Welcome to Introduction to Animal Science. For many of you, this is a pre-requisite on your way to your veterinary career. Others may be taking this course as an elective in biology or veterinary technology. Some of you may be here because you want to increase your knowledge about food production through the use of animals. Others may be here because you need an elective and you like the idea of online convenience. Regardless of your motivation, I am happy that you are here. I am a veterinarian who was an animal science major. I am committed to helping you explore this broad topic. But please keep in mind that animal science is not the study of all animals. For the sake of this course, we are only concerned with species that can be defined as livestock, food animals or animals kept to produce fiber for textiles. Therefore we are concerned with animals that give us meat, eggs, dairy products, wool and transportation. For those of you who are in the veterinary field, I promise that you will have ample time within your education to investigate dogs, cats, and exotic pets. But we are not concerned with those species in this course. You will be gaining an overview of how complicated it is to produce healthy viable animals to serve 7 billion hungry people. Not only will you discover the complexities behind animal production, you will be exploring areas of the businesses, including management, economics and ethics. It’s a great deal to cover in one semester and I do my best to make it interesting and not overwhelming. So hang on, hold tight and enjoy the ride!

This syllabus will provide you with the structure of the course. The actual assignments are contained within the folders called "Units". The due dates can all be found on the calendar. They also appear in the description of each of the assignments.

Instructor Information

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Office hours: Please see instructor page. Hours will be announced first day of class.
Instructor Response Times

1. Written assignments: reviewed and graded within 7 days, unless otherwise stated. Longer assignments may take 14 days.

2. Discussion forum questions reviewed daily, graded within 7 days

3. E-mails – Responded to within 24 hours M-F

Required Text

Damron, W. Stephen *Introduction to animal science: global, biological, social and industry perspectives, 5th edition* (2013) Upper Saddle River, NJ Pearson Education ISBN 978:0132623896 It is your responsibility to have your book by the first day of class. Although you may complete the assignments during the first week without the book, it will not be possible in the following weeks.

Software Requirements

All assignments must be compiled and submitted using Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and/or Excel version 2003 or later. No assignments will be accepted if submitted using any other word processing program. If you are using VISTA, please save your file as a .doc file. You may find difficulty if you are using Microsoft Explorer 8.0 as your browser. You may want to use Mozilla Firefox when submitting assignments or an earlier version of Microsoft Explorer.

Hardware Requirements

You will need a functional computer that is connected to the internet. I recommend that you plan for a backup situation if your computer or internet fails. Late assignments are not accepted! Technology malfunction is not an accepted excuse!

Course Format

Learners will be required to submit assignments at least twice weekly to meet attendance requirements. It is recommended that you login every other day. Although I will not monitor how frequently you check in, I will assume that you are responsible for reading e-mails and notices that I post within the course. So even if you just check in for a few minutes you will do best by logging in frequently.

The class is divided into units. Each unit will typically have one or two discussion forums and one quiz. There are also three dropbox submissions. All of the week's assignments can be found within the unit. All due dates are marked on the calendar for the course.

Please take the time now to look at all of the units so you can pace yourself.
**Course Description**

Prerequisite: None. ANS 3006 provides an overview of the discipline of livestock production. The course covers the fundamentals of animal science, including nutrition, feeds, genetics, reproduction, healthcare and management of major and minor species. The agricultural industries of animal production will also be explored.

**Major Learning Outcomes**

1. The student will evaluate the functions of livestock within the animal industry in the U.S and globally.

2. The students will explore various opportunities that exist within the livestock production industry.

3. The student will demonstrate an understanding of animal feeding, health, genetics and reproduction for the major and minor species used in livestock production.

4. The student will analyze different animal industries including beef, dairy, swine, poultry and aquaculture.

5. The student will differentiate the philosophies and use of different management systems employed in livestock production.

6. The student will evaluate the current state of affairs within the animal industry, including problems related to health, ethical treatment and sustainability.
Course Objectives

1. The student will evaluate the functions of livestock within the animal industry in the U.S and globally by
   a. identifying the economic value of animals to mankind.
   b. differentiating the uses of animals in the United States and other countries.

2. The students will explore various opportunities that exist within the livestock production industry by
   a. reading current texts and articles regarding careers in animal science.
   b. seeking out different careers through direct contact of individuals within the animal industries.
   c. discussing global opportunities, including volunteerism, NGOs and sustainability

3. The student will demonstrate an understanding of animal feeding, health, genetics and reproduction for the major and minor species used in livestock production by
   a. discussing the six major nutrients and the importance of a balanced diet on optimum health and growth in the formulation of rations.
   b. contrasting the different digestive tracts for the various species.
   c. summarizing health management practices to prevent disease, such as deworming, vaccination and dips.
   d. classifying the main diseases for each major species.
   e. distinguishing genetic traits that are the basis of a selective breeding program.

4. The student will analyze different animal industries including beef, dairy, swine, poultry and aquaculture by
   a. explaining the fundamentals of a selected animal industry.
   b. discussing the various animal industries through presentations and discussion forums.

5. The student will differentiate the philosophies and use of different management systems employed in livestock production.
   a. comparing different systems for the housing of livestock.
   b. giving examples of various systems for harvesting animal products (milk, meat, eggs, etc.).
6. The student will evaluate the current state of affairs within the animal industry, including problems related to health, ethical treatment and sustainability.

   a. discussing the zoonotic diseases, globally and in the United States.

   b. describing current practices within animal production that may be questionable in terms of animal welfare.

   c. distinguishing organizations and opportunities that seek to advance practices of sustainability within livestock production.

**Assignments**

**All assignments must be submitted no later than the due date and time. Late assignments will receive a zero.**

- **LATENESS PASS** – Once during the semester, you may submit your discussion post or essay up to 2 days late and still receive full credit. This only applies to certain discussion posts and essays, not projects, replies to posts, or quizzes/exams. No lateness passes are accepted in Weeks 14 or 15. Certain assignments may not be eligible for a lateness pass. If so, I will state that no later than the Monday of that week. If you are using a lateness pass, you do not need an excuse. Just submit your assignment within 2 days after the due date and I will keep track of the lateness. However, I suggest you use it wisely. If you have already used it and then an unexpected emergency comes up, you will still receive a zero. The pass is meant to be used for emergency circumstances.

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE in the Eastern Standard Time Zone.**

Please be aware that some assignments are more time intensive than others. It is recommended that you review the semester assignments so that you can allocate your time effectively. The instructor reserves the right to add or delete assignments. This may change the point total for the class. Only slight adjustments are anticipated.

**Reading Assignments (ungraded)**

Each week will feature reading from the text. Additional documents and website links may also be provided. Quiz questions will come from the assigned reading.

**Discussion Questions (13 DQ Forums at 25 Points each)**

Each discussion forums require three posts; the original post and responses to classmates. (Some weeks may only require one reply – always check the directions). This question is to spark learner discussion on an issue. Postings should incorporate multiple references and be
cited per APA standards. On most weeks, there will be three different questions. You will be assigned your question based on your last name. In addition to the answer to your question, you will read the responses of classmates that were assigned the other two questions. You will need to post replies to one student from each of the other two groups. In other words, if you are assigned question “A”, you will answer question “A”. Additionally you will respond to a student who answered question “B” and question “C”.

To receive credit, the initial posting must be completed by 11:30 PM Tuesday; response postings must be completed by 11:30 PM Friday. The dates may vary so check the calendar. No credit is given for late work!

Twenty-five (25) points will be awarded for each discussion posts. The original post is worth 20 points. This original post will have different word minimum requirements. It is typically 350 words, not including citations, but check each week’s directions. Your replies to your classmates are worth the additional 5 points. Your replies must be substantive and will typically be a minimum of 50 words.

Optional Website Assignments (ungraded)

Each week you will be given the opportunity to complete quiz questions on the publisher’s website. While ungraded, these questions will help to emphasize important concepts and information from each chapter. Some of the quiz questions for the week will come from the website. So while these exercises are optional, they are highly recommended!

Quizzes. (330 points; Syllabus quiz is 10 points; all others are 40 points)

There is no midterm or final for this class. There are quizzes as part of each week. The best way to prepare for the quizzes is to take notes on the major concepts of the reading. Although the quiz is open book, it is timed and you will be likely to be disappointed if you are using the quiz to review the reading for the first time. Use the link to the Pearson website to guide you on chapter highlights. The quizzes are not proctored and you can take them open book. You are on your honor that you are taking the quiz alone, unassisted and that you have not shared the content of the quiz with anyone else or have received information about the quiz from any source. Once the deadline to take the quiz has passed it will not be reopened for any excuse! Each quiz (except the syllabus quiz) is worth 40 points and must be completed in 45 minutes or less. The quizzes cannot be saved. They are open only during the time that the week is in session. If you like to work ahead, you must go back to the current week so you can complete the quiz. All quizzes close at 11:59 PM Sunday.

Dropbox submissions (150 points; at 50 points each)

Four times during the semester you will have the opportunity to write an essay. These essays will be between 500 – 750 words, not including your citations and sources. The work must be cited per APA. If you use direct quotes, remember to use quotation marks and use them sparingly. This is not a cut and paste exercise but an opportunity to use critical thinking skills to answer the questions. All due dates are noted on the calendar. These assignments are typically due Sunday night of the week assigned.
Project (150 points)

For your project you will have your choice of two different investigations. Both choices are available as individual or team efforts. I know that many of you are living far from each other. But I encourage you to consider working as a team of two or three people. For one thing, many of you are going to be classmates at UF in the fall. Also working online is not as difficult as you might think and discussing the concepts with other members of the team enhances the experience. That being said, I know that some students strongly prefer working independently. So the option exists for either scenario.

Choice One - Read a book that is concerned with animal welfare, the food industry, or sustainable agriculture. The topic must be related to animal science, or the use of animals for industrial purposes. A suggested reading list follows. You may select one of the books from the list or may submit your own topic for approval. Only one student or team may select each book so make sure you have approval before starting your project. After reading the book you will create a powerpoint presentation to share with your classmates. The content must extend beyond a synopsis of the book. You need to also discuss the theme (or message) of the book. The powerpoint should include photos and other references to support the content. The powerpoint must include between 25 - 35 slides of content. This does not include your reference slides. Also, make sure that your powerpoint includes an introduction and a conclusion. Post your desired book to topic approval forum that appears in Week 8.

Reading List:

1. Four Fish: The Future of the Last Wild Food; Greenberg, Paul
2. The Omnivore's Dilemma; Pollen, Michael
3. The Meat Crisis: Developing More Sustainable Production and Consumption; D'Silva & Webster
4. Animals in Translation: Grandin, Temple
5. In Meat We Trust: Ogle, Maureen
6. Meat Market: Markus, Erik

Choice Two - Choose to investigate an animal science industry - this may include a ranch or dairy, a meat processing plant, a fish hatchery, an egg operation or other sites. Design a questionnaire prior to your visit. Take photos at your visit if granted permission. Present your findings in a powerpoint presentation. Your information should be supplemented with references. The powerpoint should include photos and other references to support the content. The powerpoint must include between 25 - 35 slides of content. This does not include your reference slides. Also, make sure that your powerpoint includes an introduction and a conclusion. Post your topic for approval to the forum located in Week Eight. If working with a classmate, include each person's intended contribution to the project. There may be a maximum of 3 people on this project. All members must be involved with the research process.

Your first task is to post your team or look for a team using the signup board in Week 8. If you are working alone, post your name on the signup board and state that you are working alone. You must form teams or state that you are working independently no later than October 8th.

Your second task is to seek topic approval. Your topic must be approved no later than October 15th. The topic approval forum can be found in Unit 9. Do not begin working on
your project until it has received approval.

**Learner Schedule**

Week 1  Introduction – course organization and overview of animal science
Week 2  Uses and value of animals and global agricultural structure and production
Week 3  Uses and value of animals and global agricultural structure and production
Week 4  Nutrition, the gastrointestinal tract and feedstuffs
Week 5  Genetics and Breeding and Biotechnology and animal reproduction
Week 6  Genetics and Breeding and Biotechnology and animal reproduction
Week 7  Animal behavior and animal health
Week 8  Intro to animal industries; beef and dairy production
Week 9  Intro to animal industries; beef and dairy production
Week 10 Poultry, swine, horses and aquaculture
Week 11 Poultry, swine, horses and aquaculture
Week 12 Animal Welfare and Rights; Sustainability
Week 13 Animal Welfare and Rights; Sustainability
Week 14 Projects Due
Week 15 Careers and consumer issues

**Grading Scale**

An A is 90-100%, B 80-89%, C 70-79%, D 60-69% and F <59%.

**SPC Policies**

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance is mandatory. Attendance is based upon logging in to the course and
posting at least two (2) DAYS per week. Failure to participate in the class for 2 weeks may result in withdrawal from the class. **If you are absent during the first two weeks, you will be automatically withdrawn.** If this occurs before the 60% day, you will receive a W. After the 60% day, you will receive a WF.

**Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is expressly prohibited in this and all courses. Violators are subject to the following consequences: failing the assignment, the course, and/or expulsion and having the infraction on their permanent academic record. For further information on the college policy on plagiarism and its ramifications, please read your student handbook ([http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/admit/honesty.htm](http://www.spcollege.edu/webcentral/admit/honesty.htm)).

This instructor takes plagiarism seriously and will enforce these policies. To help each learner understand what plagiarism is, some simple definitions are offered below.

Please read them carefully and ask questions of the instructor if you have any. No excuses for plagiarism will be accepted.

Plagiarism is the attempt to represent the work of another, as it may relate to written or oral works, computer-based work, mode of creative expression (i.e. music, media or the visual arts), as the product of one’s own thought, whether the other’s work is published or unpublished, or simply the work of a fellow learner.

**When a learner submits oral or written work for credit that includes the words, ideas, or data of others, the source of that information must be acknowledged through complete, accurate, and specific references, and, if verbatim statements are included, through the use of quotation marks as well.** By placing one’s name on work submitted for credit, the learner certifies the originality of all work not otherwise identified by appropriate acknowledgments. A learner will avoid being charged with plagiarism if there is an acknowledgment of indebtedness.

Examples of plagiarism include:

- Quoting another person's actual words without citing the source.
- Using another person's idea, opinion, or theory, even if it is completely paraphrased in one's own words without citing the source.
- Drawing upon facts, statistics, or other illustrative materials — unless the information is common knowledge, without citing.
- Submitting a paper purchased from a term paper service as one's own work.
- Failing to accurately document information or wording obtained on the World Wide Web.
- Submitting anyone else's paper as one's own work.
- Violating federal copyright laws, including unauthorized duplication and/or distribution of copyrighted material.
- Offering, giving, receiving or soliciting of any materials, items or services of value to gain academic advantages for yourself or another.

The following website from Indiana University has an excellent tutorial on plagiarism ([www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html](http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html)). It is recommended that you visit and review the section on Plagiarism: What It Is and How To Avoid It. Utilizing APA

SPC

APA Citation Guide - All Resources

APA Citing Electronic Sources Using APA Style
Confidentiality
Because we are encouraged to share our personal and professional experiences to enhance the learning process, we are bound by our personal ethics to honor confidences. In order to assure that we have free and open discussions, it is expected that each of us respect the confidentiality of what is shared by our colleagues. Our enrollment and participation in this class is an acknowledgment of our agreement to maintain confidentiality.

Online Etiquette
Online communication requires learners to be sensitive as to how they correspond with one another. Humor and sarcasm can be difficult to interpret in an online class. Failure to indicate that something is supposed to be humorous can lead to misunderstandings. Please be aware of communicating clearly and if necessary to add symbols to express humorous feelings.

Participation:
Active participation is essential for learning in the online environment. Posting to discussion boards and/or drop box submissions, as well as responding to colleagues' posts or drop box submissions are critical to the outcomes of your course. How your instructor measures these outcomes will be detailed in the course-grading rubric in the individual course syllabus.

Disabilities:
It is the responsibilities of the learner to bring to the college’s attention the need for academic accommodation(s) due to a qualifying disability. Please direct all inquiries regarding disabilities to the Student Services office at your campus.

Help Desk:
If you have technical problems, the student help desk number is 727-341-4357. The student helpdesk URL is http://www.spjc.edu/helpdesk/info_a.htm.

On-Ground Safety Notice:
"Information on specific crime statistics in Pinellas County for the area where your clinical site is located can be obtained for the following web sites:
Visit website "Students Right to Know" and www.ope.ed.gov/security for campus stats.