

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

Farm Productivity Analysis in the Animal Sciences

11:067:406 Spring 2020

F123, Friday @ 9:15 AM–1:55 PM

Hickman Hall 122 (HCK-122)

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Instructor(s): Dr. Mike Westendorf

Office Location: 213F Bartlett Hall, 84 Lipman Drive

Phone: 848-932-9408

Email: michael.westendorf@rutgers.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment

COURSE WEBSITE, RESOURCES AND MATERIALS:

- Sakai site

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will evaluate livestock farms and other animal enterprises and make recommendations about different aspects of animal management. This will happen in class through use of case studies and other exercises. It will also include on-farm visits, problem solving, and the development of management recommendations for producers. Students will gain practical experience both in the classroom and on the farm in problem solving and analysis of livestock farms. This will require students to incorporate and synthesize material from previous courses. The course project will require students to design their own farm for production in New Jersey. This will include consideration of the New Jersey environment for farm businesses, new unique opportunities that may exist in New Jersey, marketing opportunities, consumer preferences, and your own personal desires.

PREREQUISITES AND OTHER REGISTRATION RESTRICTIONS:

Open to Junior and Senior students

Recommended Courses

11:067:142 – *General Animal Science Principles*

11:067:330 – *Animal Nutrition*

11:067:336, 338 – *Production Animal Management & Laboratory*

or by Special Permission

LEARNING GOALS:

Program Learning Goals – See <https://animalsciences.rutgers.edu/undergraduate/mission.html> for the program learning goals (PLGs).

1. Gain a perspective for the animal agriculture industries in New Jersey in order to better understand both the future of agriculture and its diversity. (PLG 1)
Assessment: Homework, attendance.
2. Apply subject matter knowledge related to physiology, nutrition, genetics, reproduction, and economics in studying contemporary livestock systems. (PLG 2)
Assessment: Homework, attendance.
3. Develop critical thinking skills to identify both scientific and practical questions related to animal agriculture, analyze and interpret data related to those questions, and develop solutions to contemporary problems. (PLG 5)
Assessment: Paper writing and presentation.

4. Develop oral and written communication skills to effectively deliver scientific and technical information to animal agriculture practitioners and scientists as well as the public. (PLG 6)
Assessment: Paper writing and presentation.

ASSIGNMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES:

Grading Policy

- **Homework and Attendance - 50%.** It is expected we will take 7-8 field trips. Several of these will require a 2-3 page evaluation. If you don't attend the field trip, I will not accept an evaluation. This will be ½ your homework and attendance grade. The remainder of your homework grade will be physical attendance in class or on field trips. Attendance is essential in this course. Most field trip locations are nearby and we will plan to leave at 9:00 am. If otherwise, we will let you know.
 - During this semester we will visit 3 beef farms, 1 water buffalo farm that produces cheese, 1 conventional dairy farm, and 2 dairies that also produce cheese. All of these are diversified farms, many produce pork, poultry, goats, and all have unique marketing plans.
 - The farms we visit will give you an excellent background for developing your own farm plans.
- **Individual Farm Design – 30%.** The course project will require students to design their own farm for production in New Jersey. This will include consideration of the New Jersey environment for farm businesses, new unique opportunities that may exist in New Jersey, marketing opportunities, consumer preferences, and your own personal desires. (In past years we have had students develop plans for beef production, small farm poultry, honeybees, horses, water buffalos, etc.) This may also include a simplified business plan. Information about location, land needs, species, animal waste management, and a marketing plan are required (5-8 pages or as needed). These will be due the last day of class. We will give you more information as we get started. These will be presented in class. All writing assignments will be based on content with consideration to technical writing.
 - Outline and One-page Abstract due: March 27
 - Final paper due: May 1
- **Final Exam – 20%,** probably take-home

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/>
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ABSENCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend all classes; if you expect to miss one or two classes, please use the University absence reporting website <https://sims.rutgers.edu/ssra/> to indicate the date and reason for your absence. An email is automatically sent to me.

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COURSE SCHEDULE:

1. January 24 – Go over Syllabus. Discussion of course and homework responsibilities. Farm design projects. Nutrition evaluation and general farm evaluation. Demand for and marketing of animal products. Risk.
2. January 31 – Visit to New Jersey Farm Bureau
3. February 7 – Math for Animal Sciences
4. February 14 – Math for Animal Sciences
5. February 21 – Somerset County Extension Office, Agriculture Panel Discussion
6. February 28 – Dan Mull/Hank Bignell – Farm Visits to beef cattle (John Crater) and water buffalo farms in Warren County.
7. March 6 – Animal Waste Management, Clint Burgher discussion about our farm animal waste management plan. How to complete an animal waste management plan. Visit to Farm.
8. March 13 – Corne Vogelaar Mixed Livestock (beef, pork, poultry, goats)

March 20 – No class, spring semester break

9. March 27 – Fritz Wainwright Beef Farm, Burlington County
10. April 3 – Peter Southway, dairy cheese marketer. Produces his own cheese on a farm with Holsteins, Jerseys, and Guernseys
11. April 10 – Manure Spreader Calibration/Mortality Composting/Shrink/Moisture Testing
12. April 17 – Cherry Grove Farm Organic, farmstead cheese/Bryce Cotton Beef (grass fed), direct marketing
13. April 24 – Myerwood Large conventional dairy farm, Salem County
14. May 1 – Final class, presentations

FINAL EXAM/PAPER DATE AND TIME

Online Final exam Schedule: <http://finalexams.rutgers.edu/>

Final exam: Probably a take-home exam

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.

STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICES

Just In Case Web App <http://codu.co/cee05e>

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/

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.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / 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 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>.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.