



Registration is NOW OPEN!

FREE RANCH EDUCATION CLASSES

Fall 2026



CONTACT:
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RANCH EDUCATION
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RANCH EDUCATION

DEVELOPING ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE AND ANIMAL HANDLING SKILLS

“WE NEED PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO HANDLE ANIMALS, MAINTAIN EQUIPMENT AND KEEP RECORDS.”
- Shelly Ingram, Associate Director of Instruction

RANCH EDUCATION ESSENTIAL RANCHING SKILLS

The goal of the Ranch Education program is to create farm and ranch employees and managers who have a basic grounding in animal handling and care, ranch design and maintenance, pasture maintenance and herding techniques. Emphasis will be placed on regenerative, holistic, and sustainable practices to address practical, environmental, ecological, and cultural challenges.

Students will gain practical hands-on experience in ranch design and repair, forage and pasture management, machinery maintenance and operation, irrigation and facility repair and construction. They will learn to identify and handle different species and breeds of animals safely while working in a functional ranch setting on the 75 acres of grassland located at 3035 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo.

The Ranch Education program will allow students to explore a variety of employment opportunities. These opportunities include livestock event facility and cattle or horse ranch maintenance or management, establishing a goat or sheep herding business geared toward contact fire management and brush removal, sheep and/or goat farming, irrigation installation or repair, landscape management or working as a manager in any capacity that requires a combination of ranching skills.



INDIVIDUAL CLASSES OR A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

VOICE 565A INTRODUCTION TO FARM MAINTENANCE
Provides students with an introduction to different types of agricultural operations, and a working knowledge of basic farm safety, farm, ranch and landscape construction and maintenance. Covers fundamental construction and maintenance of shelters, fencing, water systems, pastures and landscaping, and general handling and care of livestock.

VOICE 565B INTRODUCTION TO LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION AND HANDLING
Provides students with an introduction to livestock species and breeds, and a working knowledge of the fundamental requirements of animal husbandry and farm safety. Covers animal handling and restraint, general care, housing, feeding and basic health requirements.

VOICE 565C INTRODUCTION TO LAND USE PLANNING AND GRAZING
Provides students with an introduction to land use and grazing planning using historic and sustainable planning methods. Covers interpreting and applying county land use regulations, operation design, planning and mapping methods, and planning targeted grazing.

VOICE 565D INTRODUCTION TO LIVESTOCK HEALTH
Provides students with an introduction to livestock health including applicable requirements of animal husbandry and farm safety. Applies principles that address animal care, housing, and feeding as they relate to animal health. Includes the evaluation of techniques for avoiding, recognizing, and treating common health problems.

Each class addresses the application of sustainable agricultural practices, and the exploration of potential career paths.

https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/continuingeducation/non-credit-basic-ed/noncredit_ranch_education.html
Class information will be posted online each week - class will meet in person each Saturday.

August 22 – October 03

VOICE 565B INTRODUCTION TO LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION AND HANDLING: Provides students with an introduction to livestock species and breeds, and a working knowledge of the fundamental requirements of animal husbandry and farm safety. Covers animal handling and restraint, general care, housing, feeding and basic health requirements.

October 10 – November 21

VOICE 565A - INTRODUCTION TO FARM MAINTENANCE: Provides students with an introduction to different types of agricultural operations, and a working knowledge of basic farm safety, farm, ranch and landscape construction and maintenance. Covers fundamental construction and maintenance of shelters, fencing, water systems, pastures and landscaping, and general handling and care of livestock.

For more information, visit our [Ranch Education Webpage](https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/continuingeducation/non-credit-basic-ed/noncredit_ranch_education.html).

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To register call:

Cuesta College Continuing Education Office
Mon-Wed 9am -5pm

San Luis Obispo Office: (805) 546-3941

Paso Robles Office: (805) 591-6273

For more information contact:

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