# ANSCI 171 – Livestock Behavior and Humane Management
## Section 0644 – Course Syllabus

## Instructor Contact

Instructor: Randi Black
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Phone: 707-565-2648
Office Hours: by appointment
I respond to emails Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm

## Course Description

Introduction to livestock behavior and the evolution of behavioral traits. Introduces practical handling concepts and facilities design, to facilitate low-stress methods of livestock management. Explores the benefits of keeping animals calm, including safer working conditions, higher yields of marketable product, better-quality product, and more humane conditions.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Describe basic ethological principles pertinent to domestic farm animals
2. Explain how to develop humane livestock handling systems and facilities
3. Develop animal management practices based on animal behavior to improve animal welfare

## Course Objectives

1. Recognize and understand basic terms and concepts of livestock behavior, including the history and science of ethology
2. Identify and understand the basic processes that shape livestock behavior
3. Assess the relevance of livestock behavior to humane handling

## Class Meetings

| SECTION | DAY | TIME | ROOM | UNITS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0644 | Material Posted Wednesday | Online | Online | 1.0 |

## Tentative Course Points

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 Scheduled Quizzes (10 pts each) | 40 pts |
| 10 Discussion Boards (3 pts each) | 30 pts |
| 2 Assignments (20 pts each) | 40 pts |
| Midterm Project | 40 pts |
| Final Project | 50 pts |
| **Total** | **200 pts** |

## Course Website

Students will use the Canvas course web site for assignment instructions, submitting assignments, viewing classmate's work, sharing resources, and viewing grades.

## Announcements

The instructor may use Canvas Announcements for urgent and important messages, so it's strongly suggested that you set your Canvas notification preferences for Announcement to "Notify me right away." See these Canvas help resources:
- [Notification Preferences (Video)](#)
- [How do I add contact methods to receive Canvas notifications as a student?](#)
- [How do I set my Canvas notification preferences as a student?](#)

## Textbook

There is no required textbook for this course.
*Recommended reading*: Improving Animal Welfare, 2$^{nd}$ Edition: A Practical Approach

## Required Software

You will need the following software for this course:
- [Adobe Reader](#)
- Word Document program

## Dropping the Course

If you decide to discontinue this course, it is your responsibility to officially drop it to avoid getting no refund (after 10% of course length), a W symbol (after 20%), or a grade (after 60%). Also, for several consecutive, unexplained absences, the instructor may drop a student.

## Attendance

Students who do not log-in to an online class after the second week will be dropped from the class. It is strongly advised that if you need to miss more than one class/homework deadline in a row that you contact me to avoid being dropped from the class.

## Late Policy

All assignments are due at midnight PST on the due date. A late submission will receive a 20% penalty. Submissions more than one week late are not accepted without prior arrangement. Late work will not be graded unless student sends instructor an email for late work.

## Quizzes

This course will determine course material competency through quizzes. The material comes from the lectures and additional reading assignments. If any quiz is missed, a zero will be recorded as the score. It is your responsibility to take the online quizzes by the due date.

## Grading Policy

Visit the "Grades" in Canvas to keep track of your grades. I will post grades and comments on the online Canvas gradebook.

Grades will be assigned as follows:

| Grade | Percent |
|-------|---------|
| A | 100 – 90% |
| B | 89 – 80% |
| C | 79 – 70% |
| D | 69 – 60% |
| F | <60% |

If taking Pass/No Pass you need at least 70% of the total class points and complete the midterm and the final projects to pass the class.

## Standards of Conduct

Students who register in SRJC classes are required to abide by the SRJC Student Conduct Standards. Violation of the Standards is basis for referral to the Vice President of Student Services or dismissal from class or from the College. See the Student Code of Conduct page.

Collaborating on or copying of tests or homework in whole or in part will be considered an act of academic dishonesty and result in a grade of 0 for that test or assignment. I encourage students to share information and ideas, but not their work. See these links on Plagiarism:
SRJC Writing Center Lessons on avoiding plagiarism
SRJC's policy on Academic Integrity

## Special Needs

Students with disabilities who believe they need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disability Resources (527-4278), as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

## Tentative Schedule*

| Date | | Module | Tentative Topic | Due |
|------|------|--------|-----------------|-----|
| **August** | 21 | 1 | Introduction of Livestock Behavior and Welfare | |
| | 28 | 2 | Animal Behavior – Domestication, Behavioral Development, and Learning | Discussion Board #1 |
| **September** | 4 | 2 | Animal Behavior – Domestication, Behavioral Development, and Learning | Quiz 1 |
| | 11 | 3 | Animal Behavior - Animal Senses and Emotions | Discussion Board #2 |
| | 18 | 4 | Behavioral Patterns – Maintenance, Social, and Reproductive Behaviors | Assignment 1 |

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| Date | | Module | Tentative Topic | Due |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 25 | 4 | Behavioral Patterns – Maintenance, Social, and Reproductive Behaviors | Discussion Board #3 |
| **October** | 2 | 5 | Human-Animal Interactions | Quiz 2<br>Discussion Board #4 |
| | 9 | 6 | Behavioral Enrichment | Discussion Board#5 |
| | 16 | | Final Project Discussion | Midterm Project<br>Discussion Board #6 |
| | 23 | 7 | Animal Welfare | |
| | 30 | 8 | Welfare Standards | Discussion Board #7 |
| **November** | 6 | 9 | Assessing Animal Welfare | Quiz 3<br>Discussion Board #8 |
| | 13 | 10 | Housing Systems | Discussion Board #9 |
| | 20 | 10 | Housing Systems | Discussion Board #10 |
| | 27 | | **Fall Break - No Class** | |
| **December** | 4 | 10 | Housing Systems | Assignment 2 |
| | 11 | 11 | Low Stress Animal Handling Humane Transport and Slaughter | Quiz 4 |
| | 18 | | **Finals Week** | Final Project<br>Discussion Board #11 |

*Schedule subject to change