Herbaceous Plants of the Great Plains

Natural Resource Ecology and Management (NREM) 5013: 3 credits; Fall 2019 Semester

Lecture: 019 Agriculture Hall; 9:30 – 10:20a.m. Monday & Wednesday
Lab: 019 Agriculture Hall; 11:30 – 1:20p.m. Wednesday

Instructor: Dr. Laura Goodman
Office: 303F Agriculture Hall,
Phone: 405-744-2061
email:laura.goodman@okstate.edu

Office Hours: By appointment only (please set this up through email or phone).

Prerequisite: There are no prerequisites for this course. However, it would be beneficial for students to have a field botany class prior to taking this course, if possible.

Required Resources:
Textbooks:
3. Tyrl, R.J. 2015. Flora of Oklahoma: Keys and Description

Equipment:
• Hand lens or magnifying glass
• Plastic bag
• 3-ring binder 8.5 x 11
• Plant press
• Stiff white paper
• Transparent sheet protectors
• Small bottle of white glue
• Camera (may use phone)

Course Description: This course is intended to extend student’s field botany skills by providing additional coverage of native and introduced grasses and other plant species that are particularly relevant to range management and grazing. Students will learn to identify these plants using a dichotomous key and will learn the ecological importance of each species in the context of range management.

Course Objectives:
Students successfully completing this course will be able to:
1. Explain the importance of specific range plants for grazing, wildlife cover and food, and biodiversity.
2. Identify by sight important range plants.
3. Proficiently use a dichotomous key to identify range plants.
4. Identify management practices (haying, brush hogging, disking, etc.) and natural disturbances (grazing, fire, drought, etc.) which alter plant community dynamics, succession, and species composition.

**Evaluation Procedure & Criteria:**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>% of Total Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams (2, 125 pts each)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>250</td>
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<td>Quizzes (8, 25 pts each)</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<td>Lab</td>
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<td>Lab Exercises</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identification Practicums (3, 70 pts each)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>210</td>
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<td>Keying Exam</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Plant Collection</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>Graduate Student Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant species factsheet</td>
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<td>50</td>
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<td>Plant species presentation</td>
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<td>Total:</td>
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**Tentative Grading Scale:**

A = 90%, B = 80%, C = 70%, D = 60%, F = <60%

**Grading Policy for late work:**

-20% of your grade for being 1 day late; -30% for 2 days to 1 week late; -50% for everything after 1 week.

**Grades:**

Save all your graded assignments. If an assignment is graded incorrectly please bring it to me and I will correct it.

**Attendance:**

It is your responsibility to attend class. Attendance will be tracked and if you miss class it is your responsibility to obtain material and assignments. Certain labs cannot be made up due to set up and lab availability. It is your responsibility to turn in assignments on their due date regardless of your absence.

**Academic Integrity:**

“Oklahoma State University is committed to the maintenance of the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct of its members. This level of ethical behavior and integrity will be maintained in this course. Participating in a behavior that violates academic integrity (e.g., unauthorized collaboration, plagiarism, multiple submissions, cheating on examinations, fabricating information, helping another person cheat, unauthorized advances access to examinations, altering or destroying the work of
others, and fraudulently altering academic records) will result in your being sanctioned. Violations may subject you to disciplinary action including the following: receiving a failing grade on an assignment, examination or course, receiving a notation of academic integrity on your transcript (F!), and being suspended from the University. You have the right to appeal the charge. Contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 101 Whitehurst, 405-744-5627, academicintegrity.okstate.edu”.

Cell Phones:

Use proper judgment with the use of technology during class. Cell phones will be turned off during exams. If you need to answer a call please do so in the hallway. Cell phone use during lecture is not allowed. Please set to silent or vibrate and keep it off your desk.