

ANSC 486

Beef Production 3 Credits
Spring, 2012
Tues-Thurs 9:30; Lab Thurs 2:30
Shep 109
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Course Description

Capstone course includes the management, systems, selection, record keeping, merchandizing, and production testing of beef. 2 lectures, 1 two-hour laboratory.

Prerequisites: ANSC 357, 462, 324 or instructor's permission.

Course Objectives

1. To develop awareness of the application of modern beef production practices
2. To understand factors affecting profitable beef production enterprises
3. To provide students with tools to be proactive leaders in the beef production world

Examinations and Grading (Performance Standards and Evaluation Procedures)

Weekly quizzes and/or case studies will provide the bulk of the points for this class. There will be a final test that will incorporate all of the information in the class.

Exercise	Points
Case Studies/Assignments	400
Quizzes	200
Strategic/Business Plan	200
Final Test	200
TOTAL	1000

The grading scale will be 90% = A, 80% = B, 70% = C. These percentages will guarantee the associated letter grade.

Required Student Resources

None.

Blackboard

Blackboard will be used to post course information and supporting materials. Complete course information will NOT be available on blackboard.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes. This course will be taught with a large amount of instructor/student interaction. Much of the information in this class will be derived from this interaction. As a result, missed classes will be impossible to make up. Excessive unexcused absences will be noted. Quizzes may not be announced, and no credit will be given for missed classes without an excused absence. Please contact the instructor to determine what an excused absence is and what is not.

Office Hours

The instructor has no set office hours, but an open-door philosophy “If the door is open feel free to come in or if the door is closed feel free to knock and come in” if you must meet with the instructor a meeting can be scheduled by calling or in person after class. Feel free to e-mail, call or text with questions.

Tentative Beef Production Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading or Assignment
1/10	Intro/Syllabus/Beef Industry Overview	
1/12	Guest Lecture - Beef Industry Issues	
1/17	No Class (Instructor gone, take the morning off)	
1/19	Business - Characteristics of a Profitable Ranch	Management Decisions
1/24	Management - Calving Management	
1/26	Management - Baby Calf Processing	
1/31	Genetics-Beef Breeds and Types	
2/2	Guest Lecture-??	
2/7	Genetics-Performance Records	Genetics “Quiz”
2/9	Rob's Birthday! Genetics-Crossbreeding Systems	
2/14	Strategic Ranch Planning 1	Strat Plan 1
2/16	Nutrition – Requirements and BCS	
2/21	Nutrition – Range and Pasture Management	
2/23	Nutrition – Harvested Forages and Feeds	Nutrition “Quiz”
2/28	Management – Health Considerations	
3/1	Strategic Ranch Planning 2	Strat Plan 2
3/6	Reproduction – Breeding Prep, Natural Service	
3/8	Reproduction – Bulls	
3/13-3/16	Spring Break	
3/20	Reproduction – AI and Synchronization	Reproduction “Quiz”
3/22	Strategic Ranch Planning 3	Strat Plan 3
3/27	Management – Weaning	
3/29	Management – Heifer Development	
4/3	Management – Cull Cow Decisions	
4/5	Marketing – Marketing Options	
4/10	Marketing – Factors affecting calf value	Marketing “Quiz”
4/12	Strategic Ranch Planning 4	Strat Plan 4 (completed)
4/17	Business – Costs of Cow/calf operations	
4/19	Business – A profitable ranch (again)	

4/24	Management – IRM/NRM systems	
4/26-27	Field Trip	
5/1	Alternative Production Systems	
5/3	Flex/Make up Day	
5/11	FINAL TEST 10:30	

Tentative Beef Production Lab Schedule

Date	Topic	Assignment
1/12	No Lab	
1/19	Beef Facilities Tour (Beef Unit)	Facilities Design
1/26	Calving/Calf Processing (Beef Unit)	
2/2	ND Natural Beef Tour (Shepperd)	
2/9	Little I No Lab	
2/16	Sire Selection (Computer Lab)	Sire Selection
2/23	Live Animal Selection (Beef Unit)	
3/1	Ranch Business Planning (Computer Lab)	Business Plan
3/8	Guest Speaker – Ag Loan Officer (TBD)	
3/15	Synch/AI (Beef Unit)	
3/22	Guest Speaker – NDSA	
3/29	Guest Speaker -NDSA	
4/5	Beef Quality Assurance	
4/12	Marketing Lab (Computer Lab)	Marketing Plan
4/19	Guest Speaker – Cattle Buyer	
4/26	Ranch Tour	
5/3	Final Test Review	

Americans with disabilities statement about students with special needs

Any students with disabilities or other special needs, who need special accommodations in this course are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor as soon as possible.

Approved academic honesty statement

"The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity, and fair play. NDSU Policy 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct applies to cases in which cheating, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct have occurred in an instructional context. Students found guilty of academic misconduct are subject to penalties, up to and possibly including suspension and/or expulsion. Student academic misconduct records are maintained by the Office of Registration and Records. Informational resources about academic honesty for students and instructional staff members can be found at www.ndsu.edu/academichonesty."