

**COURSE NAME; NUMBER; SEMESTER; MEETING DAYS, TIMES, AND PLACE.**

Introduction to Animal Handling  
11:067:150  
Fall 2023; 1 credit; Pass/No Credit

Section X1 – Monday 12:10 pm – 1:30 pm  
Section X2 – Monday 2:00 pm – 3:20 pm  
Section X3 – Tuesday 12:10 pm – 1:30 pm  
Section X4 – Wednesday 10:20 am – 11:40 am  
Section X5 – Wednesday 2:00 pm – 3:20 pm  
Section X6 – Thursday 2:00 pm – 3:20 pm  
Section X7 – Thursday 3:50 pm – 5:10 pm  
Section X8 – Friday 10:20 am – 11:40 am  
Section X9 – Friday 12:10 pm – 1:30 pm

Round House

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Instructor: Felicia McCloskey [feliciak@sebs.rutgers.edu](mailto:feliciak@sebs.rutgers.edu) (Sections X1-X3)  
Instructor: Ana Ioshpa [avi10@sebs.rutgers.edu](mailto:avi10@sebs.rutgers.edu) (Sections X4-X9)  
Office Hours: By appointment

**COURSE WEBSITE, RESOURCES AND MATERIALS:**

- Related resources available on [canvas.rutgers.edu](https://canvas.rutgers.edu)

**PREREQUISITES**

- Obtain medical clearance to work with animals
- Be comfortable learning to handle and restrain relevant species.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The Introduction to Animal Handling course aims to equip students with fundamental skills and knowledge in handling various animal species. Throughout the semester, students will have the opportunity to work with pigs, sheep, goats, cows, horses, and poultry, gaining hands-on experience and practical insights into their handling techniques and behavior.

The course structure allows students to spend dedicated time with each species, ensuring equal exposure and learning opportunities. Students will learn the basics of animal handling, including proper approaches, restraint methods, and movement techniques. They will also gain an understanding of species-specific behavior, communication cues, and response patterns.

While the Introduction to Animal Handling course provides valuable exposure to handling skills and behavior, it does not delve into the depth and breadth offered by the more specialized animal practicum courses. Instead, this introductory course serves as a foundation,

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providing students with a solid understanding of basic animal handling techniques applicable across different species.

### **LEARNING GOALS:**

**Upon completing this course students will be able to:**

1. Display and describe proper basic livestock species handling and restraint techniques (PLG4).  
**Assessment:** Weekly participation and observation & final practical
2. Explain why proper handling is important utilizing basic anatomy, training, behavior, welfare, and care terminology and concepts (PLG4,7).  
**Assessment:** Journal & final practical

### **ASSIGNMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES, GRADING & ASSESSMENT:**

All assignments will be weighted equally. All must be completed to receive course credit.

- *Attendance & Participation*
  - o Students will be responsible for attending all scheduled class sessions. Classes begin 9/11/2023 and run through 12/13/2023. See absence policy below.
- *Journal*
  - o Students will be responsible for submitting a journal chronicling lessons covered. Journal will be due at the end of the course. Grading criteria will be discussed in class and rubric will be posted to Canvas.
- *Final Practical*
  - o Students will complete a practical at the end of the semester demonstrating both knowledge about and competency in skills related to proper animal handling.

### **GRADING**

Course is Pass/No-Credit

No-Credit will be assigned:

- More than 2 absences during course period.
- Complete journal not submitted by due date.
- Competent animal handling skills not displayed during practical.

### **ABSENCE POLICY**

Students are required to complete all scheduled sessions.

- 2 absences are allowed before the student automatically receives a No-Credit.
- Tardiness - If you are more than 15 minutes late, it will be counted as an absence, and you will not be able to participate.
- Sick days will not be counted towards total absence number if a doctor's note is submitted upon return. Reference Rutgers policy regarding COVID-19 policy.
  - o If there is a serious illness or injury that requires the student to miss multiple classes, they should provide documentation (doctor's note or letter from dean of

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students) and communicate with the instructor and to determine how remaining credit for the course will be assigned.

### ACCOMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Please follow the procedures outlined at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>. Full policies and procedures are at <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

### COURSE SCHEDULE:

Classes will begin the week of 9/11/2023 and end on 12/08/2023. Class will not be in session during the week of 11/20-24/2023.

Please note that the content of the course may vary from week to week based on the dynamics of the farm and the availability of animals.

| Small Ruminants      | Cattle               | Swine                | Poultry              | Horse              |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Behavior observation | Behavior observation | Behavior observation | Behavior observation | Behavior           |
| Flight zone          | Flight zone          | Flight zone          | Flight zone          | Flight zone        |
| Restraining          | Halter training      | Restraining          | Restraining          | Safety             |
| Using collar/halter  | Socialization        | Socialization        | Socialization        | Moving/Flight zone |
| Socialization        | Weighing             | Weighing             |                      | Restraint          |
| Weighing             |                      |                      |                      |                    |

| Week | Date        | Topic                                                                              |
|------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1    | 9/11-15     | Introduction/safety/farm protocols<br>Go over syllabus and assignment requirements |
| 2    | 9/18-22     | Horse 1 – Basic safety                                                             |
| 3    | 9/25-29     | Horse 2 – Restraint & movement                                                     |
| 4    | 10/2-6      | Small Ruminant 1                                                                   |
| 5    | 10/9-13     | Small Ruminant 2                                                                   |
| 6    | 10/16-20    | Cattle - Behavior observation and flight zone                                      |
| 7    | 10/23-27    | Cattle - Halter training and moving stress free practices                          |
| 8    | 10/30- 11/3 | Swine- Behavior observation and flight zone                                        |
| 9    | 11/6- 11/10 | Swine- moving and restraining                                                      |
| 10   | 11/13-11/17 | Poultry Broiler- Restraining and handling                                          |
| 11   | 11/27-12/1  | Poultry Layers- Restraining and handling                                           |
| 12   | 12/4-12/8   | Final Practical                                                                    |

\*\*schedule is subject to change

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy>. The principles of academic integrity require that a student:

- properly acknowledge and cite all use of the ideas, results, or words of others.
- properly acknowledge all contributors to a given piece of work.
- make sure that all work submitted as his or her own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of impermissible materials or impermissible collaboration.
- obtain all data or results by ethical means and report them accurately without suppressing any results inconsistent with his or her interpretation or conclusions.
- treat all other students in an ethical manner, respecting their integrity and right to pursue their educational goals without interference. This requires that a student neither facilitate academic dishonesty by others nor obstruct their academic progress.
- uphold the canons of the ethical or professional code of the profession for which he or she is preparing.

Adherence to these principles is necessary in order to ensure that

- everyone is given proper credit for his or her ideas, words, results, and other scholarly accomplishments.
- all student work is fairly evaluated and no student has an inappropriate advantage over others.
- the academic and ethical development of all students is fostered.
- the reputation of the University for integrity in its teaching, research, and scholarship is maintained and enhanced.

Failure to uphold these principles of academic integrity threatens both the reputation of the University and the value of the degrees awarded to its students. Every member of the University community therefore bears a responsibility for ensuring that the highest standards of academic integrity are upheld.

### **DIVERSITY STATEMENT:**

It is our intention that students of all backgrounds will be well served by this course. We will work to create an environment of inclusion which respects and affirms the inherent dignity, value, and uniqueness of all individuals, communities, and perspectives. We are lucky to have a diverse University. Diverse voices and life experiences enhance the learning process, and we welcome students to share their personal experiences. We acknowledge that some of the topics covered in this course may be emotionally difficult at times. We ask that you engage in discussion with care and empathy for the other members in the classroom. We will not tolerate disrespectful language or behavior against any individual or group. If you feel as though you have been disrespected or treated unfairly by the instructors or any other individual, please let us know. You may speak with the instructors in person, over email or report anonymously via the Office of Academic Programs. In addition, you may also report bias to the Rutgers Diversity and Inclusion initiative using this link: <http://inclusion.rutgers.edu/report-bias-incident/>.

We are still in the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities and always welcome discussion or anonymous feedback on how we can continue to improve. If you have a

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name and/or set of pronouns that differ from those that appear in your official Rutgers records, we would like to know so we can respect them.

### **STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICES**

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

#### **Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)**

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901/ [www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/](http://www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/)

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

DoSomething button through Rutgers Dean of Students office

<http://health.rutgers.edu/do-something-to-help/>

Wellness Coaching through Rutgers HOPE

<http://health.rutgers.edu/education/hope/wellness-coaching/>

Self-Help Apps found on the Rutgers Student Health website:

<http://health.rutgers.edu/education/self-help/self-help-apps/>

NJ Hopeline (1.855.654.6735) and National Suicide Hotline (1.800.273.8255)

#### **Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)**

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / [www.vpva.rutgers.edu/](http://www.vpva.rutgers.edu/)

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

#### **Disability Services**

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss



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the accommodations with them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at:  
<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.