



University of Manitoba
Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences
Department of Animal Science

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COURSE DETAIL

Course Title & Number: ANSC 4560 - Issues in Animal Agriculture

Number of Credit Hours: 3

Class Times & Days of Week: Thursday 2:30-5:20 pm

Location: 107 Animal Science Building

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor(s) Name: Kim Ominski/Argenis Rodas-González

Office Location: Room 231/232 Animal Science Building

Office Hours or Availability: Ominski:
7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday to Wednesday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday

Rodas-González:
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday

Office Phone No. Ominski: 474-9468/Rodas Gonzalez: 474-9523

Email: Kim.Ominski@umanitoba.ca
Argenis.RodasGonzalez@umanitoba.ca
All email communication must conform to the [Communicating with Students](#) university policy.

Contact: You are welcome to contact us in person, by phone or email during the time outlined above.

Course Description

Through a combination of lectures and independent group learning activities students will develop an appreciation of the scope and complexities of current issues facing the animal industry and integrate knowledge accumulated through the Animal Systems Program using case study problems and group project work.

Course Goals

General Course Objective:

- Enable students to develop the skills to address current and future issues facing the animal agriculture industry

Specific Course Objectives:

- Develop an appreciation for the scope and complexities of issues facing the animal agriculture industry
- Further develop skills in acquiring information critical to understanding processes associated with the production of animal products
- Integrate knowledge accumulated in the Animal Systems program
- Further develop critical thinking skills
- Work effectively in a group dynamic
- Develop life skills critical to career searches
- Improve oral and written communication skills

These objectives will be met through a combination of lectures, independent study and group projects. Students will be required to collect, evaluate and synthesize information for presentation in both oral and written formats.

Using Copyrighted Material

Please respect copyright. For more information, see the University's Copyright Office website at <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright/> or contact um_copyright@umanitoba.ca.

Recording Class Lectures

Ominski/Rodas-González and the University of Manitoba hold copyright over the course materials, presentations and lectures which form part of this course. No audio or video recording of lectures or presentations is allowed in any format, openly or surreptitiously, in whole or in part without permission. Course materials (both paper and digital) are for the participant's private study and research.

Textbook, Readings, Materials

Required textbook – none required.

Course Technology

Student should not refrain from behaviour that is distracting to other students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and keep your lap top on the class lecture material rather than using it for other purposes.

Class Communication

The University requires all students to activate an official University email account. For full details of the Electronic Communication with Students please visit: [http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic Communication with Students Policy - 2014 06 05.pdf](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/Electronic_Communication_with_Students_Policy_-_2014_06_05.pdf)

Please note that all communication between myself and you as a student must comply with the electronic communication with student policy ([http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic communication with students policy.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/electronic_communication_with_students_policy.html)). You are required to obtain and use your U of M email account for all communication between yourself and the university.

Expectations: We Expect You To

Be respectful to us and your fellow classmates

Academic Integrity:

Schedule "A" Policies and Resources

Students Accessibility Services

If you are a student with a disability, please contact SAS for academic accommodation supports and services such as note-taking, interpreting, assistive technology and exam accommodations. Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental illness, learning, medical, hearing, injury-related, visual) are invited to contact SAS to arrange a confidential consultation.

Student Accessibility Services <http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>

520 University Centre

204 474 7423

Student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca

Expectations: You Can Expect Us To

Be respectful of your questions and make every reasonable effort to answer them
Provide feedback on tests and assignments in a fair, equitable and prompt fashion.

Class Schedule

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor and/or based on the learning needs of the students.

2017 CLASS SCHEDULE	
Class 1 January 4th	Course Introduction Individual Introductions – Student Profiles Overview of Issues in the Animal Industry: Roundtable discussion on the issues facing the animal agriculture industry Organization of students into debate groups (2-3 students per group), final presentation groups (2-3 per group) and stakeholder presentations – by lottery for groups and presentation dates Discussion and Development of Debate Topics Discussion aimed at selecting topics for the class debates Issue identification/Extension Talk Preparation Time <i>Research and select topics for extension presentation – submit by Thursday, January 25.</i> <i>Issue Identification Assignment</i>
Class 2 January 11th	Effective Extension Talk and Factsheet Preparation Techniques for developing an effective extension talk as well as factsheets will be examined. Topics for extension presentations will be finalized. Finalize Debate Topics Discussion and Development of Stakeholder Sessions Discussion aimed at selecting topics for the stakeholder sessions Extension Talk Preparation Time
Class 3 January 18th	Workshop on the Real Dirt on Farming <i><u>Issue Identification Assignments Due</u></i>
Class 4 January 25th	Extension Talks

Class 5 February 1nd	Extension Talks
Class 6 February 8th	Guest speaker: Strategies for communicating with the general public Case Study/Debate Preparation Time <i><u>Factsheets Due</u></i>
Class 7 February 15th	Student-led Session - Issues facing the animal industry: Perspectives from stakeholders Case Study/Debate Preparation Time
February 22nd	No class
Class 8 March 1st	Student-led Session - Issues facing the animal industry: Perspectives from stakeholders <i><u>Case Study Due /Debate Preparation Time</u></i>
Class 9 March 8th	Student-led Session - Issues facing the animal industry: Perspectives from stakeholders Debate Preparation Time
Class 10 March 15th	<u>Class Debates</u>
Class 11 March 22nd	Video Discussion Final Presentation Preparation Time
Class 12 March 29th	<u>Final Group Presentations</u>
Class 13 April 5th	<u>Final Group Project due</u>

Course Evaluation Methods

A variety of evaluation methods will be used to give all types of learners an opportunity to excel.

Course Evaluation

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Grade</i>
Individual Assignments	40%
Issue Identification	5%
Extension Presentation – Oral	15%
Extension Presentation – Factsheet	10%
Case Study	10%
Group Assignments	50%
Debate	15%
Group Project – Oral	15%
Group Project – Written	20%
Class Participation	10%
Including Livestock Industry Practices and video discussions	

Description of Assignments:

Issue Identification: 5% (Due January 18th, 2017)

Each student will be responsible for contacting 3 people, 1 from each of the following categories:

- **Academia:** professor, high school teacher, grade school teacher
- **Livestock Industry:** commodity associations, feed companies, etc.
- **General public** (not affiliated with the industry): consumers, neighbours, etc.

For each category, ask the person a question that will assess what they perceive to be the most important issue with respect to the production of foods of animal origin AND why they feel this is the most important issue. For the purposes of this assignment, you will need to:

1. Compose the question that you will ask each of your interviewees
2. Identify the category to which each person belongs and a general overview of their relationship to the category
3. Summarize the results of your interview in a two-page report (single spaced)

Extension Presentation: 25%

Each student will be responsible for conducting independent research towards an issue pertinent to animal agriculture. The student will be responsible for reviewing, integrating, comparing and contrasting information retrieved in order to develop a balanced, practical presentation and fact sheet that could be used by personnel in the animal agriculture industry.

Oral Presentation – 15%: (Due January 25 or February 1)

Each student will present a 10-minute “Extension-type” oral presentation on their chosen topic. Students will then be required to accept questions from the audience during a five-minute open question period.

Extension Factsheet – 10%: (Due February 8)

Each student will prepare a two- to three- page “Factsheet” that provides the information discussed in the oral presentation. Examples of factsheets will be provided.

Case Study: 10% (Due March 1)

During the course of the term, students will be assigned one case study problem statement and they will prepare a written response to it in the form of a formal report. Marks will be allocated on the basis of the breadth of the research conducted, the extent to which the student addressed the stated problem, and the quality and clarity of the final report. The case study will be assigned on **February 2nd** and it will be due on **March 16th**.

Debate: 15% (March 15)

Students will be randomly placed into one of four groups and assigned a debate topic. The topic will be chosen on the basis of the group meeting held in class. The debate will be formal in nature with a formal presentation, rebuttal and concluding statement. Each group will also be required to answer questions from other students and the instructors with regards to the topic.

At the end of the debate students will be asked to evaluate all members of their group on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 representing no contribution and 10 representing a full contribution to the group effort. These marks may be used to adjust each participant’s overall mark, if consensus is established.

Group Project: 35% (March 29 - presentation; April 5 – written assignment)

Each group will be assigned a topic that requires the group to research how a person and/or group interested in attaining a certain goal or status in the animal agriculture industry would reach that goal. For example the students may need to demonstrate the process required to use a novel feed ingredient, feed or drug. Or they may be asked to demonstrate how livestock producers would go about having their livestock certified as organic. Other projects could include the steps required to site a livestock facility with over 300 animal units.

The project will be given as an oral presentation, worth 15% of the final grade. There will also be a written submission worth 20%. To ensure that students remain on track with this assignment; outline and rough draft deadlines will be a component of the requirements.

At the end of the presentation students will be asked to evaluate all members of their group on a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 representing no contribution and 10 representing a full contribution to the group effort. These marks may be used to adjust each participant’s overall mark, if consensus is established.

Class Participation: 10%

Active participation by all students is critical for the development of an effective learning environment. To foster this participation, an incentive has been developed in the form of a mark component. Please keep this in mind as we progress through the course. Attendance is a crucial component of class participation, but it is not the only measure. Engagement in dialogue provides much stronger evidence of active participation.

Grading

Letter Grade	Percentage out of 100	Grade Point Range	Final Grade Point
A+	95-100	4.25-4.5	4.5
A	86-94	3.75-4.24	4.0
B+	80-85	3.25-3.74	3.5
B	72-79	2.75-3.24	3.0
C+	65-71	2.25-2.74	2.5
C	60-64	2.0-2.24	2.0
D	50-59	Less than 2.0	1.0
F	Less than 50		0

Assignment Grading Times

We will generally have your assignment marks back within one week of submission.

Late Submission/Missed Test Policy

Missing tests are only allowed for medical or emergency situations. Late assignments will be reduced in value by 10%/day.

Important Dates

February 19 - No classes – Louis Riel Day

February 20-23 – Mid Term Break

March 16 - Last date for Voluntary Withdrawal without academic penalty

April 6 - Last date of lecture

