

July 19, 2013

1. College: **Forestry and Agriculture**
2. Department: **Agriculture**
3. Course status: **existing; requires modification**
4. Course prefix and number: **ANS 131**
5. Course title: **Introductory Animal Science**
6. Course catalog description: **This course will explore how the interactions of breed selection, environmental conditions, mating systems, comparative digestive systems, reproductive physiology, and nutrition all affect the final product in production agriculture. This knowledge will allow the student to have a better understanding how livestock systems function and the impact animal production has on world and human experience.**
7. Number of semester credit hours: **3**
8. Estimated total course enrollment per year: **200**
9. Course prerequisites and/or required qualifications for enrolling in the class:
10. Course **is not/will not be** available online.
11. Foundational Component Area: **Life and Physical Sciences**
12. Explain why this course fits into this foundation component area: **This course meets the Coordinating Board's description of life and physical sciences because it focuses on describing, explaining, and predicting natural phenomena in the production of livestock and livestock systems. The students will explore how the interactions of breed selection, environmental conditions, mating systems, comparative digestive systems, reproductive physiology, and nutrition all affect the final product in production agriculture. This knowledge will allow the student to have a better understanding how livestock systems function and the impact animal production has on world and human experience.**
13. Core Objectives
  - Critical Thinking - Students will be required to evaluate their current views on the animal industry and production agriculture in general. Through group projects there will be opportunity to evaluate the innovative methods in production agriculture that include dealing with animal husbandry, environmental issues, and animal welfare. Gaining this knowledge base will require the student to inquire about current technology, analyze the need for animal production, evaluate the current production schemes, and synthesize this information in order to make an informed decision about the current state of livestock production throughout the world. The students will be required to participate in 3 group critical thinking projects over topics in agriculture including, breeds of livestock, reproduction systems, and animal welfare vs. animal rights. They will be given informational packets at the beginning of the semester on how to successfully utilize critical thinking and ample information on the topics. The students will have to research the topics and write a 2-page paper as well as present the information to their peers in the form of a 10 minute presentation.
  - Communication Skills - Students will learn interpretation skills by writing essays on controversial topics in animal agriculture production. These reports will allow the students and instructor to open up lines of communication in the classroom

about the topics, allowing for scientific support of arguments and better understanding of the course topics. Students will then orally present a topic assigned by the instructor that allows for appropriate visual aids and research to support the topic. The students will be required to participate in 3 group critical thinking projects over topics in agriculture including, breeds of livestock, reproduction systems, and animal welfare vs. animal rights. They will be given informational packets at the beginning of the semester on how to successfully utilize communication skills during an oral presentation and ample information on the topics. The students will have to research the topics and write a 2-page paper as well as present the information to their peers in the form of a 10 minute presentation.

- Empirical and Quantitative Skills - In animal production, the student will learn how to record, analyze, and report data on progeny in our livestock systems. In order to improve livestock efficiency, it is important to keep good data on growth and performance of our livestock species. Keeping effective data is important to expanding the effectiveness of our livestock systems and production ability. By analyzing and understanding Expected Progeny Differences, students will be able to draw conclusions about the practicality of certain genetic lines within breeds and species of livestock. The students' second presentation over Reproductive Systems in the livestock industry will force the students to have an understanding of the above information in order to properly understand and present the correct information for their reproductive systems, including cost effective systems for animal production.
- Teamwork - Students from urban and rural communities tend to have differing opinions on animal agriculture in general. Group presentations allow for students with different backgrounds and point of views to work together and find common ground for the betterment of production agriculture or the end goal of the consumer in this case. The students must be able to present information on the livestock industry that removes opinions and focuses on the science behind the production systems. In order to have successful group work and presentations, the students will have to be able to work effectively as a team. This will be presented to them in the form of an exercise at the beginning of the semester where they will practice taking different roles within a group.

Contact person for questions about this submission:

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