

John B. Armstrong Lectureship on
Systems Thinking for Ranchers
August 10-12, 2026 || Kingsville, TX

INSTRUCTOR:

Benjamin Turner, Associate Professor, KRIRM

MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026

- 8:00 AM** Registration and Welcome
- 8:30 AM** Goals and Introduction to Systems Thinking
Intro Case Study
- 10:00 AM** BREAK
- 10:15 AM** Production-Distribution Game
- 12:30 PM** LUNCH
- 1:30 PM** Production-Distribution Game Debrief
- 2:00 PM** Team Formation & Iceberg Exercise
- 3:00 PM** BREAK
- 3:15 PM** Iceberg Exercise continued
- 5:00 PM** ADJOURN

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026

- 8:30 AM** Review Day 1 & Team Presentations
Language of ST: Reinforcing Loops
- 10:00 AM** BREAK
- 10:15 AM** Language of ST: Balancing Loops
Group Exercise
Ranch Resources Case Study

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- 12:00 PM** LUNCH
- 1:00 PM** Archetypes I: Fixes That Backfire
Group Exercise
- 3:00 PM** BREAK
- 3:15 PM** Archetypes II: Shifting the Burden
Group Exercise
Team Presentations
Archetypes III: Limits to Growth
USDA Case Study
- 6:00 PM** ADJOURN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2026

- 8:30 AM** Review Day 2
Archetypes IV: Explore Other Archetypes & Learning Exercise
- 10:00 AM** BREAK
- 10:15 AM** Teamwork on Advanced Archetypes
Archetype Case Study Exercise (time permitting)
- 12:00 PM** LUNCH
- 1:00 PM** Mental Models, B-A-Rs and Ladders
Group Exercise
- 3:00 PM** BREAK
- 3:15 PM** Leverage Points/ Interventions
Group Exercise
Next Steps
- 4:00 PM** ADJOURN