

**Title of Course: Animal Handling**

**I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours:** Proficiency in care, handling, and routine procedures for large livestock animals, with an emphasis on student and animal safety. One two-hour laboratory (1).

**II. Prerequisites:** None.

**III. Purpose or Objectives of the Course:**

At the completion of the course, the student(s) should be able to:

- A. Understand routine animal handling equipment and its operation.
- B. Identify, evaluate, and propose animal handling protocols.

**IV. Expectations of Students:**

- A. Become familiar with the principles of animal handling to avoid human or animal injury.

**V. Course Content or Outline:**

Topics that will be covered in class.

This class is a practical laboratory experience for students with little to no large animal experience. The class will meet formally once each week for two hours at the David M. Barton Agriculture Research Center or other local farms. Meetings will include an initial group discussion, but will mainly involve different experiences in the handling of large animals, including dairy, beef, swine, sheep, etc.

- A. General Introduction (Week 1)
- B. Animal Perception (Week 2-5)
  - a. How animals think
  - b. Gaining animal trust
  - c. Genetic effects on animal docility
- C. Handling Livestock (Week 6-10)
  - a. Animal Movement Patterns
    - i. Flocking instinct
    - ii. Flight or fight instinct
  - b. Initiating and controlling animal movement
    - i. Pastures
    - ii. Enclosed areas
  - c. Calming animal movements
    - i. Working with non-experienced handlers
- D. Facility Layout (Week 11-13)
  - a. Correct layout for animal well-being
    - i. Design
    - ii. Working with what you have
  - b. Corrals
  - c. Pens
  - d. Pastures
  - e. Slaughter facilities
  - f. Veterinary areas
- E. Medical Treatment (Week 14-15)
  - a. Instincts of injured animals
    - i. Aggression
    - ii. Applying dressings
    - iii. Keeping dressings cared for

- b. Humane injections
  - i. Blood draws
  - ii. Injection sites

## **VI. Textbooks and Other Required Materials:**

*Humane Livestock Handling*. By Temple Grandin and Mark Deesing; Storey Publishing, LLC: North Adams, MA. First Edition, copyright 2008.

Internet Resources to be provided

## **VII. Basis of Student Evaluations:**

### **GRADING**

#### **Quizzes:**

8 quizzes will be placed on the class website. Quizzes will be available online for 1 week prior to the due date; they must be completed prior to class. Each quiz will be worth 50 points, so a total of 400 points will come from quizzes.

#### **Forum:**

On-line forum discussion will address animal welfare, each student is to check the forum weekly and contribute to the on-line discussion. This will be a percentage of your class participation grade. If you have a topic you would like addressed please send it to the instructor.

#### **Participation:**

Participation is crucial to this class. Contributing to class discussions and activities will be assessed throughout the semester. Total participation points will equal 150 points towards your final grade.

#### **Final Paper:**

The final will be in the form of a college level written paper. It will be turned in via hard-copy to the professor during the scheduled final time. This will be worth 100 points of your grade.

#### **Makeup Work and Late Assignments:**

Tests missed for a school activity or documented illness can be made up within a reasonable time after missing the work. Quizzes will be open for multiple days on-line and thus there will not be make up work or late work for these assignments, if there are extenuating circumstances please let the instructor know.

## **FINAL COURSE GRADING**

### **Letter Grade Distinctions:**

≥ 90%	= A
80%-89.9%	= B
70%-79.9%	= C
60%-69.9%	= D
≤ 59.9%	= F

### **Grading:**

650 points total

400 points- Quizzes

100 points- Final

150 points- Participation

**VII. Instructor of the Course.** The instructor of this course should have advanced study (MS or PhD in Animal Science or Veterinary Medicine (DVM)).

### **Expectations and Policies**

#### ***Attendance:***

While attendance per se cannot be required of students, there are consequences associated with absences and policies governing excused- and non-excused absences. The official statement about attendance, derived from the Undergraduate Bulletin, may be accessed at: <http://www.semo.edu/bulletin/pdf/2006Bulletin.pdf>.

Students are expected to be present at examination times. If a student is absent for an examination then a Medical Doctor's excuse is expected. If a student knows that they have an appropriate personnel issue prior to the examination, then a private discussion with the instructor may result in an alternative examination schedule. All assignments will have a substantial lead time and therefore the expectation is that all assignments will be submitted at the assigned times.

#### ***Academic Honesty:***

The Undergraduate Bulletin defines academic dishonesty as "...those acts which would deceive, cheat, or defraud so as to promote one's scholastic record...", and states that "[v]iolations of academic honesty represent a serious breach of discipline and may be considered grounds for disciplinary action, including dismissal from the university".

The official statement about academic honesty, including plagiarism, may be accessed at: <http://www.semo.edu/bulletin/pdf/2006bulletin.pdf>.

Additional information may be accessed at: <http://www6.semo.edu/judaffairs/>

In this course, many of the assignments require students to perform work outside of the regularly assigned class schedule; therefore, in this course it is permitted that students may gather collectively to discuss and organize their study approaches and scholastic efforts. The writing of papers, projects, manuscripts, laboratory reports and allied materials must, however, be the independent work of each student.

#### ***Civility and Harassment:***

A successful educational experience requires the all students and instructors possess a shared sense of respect for all participants. Judicial Affairs is responsible for addressing such matters and that information is available at: <http://www6.semo.edu/judaffairs/>

#### ***Disabilities:***

Diversity in all its forms merit the respect of the faculty, and this applies equally to students with disabilities. While it is the responsibility of the student to inform the faculty of any physical or learning disabilities, the faculty should inform the students that there are policies and services available to them. Students may obtain official information about disabilities from Learning Assistance and Disability Support Services, located at: <http://www.semo.edu/cs/services/lec.htm>.

#### **Technology:**

Students need to be able to access and use the course website. Copies of handouts will be available on the course website. Students need to monitor the course website for updates to the Course Schedule. Students will need to use GradeA to access their scores and grades, and Forum as part of course participation.

If you do not have access to a computer or internet from your home, please inform the instructor and they will help you locate a computer lab on campus.