

MASTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES STEWARDSHIP, PLAN C, WESTERN RANCH MANAGEMENT AND ECOSYSTEM STEWARDSHIP SPECIALIZATION

This Master of Natural Resources Stewardship (MNRS), Plan C, Western Ranch Management and Ecosystem Stewardship Specialization is a coursework-intensive professional master's degree. It provides students with a broad natural resources education and specialized resource management expertise in ranch management.

[Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin.](#)

Learning Objectives

After successfully completing the program, students will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate traditional and novel ranch management approaches using knowledge of sustainable natural resource management (forests, rangelands, wildlife, and watersheds), ecology, business, livestock production, and agriculture.
2. Track and evaluate current scientific information, apply a variety of tools and technologies, and manage business operations to achieve management goals.
3. Develop, implement, monitor, and adapt ranch management approaches to support ecosystem processes, foster lasting protection of the land, and achieve economic sustainability, across diverse ecological and social contexts.
4. Consider multiple perspectives and understand how diverse cultures/backgrounds/experiences/social positions affect values/attitudes/roles related to ranch management.
5. Demonstrate effective written, oral, and visual communication skills with a variety of stakeholders and excel working in teams.
6. Leverage resources (e.g., partnerships, grants, expert opinion) and build communities of practice and professional networks.
7. Demonstrate ethical and professional behaviors in all aspects of ranch management and ecosystem stewardship.

Requirements Effective Fall 2023

Additional coursework may be required due to prerequisites.

Code	Title	Credits
Core Requirements:		
NR 539	Western Ranch Assessment and Planning	3
NR 567	Analysis of Environmental Impact	3
NR 578	Ecology of Disturbed Lands	3
Select one from the following		2-3
F 575	Monitoring for Advanced Silviculture	

NR 566	Natural Resource Inventory and Data Analysis	
RS 532	Rangeland Ecosystem Sampling	
Select one from the following:		1-2
F 592	Advanced Silviculture Seminar	
NR 693	Natural Resources Stewardship Seminar	
Western Ranch Management and Ecosystem Stewardship Specialization Requirements:		
NR 536	Ranch Management and Stewardship Field Course	4
NR 537	Ranch Management and Stewardship Seminar	1
NR 538	Skills in Ranch Management	2
RS 452	Rangeland Herbivore Ecology and Management	3
In consultation with your advisor, select 6-8 directed elective credits from the following to bring your total credits to 30:		6-8
AGRI 631	Building the Business	
AGRI 633	Understanding and Managing Animal Resources	
AGRI 634	Animal Production Systems	
AGRI 635	Integrated Forage Management	
AGRI 637	Understanding Policy and Emerging Issues	
AGRI 638	Ecosystem Services on Agricultural Lands	
AGRI 639	Products to Profit	
AREC 342	Water Law, Policy, and Institutions	
AREC 375	Agricultural Law	
ESS 501	Principles of Ecosystem Sustainability	
F 325	Silviculture	
F 510	Ecophysiology of Trees	
F 610	Advanced Forest Ecology	
FW 553	Adaptive Fish and Wildlife Management	
FW 557	Wildlife Habitat Management on Private Land	
FW 568/BZ 568	Sustaining River Ecosystems in Changing World	
NR 505	Concepts in GIS	
NR 515	Natural Resources Policy and Biodiversity	
NR 577	Wetland Ecology and Restoration	
NRRT 548	Agritourism Enterprise Management	
RS 329	Rangeland Assessment	
RS 500	Advanced Rangeland Management	
RS 630	Ecology of Grasslands and Shrublands	
SOCR 441	Soil Ecology	
SOCR 442	Forest and Range Soils	

Program Total Credits: 30

A minimum of 30 credits are required to complete this program.

Requirements for All Graduate Degrees

For more information, please visit Requirements for All Graduate Degrees (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/graduate-study/procedures-requirements-all-degrees/>) in the Graduate

and Professional Bulletin (<http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/>).

Summary of Procedures for the Master's and Doctoral Degrees

NOTE: Each semester the Graduate School publishes a schedule of deadlines. Deadlines are available on the Graduate School website (<https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/deadline-dates/>). Students should consult this schedule whenever they approach important steps in their careers.

Forms (<https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/forms/>) are available online.

Step	Due Date
1. Application for admission (online)	Six months before first registration
2. Diagnostic examination when required	Before first registration
3. Appointment of advisor	Before first registration
4. Selection of graduate committee	Before the time of fourth regular semester registration
5. Filing of program of study (GS Form 6)	Before the time of fourth regular semester registration
6. Preliminary examination (Ph.D. and PD)	Two terms prior to final examination
7. Report of preliminary examination (GS Form 16) - (Ph.D. and PD)	Within two working days after results are known
8. Changes in committee (GS Form 9A)	When change is made
9. Application for Graduation (GS Form 25)	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School Website
9a. Reapplication for Graduation (online)	Failure to graduate requires Reapplication for Graduation (online) for the next time term for which you are applying
10. Submit thesis or dissertation to committee	At least two weeks prior to the examination or at the discretion of the graduate committee
11. Final examination	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School Website
12. Report of final examination (GS Form 24)	Within two working days after results are known; refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website
13. Submit a signed Thesis/Dissertation Submission Form (GS Form 30) to the Graduate School and Submit the Survey of Earned Doctorates (Ph.D. only) prior to submitting the electronic thesis/dissertation	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website.
14. Submit the thesis/dissertation electronically	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website
15. Graduation	Ceremony information is available from the Graduate School website