

Animal Welfare (POSC 654) – Spring 2019

Instructor: Gregory Archer, Ph.D.

Department of Poultry Science

Office: 107B Kleberg Center

Phone: 979-845-7658

Email: garcher@poultry.tamu.edu

Course Description: This course is designed to explore animal welfare issues from an animal's perspective. Exploration of the general questions that typically affect the welfare of an animal and insight to practices that can be used to improve the welfare of an animal will be the primary focus of this course.

Learning Outcomes: Concern about the welfare of domesticated, captive and wild animals has increased dramatically in the United States and many other industrialized countries. The issues involved are complex, and there is widespread disagreement both as to the extent of human responsibilities toward animals, and how those responsibilities should best be carried out. Although human ethical attitudes are a critical part of the dialogue about animals, in this course we will not deal directly with human values, but will instead attempt to look at the problem from the animals' points of view.

- Define how animals experience pain, fear and stress
- Examine which practices compromise animal welfare and which do not
- Identify how management practices and environments may be modified to improve the welfare of animals

Prerequisites: Graduate classification

Meeting Time Monday, Wednesday, Friday 3:00 – 3:50PM, KLCT 117

Credits: 3 hours

Determination of Course Grade:

POSC 654:

Exams 3 Exams = 30%

Comprehensive Final Exam = 16%

Online Quizzes 5 quizzes = 10%

Group Project Paper and Presentation = 16%

Participation/Attendance = 8%

Research Proposal = 20%

Grading:

A = 90 - 100 %

B = 80 - 89 %

C = 70 - 79 %

D = 60 - 69 %

F = 59 % or less

Tentative Exam Schedule:

Exam # 1 February 8th

Exam # 2 March 1th

Exam # 3 April 5th

Final Exam TBD

All grades will be available on the class website at ecampus.tamu.edu

Online quizzes (all sections):

Four quizzes (25 pts. each) will be given online during the semester via the class website at <http://elearning.tamu.edu>. Each quiz will be comprised of 5 multiple choice questions. Quizzes will cover the lectures from the previous weeks and must be completed before midnight on the day specified below. Quizzes not taken on time will receive a grade of zero. Once you click the start button for the quiz, you will have 8 minutes to complete the quiz.

Additional Requirements for Graduate Students:

Graduate students will be required to turn in an additional research proposal with topics related to animal welfare in addition to the group project. These proposals should be minimum 5 pages in length and include an introduction, objective, hypothesis, methods, and expected results and discussion, and references section (not included in page count).

Proposal Project:

Students will be required to turn in an additional research proposal with topics related to animal welfare in addition to the group project. These proposals should be minimum 5 pages in length and include an introduction, objective, hypothesis, methods, and expected results and discussion, and references section (not included in page count).

Office Hours: I have an open door policy for student visits and typically respond to email within 24 hours.

Optional Text: Animal Welfare. Appleby M.C. & Hughes, B.O. (2 ed.) Wallingford, Oxon, CAB International, 2011

All necessary materials (lecture power point slides, handouts, extra reading assignments, quizzes, etc.) will be posted on the class website at <http://ecampus.tamu.edu>. Use your NetID and password to login and then click on the link for this class.

Review Sessions: The instructor may hold a review session during normal class hours before an exam if necessary.

		Spring 2019 Tentative Class Schedule		
		Topic	Time	Quiz Due Dates
M	Jan-14	Introduction/Syllabus	Est 2 hours	
W	Jan-16	What is and is not Animal Welfare	Est 4 hours	
F	Jan-18	History and Context	Est 4 hours	
M	Jan-21	No Class		
W	Jan-23	Animal Ethics Guest Lecture Dr. Varner Philosophy	Est 4 hours	
F	Jan-25	Domestication	Est 4 hours	
M	Jan-28	Motivation	Est 4 hours	
W	Jan-30	Abnormal Behavior	Est 4 hours	Online quiz 1 due by midnight
F	Feb-1	Stress and Group Assignment Discussion	Est 4 hours	
M	Feb-4	IACUC and Welfare – Guest Lecture TBD	Est 4 hours	
W	Feb-6	Review Exam #1		
F	Feb-8	Exam #1		
M	Feb-11	Pain	Est 4 hours	
W	Feb-13	Euthanasia	Est 4 hours	
F	Feb-15	Welfare and Fitness	Est 4 hours	
M	Feb-18	Group Time/No Class	Est 4 hours	
W	Feb-20	Group Time/No Class	Est 4 hours	
F	Feb-22	Cognition	Est 4 hours	
M	Feb-25	Consciousness	Est 4 hours	
W	Feb-27	Testing Assumptions	Est 4 hours	Online quiz 2 due by midnight
F	Mar-1	Review Exam#2		
M	Mar-4	No Class		
W	Mar-6	Exam #2		

F	Mar-8	Spring Break		
M	Mar-11	Spring Break		
W	Mar-13	Spring Break		
F	Mar-15	Fear/ Hunger and Thirst	Est 4 hours	
M	Mar-18	Behavioral Restriction	Est 4 hours	
W	Mar-20	Guest Lecture -Heath Nevill Texas Biomedical Research Institute	Est 4 hours	
F	Mar-22	Group Time/No Class	Est 4 hours	
M	Mar-25	Presentation Preparation Lecture	Est 5 hours	
W	Mar-27	Reading Day No Class		
F	Mar-29	Improving Welfare-enrichment	Est 4 hours	Online quiz 3 due by midnight
M	Apr-1	Improving Welfare-other means	Est 4 hours	
W	Apr-3	Review for Exam #3		
F	Apr-5	Exam #3		
M	Apr-8	Group Time/No Class	Est 4 hours	
W	Apr-10	Welfare Assessment-Guest Lecture Dr. Daigle ANSC	Est 4 hours	
F	Apr-12	Veterinary Perspective Guest Lecture Dr. Beaver Vet Med	Est 4 hours	
M	Apr-15	Agriculture Industry Perspective- Guest Lecture Alicia Walker Sanderson Farms	Est 4 hours	
W	Apr-17	Presentations Groups 1 & 2	Est 4 hours	
F	Apr-19	Presentations Groups 3 & 4	Est 4 hours	Online quiz 4 due by midnight
M	Apr-22	Presentations Groups 5 & 6	Est 4 hours	
W	Apr-24	Review for Final		

You are expected to spend a minimum of 9 hours a week outside of class doing class related activities such as reviewing and studying material, watching assigned videos, taking quizzes, etc.

*****IMPORTANT NOTE*****

Even though the PowerPoint slide show presented during lecture will also be available on the class website for students to view and print off, students should understand that not everything that will be covered in lecture may appear on the slides. Therefore, **class attendance, participation in discussions and good note-taking are highly recommended.** PowerPoint slides will serve as an outline for students to follow and will relieve some of the burden of writing everything down in class, but are NOT a substitute for class attendance and participation in lecture. It is very likely that some items discussed in detail in class will not be covered in detail on the slides, and will likely be included in quizzes and exams. Students are responsible for material covered during lecture, not just material available in the PowerPoint slides or website.

Online Students: Class will be recorded and posted on Blackboard/Ecampus. You are expected to listen to lecture videos on Blackboard/Ecampus each day of class is held just as if you were in class physically.

Cell phone policy:

Please do not allow cell phones to disturb class time. The best policy is to not bring cell phones to class. If you must bring your cell phone to class, turn it off during lecture or place it in the silent mode. Do not send or read text messages during class. Cell phone use is distracting to the instructor and fellow students, and the cell phone user may be asked to leave class if the cell phone becomes a distraction.

Examination procedures:

All books, backpacks and non-essential materials will be placed at the perimeter of the room. No hats or other headgear may be worn during the exam. Cell phones must be left in backpacks or not brought into room during testing (refer to Student Rules - Scholastic Dishonesty for more details).

Exam format:

All exams, including the final, will typically consist of short answer, fill in the blank, draw and/or label diagrams, and multiple choice questions. The final exam is comprehensive and mandatory.

Missed exam policy:

1. Any changes to scheduled exam dates will be made 3 class periods in advance.

2. If you miss an exam, you must notify Dr. Archer (in person, by email or by phone) before 5:00 pm on the day of the exam to request a reschedule (provided you have a **legitimate** reason for missing the exam) or you will receive a **zero** for that exam.

Rule 7.4: The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence.

3. If you miss an exam for anything other than a university recognized excused absence, you will not be eligible for any bonus points on that exam. See Student Rules Attendance Policy at <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07> for a list of excused absences. Note that “having to work” does **not** qualify as a university excused absence.

4. Make-up tests will have several questions that are not on the exam given during the regularly scheduled time (including an essay question).

5. If you are given a rescheduled time to take the exam and you fail to show up, you will receive a **zero** for that exam.

6. You may reschedule **only one exam** – at least 2 of the 3 regular exams must be taken at the assigned time (**Final exam must be taken at the time scheduled by the university**).

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity Statement:

For many years, Aggies have followed a Code of Honor in an effort to unify the aims of all Aggies toward a high code of ethics and dignity. It functions as a symbol to all Aggies, promoting understanding and loyalty to truth and confidence in each other.

An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do. For more information, see the Honor Council Rules and Procedures on the web: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.”