***Reedley College Animal Science Program***

**Course Syllabus – Fall 2023**

Course Number & Name: AS 6 – Livestock Evaluation and Selection

Section Number: 58270

Instructor: David M. Lopes

Instructor Phone Number: 559-494-3000, ext. 3129

Instructor Email: [david.lopes@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:david.lopes@reedleycollege.edu)

Preferred Method of Contact:

E-mail. I check email messages frequently most days. I will usually return messages within 24 hours.

Office Location: CCI 209 (east of AGR Building)

Office Hours (In-Person or via Zoom Appointment):

Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 10:00 am

Fridays from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Class Meeting Schedule:

This is an 18-week course which includes both lecture and lab components. All meetings are scheduled to occur in Face-To Face (aka In-Person) format on campus.

Lectures meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 9:50 am.

Labs meet on Mondays from 3:00 pm to 5:50 pm.

Class Meeting Location:

Lecture sessions meet in the Agriculture Building, Room 15 (AGR 15).

Labs will meet at the Pavilion. A couple of labs might be held via Zoom meetings if the work being performed does not require face-to-face instruction and/or the work being performed requires student use of a computer. Some labs might require field trips to sites off campus.

Cancelled Class Notification:

In the event that an on-campus meeting of lecture or lab needs to be cancelled, the instructor will make every attempt to inform students, via CANVAS email, as soon as it is known that the meeting must be cancelled. The Division C Administrative Assistant will also be notified. This will result in a ‘Notice of Cancelled Class’ being posted to the Reedley College Website, <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/>, as well as a ‘Class Cancelled Sign’ being posted on the classroom door.

Use of CANVAS:

CANVAS is the course management system used by Reedley College and many other colleges and universities. Many components of this course will be administered through CANVAS. On-line tutorials on how to use CANVAS are available to students.

Most of the information and materials that you will need to be successful in the lecture portion of this course will be arranged into units of instruction called ‘Modules’ in CANVAS.

Holidays:

Holidays will be observed as per the State Center Community College District Schedule. Holidays this semester include:

* September 4 (Monday): Labor Day
* November 10 (Friday): Veteran’s Day
* November 23-24 (Thursday-Friday): Thanksgiving

Drop Deadline:

The last day that a student can be officially dropped from this course is Friday, October 6th. After this date, a student must receive a grade.

Final Exam Date:

The final exam for this course will be administered in class on Monday, December 4th from 9:00 am to 10:50 am.

Course Prerequisites: None. There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Co-requisites: None. There are no co-requisites for this course.

Course Advisories: Mathematics 45 and English 1A or 1AH.

Course Units: 3 (based on 2 lecture hours and 3 lab hours per week)

Text and Other Course Materials:

Live Animal Carcass Evaluation & Selection Manual, 6th Edition

Boggs, Merkel, Doumit & Bruns, Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, Copyright 2006, ISBN#: 978-0-7575-2059-4

This textbook is available in hard copy only. Go to the website or visit the Reedley College Bookstore for details.

[Link to Text](https://he.kendallhunt.com/product/livestock-and-carcasses-integrated-approach-evaluation-grading-and-selection?id=68153)

**The textbook for this course is required. Please bring it with you to lecture sessions.**

Notebook & writing utensil are required for both lecture and lab sessions.

Supplemental References:

Some references will be supplied in the form of links to various websites and videos. These will be provided primarily through CANVAS. In addition, various printed publications (including breed association magazines, AI catalogues, and sale advertisements) will be shared in class.

Assessment and Grading:

Assessments of student learning will include lecture assignments and quizzes, judging cards (lab), written and oral reasons (lab), other lab assignments, and a final exam. The instructor reserves the right to develop and administer other forms of assessment as determined necessary. The final exam will be comprehensive in nature.

The final grade for this course will be weighted as follows:

25% lecture assignments & quizzes

50% lab points (based on judging cards, reasons, other lab assignments)

25% final exam (comprehensive)

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

A = 90 to 100%

B = 80 to 89%

C = 70 to 79%

D = 60 to 69%

F = under 60%

All grades for this course will be posted to CANVAS.

Attendance Requirements:

* Attendance is required.
* Students are responsible for obtaining notes/information missed due to an absence from the instructor.
* Please notify the instructor if you know in advance that you will be absent from class.
* College policy dictates that an instructor may drop a student with two consecutive weeks of unexcused absences.
* At the end of the 9th week of instruction, no withdrawals are permitted and the student must receive a grade.
* Make up tests and assignments will only be allowed for emergency situations and pre-excused absences.

Behavioral Standards:

All students are expected to act in a mature, responsible manner that respects the rights of all other students, the instructor, and any guest presenters that may participate in the class. All cell phones and other electronic gadgets that may cause distraction are to be turned “off” or kept on “silent” during lecture. If participating in a Zoom meeting, please keep your microphone on ‘mute’ unless you have a question or something to share.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

In keeping with the philosophy that students are entitled to the best education available, and in compliance with Board Policy 5410, each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort toward attaining an education. Violations of this policy will result in disqualification for the course.

Accommodation Statement:

If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

Course Description:

This course involves a detailed analysis of various visual and physical methods of appraising beef, sheep, swine and horses concerning functional and economic value. Written and oral summaries of evaluation will be learned. Specific reference will be made to performance data and factors determining carcass value.

Student Learning Outcomes:

*Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:*

1. Compare and contrast the phenotype of selected animals in both oral and written form.
2. Evaluate and rank livestock and horses based on current industry standards.

Course Learning Objectives:

*In the process of completing this course, students will:*

1. Identify common breeds of livestock and horses.
2. Discuss the process of meat animal growth, development and finishing.
3. Identify the external anatomical features of cattle, sheep, swine and horses.
4. Discuss the importance of evaluation skills to the livestock and horse industries.
5. Describe the factors influencing the livestock selection process.
6. Apply industry quality and yield grading standards to beef, lamb and pork carcasses.
7. Judge and rank classes of beef cattle, sheep, goats, swine and horses utilizing both objective and subjective methods.
8. Compare and contrast the phenotype of selected animals in both oral and written form.

Course Lecture Topic Outline:

Course lecture topics will be arranged into units of instruction (i.e. ‘Modules’) in CANVAS.

1. Course Introduction and Orientation
2. Cards, Cuts, and Critiques
3. Introduction to Livestock Evaluation and Selection
4. Animal Growth and Development
5. Factors Affecting Livestock Selection and Improvement
6. Evaluation and Grading of Swine
7. Evaluation and Grading of Beef Cattle
8. Evaluation and Grading of Sheep and Meat Goats
9. Reasons Development
10. Evaluation of Horse Type and Conformation
11. Final Exam Week

Course Lab Topic Outline:

The exact order of lab topics may vary according to species production calendars, availability of necessary resources, and other factors. Some lab topics may be split over two or more lab sessions in order to provide ample opportunity for student practice. Also, multiple topics may be addressed during any one lab session.

1. Lab Orientation and Tour of Lab Facilities
2. Evaluation of Swine: Feeder, Market, and Breeding Animals and EPD’s
3. Evaluation of Sheep: Feeder, Market, and Breeding Animals
4. Evaluation of Meat Goats: Feeder, Market, and Breeding Animals
5. Evaluation of Beef Cattle: Feeder, Market, and Breeding Animals and EPD’s
6. Pork Carcass Evaluation and Grading
7. Lamb/Goat Carcass Evaluation and Grading
8. Beef Carcass Evaluation and Grading
9. Use of Ultrasound to Evaluate Carcass Traits in Live Animals
10. Evaluation of Quarter Horse Type and Conformation
11. Lab Final

**First Assignment - Course Policies Contract**

**Instructions:**

1. Read the following course policies. Let the instructor know if you have any questions or need clarification.
2. Go to the assignment titled “Course Policies Contract” located in the ‘Assessments’ folder in Module #1 – Course Orientation in CANVAS.
3. Answer the questions indicating that you have read and understand the syllabus and policies for this course.

**Course Policies & Expectations for AS 6 - Livestock Evaluation and Selection:**

***Students are expected to understand the following basic information about this course:***

* This is an 18-week course that consists of lecture and lab instruction.
* The format of instruction for this course is 100% in-person (Face-To-Face) for both lecture and lab. There is no lab during finals week.
* Many components of this course will be administered through CANVAS, the online course management system utilized by Reedley College.
* Instruction will be arranged into units called “Modules” in CANVAS. There will be approximately 11 modules of instruction for this course.
* Students can expect to be required to submit at least one graded assessment (e.g. quiz or assignment) for lecture each week.
* Students can expect to be required to submit at least three graded assessments (e.g. judging cards) or one special assignment for lab each week.
* Attendance for this course will be determined by roll call at the start of each class session. Failure to attend class sessions for two consecutive weeks during the first nine weeks of instruction can result in a student being dropped from the course.
* The textbook for this course is required. Students are expected to acquire the textbook for this course.
* The final grade for this course will be weighted as follows:
  + 25% Lecture Assignments and Quizzes
  + 50% Lab, based on Judging Cards, Reasons, and Assignments
  + 25% Final Exam (comprehensive)

***What students can expect from the instructor:***

***The instructor will endeavor to provide a quality learning experience by…***

* Providing an equitable learning environment that respects the diversity of the class, campus, and community.
* Treating students with respect and fairness.
* Being available during office hours (and/or other times, by arrangement, if needed) to address any student questions or concerns.
* Responding to communications (email, phone, text) from students within a reasonable time period (usually within 24 hours). The instructor’s preferred method of contact is email.
* Providing clear instructions to students for navigating this course and completing all course requirements and assessments.
* Informing students about opportunities to enhance their educational experience at Reedley College (e.g. campus clubs, AGNR Department activities, industry events, job/internship opportunities, extra credit assignments, etc.).
* Utilizing the campus “Starfish” notification system to address the needs of students who might benefit from one or more available services provided by Reedley College.

***What the instructor will expect from each student:***

***Each student will endeavor to achieve a quality educational experience by …***

* Practicing excellent time management skills, proficiency in communication, and a high level of work ethic in regard to this course as these skills are highly valued by employers and should be practiced on a regular basis.
* Exhibiting respect toward all other students, guest speakers, faculty, staff and others associated with this class. Foul language, crude humor, and inappropriate comments directed at others (in regard to ethnicity, religion, economic status, disability, or any other factors) will not be tolerated.
* Preparing for weekly lecture assessments by utilizing all components of each weekly module. This includes reviewing the learning objectives, viewing the Power Point document, viewing any supplemental videos or resources, and participating in class discussions (when applicable).
* Completing and submitting required weekly assessments within the designated time slot. Some assessments will be required to be completed during lecture sessions and other assessments will be required to be completed on-line during a designated time slot.
* Putting in an honest individual effort to complete all required assessments. For quizzes and assignments designated “closed note”, this includes refraining from using materials posted to CANVAS (e.g. Power Point documents), any notes, or assistance of any kind from other current or former students when completing quizzes or exams. This also includes not using cell phones or other electronic media to research answers. Cheating is prohibited. Note that some assessments may be designated as “open note” or “research based” in format, in which case students will be expected to research information.
* Communicating any special needs or accommodations to the instructor within a sufficient period of time to enable facilitation of such needs/accommodations.
* Seeking instructor assistance, if needed. Please inform the instructor of any problems/barriers you might experience or expect to experience in regard to successfully completing the requirements for this course. Such matters might include anticipated absences from class, COVID related issues, computer/internet access, or other reasons. Please be aware that you are not expected, nor encouraged, to provide details of a personal nature.

***Special Course Policies:***

***Each student is expected to understand, and adhere to, the following special course policies.***

* Policy for completing course quizzes and exams
  + All quizzes and exams for this course will be administered in class. Students must be present in class to complete these assessments. No remote taking of quizzes or tests will be allowed. Any student who attempts to take a quiz or test remotely will receive a score of “0”.
* Policy for make-up of course assessments
  + Make up of assessments (quizzes, exams, and assignments) will only be allowed under certain circumstances (Such as a student illness that prevents class attendance or participation in an approved class field trip or school event.).
  + The student must inform the instructor, by email, of the absence on or before the date of the absence.
  + The student must schedule the make up of the missed assessment with the instructor within one week after their return to campus.
* Policy for lab reports
  + Most labs for this course will require a lab report to be completed by the student on CANVAS.
  + Lab reports will be opened on CANVAS for one full week, starting at the conclusion of lab through 11:59 pm of the same day on the following week.
  + Lab reports will not be reopened after the due date.
  + Do not complete a lab report if you did not attend the lab.
* Statement regarding Extra Credit/Lab Make-Up Opportunities
  + Throughout the semester, various opportunities to earn extra credit/lab make up points may occur. The instructor will announce these opportunities in class and/or through CANVAS. Most of these opportunities will involve student participation (outside of class time) in an AGNR Department event, an Animal Science Program Event, or an Animal Management Activity on the Reedley College School Farm.
  + The points earned for completion of the extra credit/lab make up assignment will be based on the duration of student participation as well as the quality of their participation. Generally, 3 hours of quality participation will be worth the equivalent of a full score for a typical lab for this course.
  + Extra credit points may be used to elevate a student’s final course grade by as much as one full letter grade (10%), but no more.

***Special COVID Policies:***

* All Reedley College students and employees are to follow all campus and district COVID (Coronavirus) policies. Please be advised that these policies can change at any time. In the case that new policies are put into place, those new policies will likely supersede the existing policies.
* Information about COVID and current campus/district policies can be found at <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/covid-19/index.html>.
* Any student coming to campus for any reason (including class) must complete the Student Health Screen Check-In at <https://www.reedleycollege.edu/covid-19/index.html>. This process must be completed each time a student comes to campus.
* The basic campus/district policies include the following:
  + Please stay home if you are sick or have tested positive for COVID.
  + Please stay home if you have been in contact with someone who is sick or has tested positive for COVID.
  + Inform the campus nurse, Kelly Murguia, if either of the two previous bulleted items are true. She must approve your return to campus. Her email is [kelly.murguia@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:kelly.murguia@reedleycollege.edu) and her phone number is 559-494-3750.
* As of the start of this semester, masks are highly recommended, but not required.