day to drop with a Q
May 11 – 15, 2015 Finals Week
TBD Field Trips (mandatory)

Grading
Exams 450 points
Forage/Pasture plan 200 points
Plant profiles 150 points
Participation 100 points
Final Exam 200 points
Lab 300 points
Total 1400 points

A 90% or greater = B
80 to 89.99% = C 70
70 to 79.99% = D 60 to
69.99% = F < 60% =

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

To be successful in the course, you will be provided access to university computers and facilities. The following items are available on university computers for your use.

1. Access to T: drive
2. MS Word
3. MS PowerPoint

These items will be helpful for you, should you need to work at home.

1. Flash drive
2. MS Office or compatible software
3. High-speed internet for access to Web Soil Survey at home.
COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

You may bring drinks to class. Please finish any meals before class begins. The use of tobacco products during class time is strictly prohibited. Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Copying of others’ work, use of disallowed material on exams, plagiarism in assignments or cheating in any other form as defined by the instructor will result in a grade of zero for that assignment. Multiple infractions will result in a grade of ‘F’ for the course and possible expulsion.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct

Students are expected to respect the rights of others in the class. Cell phones and other electronic equipment should be turned off prior to the beginning of class. Use of these items during class time, or any other unwarranted classroom disruption, will result in your immediate excusal from class for the remainder of the period.

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).