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<b>Instructor</b>		<b>Term:</b>	Fall 2018
<b>Name:</b>	Christine Bern	<b>Class Meeting Days:</b>	Thursday
<b>Office:</b>	005 VocED	<b>Class Meeting Hours:</b>	10:00 to 11:40
<b>Phone:</b>	970.491.7244	<b>Class Location:</b>	201 Smith
<b>E-Mail:</b>	cmbern@colostate.edu	<b>Course Credits:</b>	1
<b>Office Hours:</b>	Wednesday 10-12		
	Please Call to be sure I am not traveling		

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### **Welcome!**

This course is designed to help you identify the common plants found on rangelands. The intent is for you to be able to relate to references about North American rangeland plants and communities and to be able to visualize the associated plant species.

### **Course Overview**

The identification of the important rangeland plants of the central and western United States.

### **Course Goals and Objectives**

Each week students will be introduced to species representative of the central or western United States. Key characteristics for identification will be provided with and without flowers. By the end of the course, students will know how to:

- Identify key rangeland species using vegetative as well as floral characteristics
- Identify the major tribes of members of the grass and aster families

Students will work with plant collections and their text. Students will be guided through the information, learning the subtle differences and variation plants can have.

### **Course Prerequisites**

Concurrent enrollment in RS 310 (Forest and Range Ecogeography) is required. Plant taxonomy is not required, but is helpful.

### **Required Texts and Materials**

Stubbendieck, J., S.L. Hatch, and N.M. Bryan. 2017. North American Wildland Plants. University of Nebraska Press.

### **Supplementary (Optional) Texts and Materials**

Additional materials are available for download from Canvas.

### **Important Dates to Remember**

Dates for quizzes and exam are tentative and subject to change. Expect weekly quizzes. Check <http://registrar.colostate.edu/faculty-staff/important-dates/> for dates for drops and withdrawals.

Date	Event
13 September 2017	Field Trip to Foothills Campus
18 October 2017	Midterm
1 November 2017	Plant Collections Due
22 November 2017	Thanksgiving
6 December 2017	Final Quiz

### **Course Schedule and/or Schedule of Assignments**

#### **Project Assignment**

There is a field trip where students make collections that are mounted and location information documented. The field trip is during the class period. Attendance is required.

#### **Basis for Final Grade**

The final number of points a student can obtain may change during the course of the semester and the percent by category is **an estimate and may change**. Do not anticipate that any scores will be dropped or that grades will be curved!

Assessment	Percent of Final Grad
Quizzes (12 or more)	65%
Midterm	15%
Plant Collection	10%
Final Quiz	10%
	100%

**NOTE:** If you feel you were graded unfairly, you must schedule an appointment to discuss the grade within seven days of the grade being posted on Canvas. There may be bonus points given throughout the course of the semester (e.g., in class assignments, getting your collection submitted early, etc.). Bonus points improve your grade that is based on the components noted above. Bonus points do not change the level of the bar; that is, there is no curving of the final scores.

Students with special needs are encouraged to contact the instructor. Students doing poorly will be asked to meet with the instructor to determine potential problems and solutions. The goal is learning the plants!

### **Course Policies**

#### **Late Work Policy**

There are no make-ups for quizzes, the midterm, or the final exam. Plant collections turned in late will be assessed a penalty of a five points reduction per week up to 20 points.

### **Extra Credit Policy**

No Extra Credit is expected, and if it occurs, will be open to all class participants.

### **Grades of "Incomplete"**

Per university policy, an instructor may assign temporary grade of Incomplete to a student who demonstrates that he or she could not complete the requirements of the course due to circumstances beyond the student's control and not reasonably foreseeable. A student must be passing a course at the time that an Incomplete is requested unless the instructor determines that there are extenuating circumstances to assign an Incomplete to a student who is not passing the course. When an instructor assigns an Incomplete, he or she shall specify in writing using the Department Incomplete Grade Form the requirements the student shall fulfill to complete the course as well as the reasons for granting an Incomplete when the student is not passing the course. The instructor shall retain a copy of this statement in his or her grade records and provide copies to the student and the department head or his or her designee. (Section I.6 of the *Academic Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual*)

### **Disability Access**

Colorado State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need accommodations must first contact Resources for Disabled Students before requesting accommodations from the professor. Resources for Disabled Students (RDS; <http://rds.colostate.edu/home>) is located in room 100 of the General Services Building. Their phone is (970) 491-6385 (V/TDD). Students who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations.

**Attendance and Class Participation:** You are responsible for attending all labs. If you miss a lab, please make arrangements to get notes and announcements from a classmate. Quizzes cannot be made up, although accommodations will be made for students with a University excused absence (e.g., attendance at a professional meeting, illness). If you miss an exam/quiz, you must discuss it with the instructor beforehand and depending on the reason, you will probably be asked to take the exam/quiz early. If you experience an emergency that results in your missing an exam/quiz unexpectedly, you must contact the instructor within 24 hours. Please stay home if you are sick. Drop me a note and we can discuss a make-up time. Accommodations will be made for *students participation in* University-sanctioned extracurricular/co-curricular activities. Students must inform their instructors prior to the anticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion. Instructors must make reasonable efforts to enable students to make up work which must be accomplished under the instructor's supervision (e.g., examinations, laboratories). In the event of a conflict in regard to this policy, individuals may appeal using established University procedures.

For the purposes of this regulation, University-sanctioned activities include competitions, events and professional meetings in which students are officially representing the institution. Appropriate sanctioned activities include:

- a. Intercollegiate athletics;
- b. Collegiate club sports and competitions;
- c. Conferences and workshops recognized by the University not related to academics;
- d. Commitments on behalf of the University (ASCSU, band, etc.); and
- e. Professional activities recognized by the University related to academics.

Department heads or their designated representatives must approve sanctioned professional and departmental activities. Other sanctioned activities must be approved by the appropriate program director on record with the Division of Student Affairs offices or the Department of Athletics.

**Academic integrity:** The Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship takes academic integrity seriously. At minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way:

Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating. Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding "credit be given where credit is due."

Source: (Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism.

<http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/guide.cfm?guideid=17>)

If you plagiarize in your work you could lose credit for the plagiarized work, fail the assignment, or fail the course. Each instance of plagiarism, classroom cheating, and other types of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to the principles published in the CSU General Catalog (under "Academic Integrity/Misconduct: <http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/policies/students-responsibilities/> .)

Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes regular class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students. Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars, and citizens, we will ask to you sign the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing all of our major assignments. While you will not be required to sign the honor pledge, we will ask each of you to write and sign the following statement on your papers and exams:

***"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."***

### **Religious Accommodation**

Participation in official University activities, e.g., an out-of-town athletic event, or special religious observances may provide a legitimate reason for an excused absence. The student is responsible for discussing this with the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

### **Final Exam Policy**

The final exam will take place the week before finals. As a lab course, value of the exam will not be greater than 10% of your grade.

### **Professionalism Policy**

Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, *etc.* **must be silenced** during all classroom and lab lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom/lab immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, *etc.*, and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade. When emailing the instructor or TA, please include your full name, CSU ID, and the course number in your email.

### **Title IX Information**

CSU's Student Sexual Harassment and Violence policy, following national guidance from the Office of Civil Rights, requires that faculty follow CSU policy as a "mandatory reporter" of any personal disclosure of sexual harassment, abuse, and/or violence related experiences or incidents shared with the faculty member in person, via email, and/or in classroom papers or homework exercises. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of personal relational abuse, relational/domestic violence, and stalking. While faculty are often able to help students locate appropriate channels of assistance on campus (e.g., see the CSU Health Network link

below), disclosure by the student to the faculty member requires that the faculty member inform appropriate CSU channels to help ensure that the student's safety and welfare is being addressed, even if the student requests that the disclosure not be shared.

For counseling support and assistance, please see the CSU Health Network, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/>. And, the Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential resource for students that does not have a reporting requirement and that can be of great help to students who have experienced sexual assault. The web address is <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.

Source: <http://oeo.colostate.edu/title-ix-sexual-assault>

### **Non-Discrimination Statement**

Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or pregnancy. The University complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, related Executive Orders 11246 and 11375, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and all civil rights laws of the State of Colorado. Accordingly, equal opportunity of employment and admission shall be extended to all persons. The University shall promote equal opportunity and treatment in employment through a positive and continuing affirmative action program for ethnic minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services. Source: <http://oeo.colostate.edu/non-discrimination-statement>

### **PLANT COLLECTION**

This task contributes 10 percent toward your final grade and will be based on the visual appearance of the collection, the information provided, and the correct determination. This is an individual activity and not a group one. **Your collection should not be from or for any other course.** The procedures to follow are:

1. Locate plant to be collected (Be sure you have permission to collect it!). **It must be one of the species covered in RS 312.** (We will have a class field trip that will provide you the opportunity to make the necessary collections.)
2. Remove the plant from the soil making sure to get the stem and leaves with flowers and/or seeds attached and a part of the root system (remove all of the soil). Clean plants will get you more points!!!! Or should I say, will not lose points.
3. Press the plant between sheets of newspaper using a plant press, a telephone book, or book stack (this should take 1-3 days to dry).
4. One or two collections can be photographs; however, you have to photograph enough information for identification (do not share photographs!). Some species, will be easy...not so easy for others. You will still need to provide the remaining information.
5. Mount the plant on a sturdy piece of paper using glue and label it with the following information:
  - A. Family
  - B. Genus and species
  - C. Date collected
  - D. Location (physical location, site characteristics)
  - E. Community type
  - F. Associated species

G. Collected by

H. See label below for additional, required information

5. Provide a cover sheet with your collection (Your Name would be good) and the purpose for your collection. Because you had to make a collection, cannot be the purpose. Your purpose should match what your collection looks like (points involved). If you do not provide a purpose it will be assumed the collection is for submission into a herbarium as a voucher collection and expectations will be greater. Also, you will miss out on some points.

**I. PLANT COLLECTIONS ARE DUE the week following the midterm!**

BONUS POINTS: Submit your completed collection by the 6<sup>th</sup> week and get 20 extra points, the week 7, 10 extra points; week 8, 5 extra points, and the collection is due on the 18 October. Collections after that date loose points in the opposite directions as how they could be gained.

These are all things expected on your labels.

