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

INSTRUCTOR:

Benjamin Turner, Associate Professor, KRIRM

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 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

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
5:30 PM	ADJOURN
5:30 PM	Working Dinner and Computer Simulation – <i>optional participation, dinner provided</i> “Grazing Management Decision Lab”

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