

ANSC 48300 -- Contemporary Issues in Animal Sciences
Spring Semester 2010
Course Syllabus

Tuesdays at 2:30, 3:30, or 4:30
Weeks 1-8
LILY 3-102

INSTRUCTORS:

Scott Mills
LILY 2--120
494-4845
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A senior seminar class for student-led discussion and debate of current issues facing animal industries. Topics include environmental impact, food safety, animal care and well-being, ethics, use of biotechnology, world food supply, and international agricultural trade issues. Students will share their experiences with each other from course work, internships, research problems, study abroad and club activities as they address contemporary issues facing animal industries. Requires team presentations and enhances student communication and industry networking skills.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To gain a better understanding of contemporary issues in the animal science industry by having industry led discussions and debate.
2. To enhance teamwork and problem solving skills in addressing current issues encountered by the animal industry.
3. To improve presentation and communication skills.
4. To gain an appreciation for the value of life-long learning and how to find appropriate resources to solve problems in industry.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. **Team presentations** - each student will **start planning** for a team presentation on challenging topics of current interest in the Animal Science industry. This will involve oral presentations (see details in section below).
2. **Attend the Book-Harmon Leadership Forum**, Wednesday, February 17 at 4:00 p.m. in Pfindler Hall, Deans Auditorium; if 4:00 p.m. conflicts with your schedule, then an alternate time is 12:00 in the same location. The speaker is Dr. Jeff Simmons, President

of Elanco Animal Health. **If you are unable to attend this forum**, then you must attend another workshop or seminar on animal-related research or contemporary issues in the animal industry. You must submit the completed the “Workshop/Seminar Attendance & Participation Form” to Dr. Mills within two weeks after the workshop or seminar.

3. **Complete the on-line senior survey in week 7** (details provided to you later).
4. **Attend the College of Agriculture Career fair in the Armory on Wednesday, February 24.** You must turn in (in class on March 2) a copy of two business cards and a paragraph describing your career plans. An alternate assignment for those who already have a job or who plan to continue their education (e.g., graduate school or vet school) should turn in a paragraph describing their career plans in detail.
5. **Attendance and classroom participation are required** and highly important to the success of the course; therefore, each student is expected to attend all classes (see details for the attendance policy at the bottom of the syllabus).

TEAM PRESENTATIONS: Each student will be assigned to a team of 2 to 5 students (depending on class size). Each team will choose a topic based on current issues. All topics must be approved by the course instructors. Presentations will be oral.

Team communication - an important part of this assignment is that you learn to schedule meetings, conduct business and work with busy schedules. Regardless of your future career path, you will be required to work in groups. Teamwork and learning how to solve problems are keys to a successful presentation.

Initially, you will investigate the topic and prepare an email outline of the issue to Scott Mills (smills@purdue.edu) at least one week in advance of your presentation. Use ‘**ANSC 483**’ in the subject line of your email message; and insert the outline into the body of the email message text (i.e., do **NOT** attach the outline as a file). Ten points will be deducted from the overall project grade for each day the outline is late. Before and following the email submission, team members should communicate through meetings, email, with an emphasis on working together as a team.

The oral presentation must be on the same topic for which the outline was developed. Presentations should be made using Powerpoint. Each team will have approximately 15 minutes to make their case with additional time for questions. Presenters will be required to initiate and facilitate the Q&A session. Presentations must be based on scientific facts. Creative presentations are encouraged, but this should not be a substitute for quality content and balanced team participation. Presentation Details and Tips will be distributed as a separate handout.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

January 12	Introduction, assignments – S. Mills & B. Delks.
January 19	Student presentations
January 26	Student presentations
February 2	Student presentations
February 9	Student presentations
February 16	Student presentations
February 23	Student presentations
February 24	College of Agriculture Career Fair
March 2	Student presentations
March 5	Final exam is due (turn in hard copy to rm 2-120); on-line senior survey must be completed by March 5 th .

COURSE GRADING:

<u>Course Work Associated with Grading</u>	<u>Points</u>
Forum/Workshop/Seminar	100
College of Ag Career Fair assignments	100
Current Issue - Team presentations:	
Self evaluation	100
Peer evaluation	100
Instructor evaluation	100
Class Participation/Attendance	400
Final	100
TOTAL	1,000

Class Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A+	97-100%	A	93-96.9%	A-	90-92.9%
B+	87-89.9%	B	83-86.9%	B-	80-82.9%
C+	77-79.9%	C	73-76.9%	C-	70-72.9%
D+	67-69.9%	D	63-66.9%	D-	60-62.9%
F	< 60%				

Attendance and classroom participation are **required** and highly important to the success of the course; therefore, each student is expected to attend all classes. Excused absences must be approved with a written explanation. Excused absences must be approved in advance unless the circumstances prevent advance notice. Unexcused absences will result in a lowering of the final grade (points are assigned for participation and attendance). In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances.