COURSE LAYOUT

1. GENERAL

SCHOOL	**School of Animal Biosciences**		
DEPARTMENT	**Animal Science**		
STUDY LEVEL	***Undergraduate (Bachelor)***		
COURSE CODE	**0024**	**SEMESTER**	**3rd**
COURSE TITLE	**GRASSLANDS MANAGEMENT**		

INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES	**WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS**	**ECTS**
Teaching: Lectures and practicals	5	5

COURSE TYPE	Field of Science (theory)
PREREQUISITES	
LANGUAGE	Greek
IS THE COURSE OFFERED forERASMUS STUDENTS?	No
COURSE WEB PAGE (URL)	https://mediasrv.aua.gr/eclass/courses/EZPY126/

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning Outcomes

Introducing students in aspects of grazing land functions, their productivity, management and actions for upgrading.
The lesson aims to add to students' knowledge on ecology of grazed ecosystems, the ecology of grazing, the rational use of these areas towards livestock farming, the capacities of improvement and the creation of artificial swards.

After this course the student:

- Comprehends the basic functions of grazed ecosystems and the abiotic factors determining these
- Comprehends the capacities and the limitations of a range of grasslands towards livestock production and the environmental services they provide
- Understands grazing mechanics
- Becomes aware of the basic tools and techniques for the management of grasslands and artificial swards
- Knows the range of methods for grassland improvement and the criteria for applying them

General Competenses

- Searching, analyzing and combining data and existing knowledge
- Autonomous work
- Group work
- Love for nature and natural life

3. COURSE CONTENT

i. Terminology on grazing lands and artificial swards
ii. The ecology of grazing lands – Environmental factors and vegetation
iii. The ecology of grazing lands – Interactions between plants, plants and soil, plants and animals
iv. Vegetation and flora of natural grazing lands (edible and noxious plants).
v. Recording and mapping of natural grasslands.
vi. Forage plants and the creation of artificial swards.
vii. Management of natural and artificial grasslands.
viii. Improvement of natural grazing lands.
ix. Grazing and livestock production – (capacities and limitations).
xi. Legislation on grasslands.
xii. The usage of modern technology towards the successful management of natural grasslands and artificial swards.

4. TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - Evaluation

TEACHING METHOD	In class and the Lab, face to face.
USE OF INFORMATICS and COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES	PowerPoint and video presentations for theory lectures Specialized software for grassland management
TEACHING ORGANISATION	

Activities	***Work load (h) per semester***
Lectures	50
Lab work and exercises	40
Working in groups	15
Fields visit	10
Individual study	10
Total work load (25 h work load per ECTS)	***125***

STUDENTS EVALUATION	The evaluation on the course's theory consists of final written examination with long-answer questions, while for the labs there is written examination with short-answer questions A bonus of 20% is added on students preparing a text on an individually allocated subject

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY

-Proposed Literature:

J. Holechek, R.D. Pieper, C.H. Herbel. "Range Management: Principles and Practices" 6th Edition, Prentice Hall, 2011
G. Sarlis. «Improvement and management of Natural grazinglands», Editions Stamoulis, Athens 1998.