
Spring 2016

Tuesday 4-6 pm at Hadley Farm

ANMLSCI 254

Poultry management II

Instructor: Helene Cousin

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Office: ISB 427N, 661 N.Pleasant street

Office Hours: by appointment

GOALS

- Raise broilers from day old chick to maturity
- To handle safely and efficiently birds
- Learn the basic avian anatomy and physiology.
- Learn how to prevent and remedy the common problems associated with a flock including diseases and predation.

TEACHING TEAM

Helene Cousin, Instructor (email): hcousin@vasci.umass.edu

Aliza Ahlen, TA, (email) aahlen@umass.edu

Aiden McGrath, TA (email) armcgrath@umass.edu

If it is an emergency and cannot get a hold on the TA or instructor:

Alice Newth, the Hadley Center Livestock Manager, (Phone) 413-549-3258 (email) anewth@vasci.umass.edu .

REQUIREMENTS

All students are expected to complete:

- (1) Animal User Training conducted by IACUC/Research and Engagement.
- (2) Biological Safety Training conducted by the UMass Environmental Health and Safety Office.

If you completed Animal User Training during Animal Science 101, then you do not need to do so again. One Animal User Training session covers all 4 years at UMass. If you still need to complete Animal User Training, please contact Barbara Miller at bsmiller@research.umass.edu or 413-545-0668.

If you completed Biological Safety Training during Animal Science 101 in the fall of 2015, then you do not need to do so again. Biological Safety Training covers 1 year at UMass. If your Biological Safety Training is more than 1 year old, then you must complete the update in OWL at <http://www.ehs.umass.edu/biological-safety-renewal-training-module>. If you still need to complete the initial classroom Biological Safety Training, please go on-line to register for a session at: <http://www.ehs.umass.edu/biological-safety-training>. You will need to complete these training sessions outside of class-time."

Materials

- Muck or other easily washed plastic boots
- Coveralls
- Show attire

Milestones

1/21/16

Students need to have acquired coverall and boots and done their Animal User and Biological Safety training.

1/21/16

Students need to have Signed up for chick checks and show practice

1/28/16

Show Practices Starts

3/29/16

Tentative Field trip (To be confirmed)

4/12/16

Poultry Show and Show practice stops

PROGRAM

DATE	LECTURE SUBJECT	ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK
1/19/16	BROODER LECTURE TBA	BROODER SET UP
1/26/16	ANATOMY LECTURE and DISSECTION HELENE COUSIN	SHOW PRACTICE STARTS ON THURSDAY 1/28/16 CHICKS ARRIVES JAN 28ST
2/2/16	SHOW LECTURE ALIZA AHLEN	
2/9/16	BIOSECURITY LECH SZKUDLAREK DVM, USDA	
2/16/16	MONDAY SCHEDULE (PRESIDENT DAY)	
2/23/16	POULTRY DISEASES: AVIAN INFLUENZA LECH SZKUDLAREK	SHOW PRACTICE: BIRD HANDLING PRACTICE STARTS
3/1/16	REVIEW SESSION I	
3/9/16	COMMON BACKYARD FLOCK HEALTH ISSUES TBA	
3/15/16	SPRING BREAK	
3/22/16	DOMESTICATED BIRDS: GEESE, DUCK etc... AIDEN McGRATH	
3/29/16	GUEST SPEAKER: TBA	TBA:
4/5/16	PREDATORS: IDENTIFICATION AND SAFETY MEASURES TBA	11 WEEKS MARK-> START SELLING BIRDS
4/12/15	POULTRY SHOW	
4/19/15	REPRO AND DEVELOPMENT: THE EGG LAB HELENE COUSIN	13 WEEKS MARK-> LAST BIRDS GO
4/26/15	REVIEW SESSION II	

EVALUATION

Class Attendance (10 points per week x 14 weeks)	140 Points
Home works (10x 20 points)	200 Points
Poultry Show Practice	100 Points
Poultry show	70 Points
Field Trip	100 Points
Chick checks (once a week x 13 weeks)	130 Points
Chores (3 hours x 20 points)	60 Points
Total	800 Points

Grade	Percentage	Minimum Points Required
A	93	744
A-	90	720
B+	87	696
B	83	664
B-	80	640
C+	77	616
C	73	584
C-	70	560

COURSE CREDITS

This is a 2-credits course. According to University policy each credit requires 3 hours of work per week. This means that this course must provide students with 6 hours of work per week. The 6-hours breakdown for this course is as follows:

Activity	Hours per week
Class	2
Chick Check	1
Show Practice	1
Homework	1
Misc.	1
TOTAL	6 hours= 2 credits

Note that, at Umass as well as in other universities, the amount of studying required for the classes is never counted toward the number of credits of a particular class. 1 credit= 3 hours a week of in-class work

EMERGENCY

The health of the birds is our number one priority. Should you notice a dead bird, a bird that doesn't look right to you, or anything that may affect the welfare of the birds, you need to contact us and/or the barn people.

- 1- Text or call the TAs. If you choose to call, **Aliza** lives on the premises so if the emergency happen in the evenings or week-end, she will be your best bet. If you text, include all TA's and **Dr Cousin** in the text to insure a timely answer.
- 2- While you wait for a response, see if **Alice Newth** or **Dr Katherine Beltaire** is in the barn and ask for advice
- 3- If TA cannot be reached, contact the instructor (Text or call preferred since it is supposed to be an emergency)

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- **WORKING ATTIRE:** Boots and coveralls are required anytime you are at the Hadley Farm. This will be strictly enforced. Any students not wearing the required clothing will lose credit for that class period and will not be allowed to enter the barn and work with the poultry. For biosecurity reasons, we will ask that the student leave their booths and coverall at the farm throughout the semester. A student volunteer will be selected to do a load of laundry with the soiled coveralls ON THE PREMISES.
 - **Boots** need to be waterproof and capable of being bleached. Rain boots work well, as do muck boots (If you are an animal science major the muck boots are a good investment as you will be visiting the Hadley Farm a lot). We recommend mid-calf boots because you might often have to walk through deep puddles when it rains.
 - **Coveralls** can be purchased anywhere. Alice Newth (these will have the Vasci logo on them). They can also be purchased from farmer supply stores and online stores like dickies.com.

Students have until the chicks arrive on to acquire coveralls and boots

- **SHOW ATTIRE.** The requirements for men and women are the same. Students are required to have:
 - **Dress Shirts** – Must be plain white. NO stains, stripes, large logos, dots, words etc...
 - **Dark Blue Jeans** – Must be clean and presentable. NO dirt, stains, rips, holes, etc...

- **Boots** – All students will be wearing their regular barn boots. Must be cleaned right before show.

Students have until the show on to acquire show attire. Failure to do so will result in a deduction of 10 points of their show grade.

DETAILS OF THE GRADING

- **ATTENDANCE (140 points)**

Students are required to attend each class session and participate in all activities occurring during the class. Students are also required to wear appropriate clothing (boots and coveralls) to each class. They must be respectful and attentive during lectures; this means no using cell phones during this time. Those who are disruptive, talking, or on their cell phones will lose points. Students need to take notes during lecture to use for their Homework. Attendance is worth 10 points per class for a total of 140 points.

Attendance will be taken at **EXACTLY 4PM**. Half credit will be given until 4:10pm, however the student is responsible for ensuring they are marked as present if they come in late. After this a zero will be given.

Since we are working with live animals, there is a chance that class will run longer than the normal time due to unforeseen circumstances.

ABSENCE POLICY

Since this class only meets once a week there will be no unexcused absences allowed. Excused absences will only be granted in the following circumstances per University policy:

- **Religious Observances** – Must tell us in advance
- **University Sponsored Athletic Events** – Need note from Athletic Department
- **University Sponsored Field Trips/Competitions** – Need note from sponsoring department
- **Health Reasons** – Need note from medical provider
- **Personal Reasons** – Family illness, death, jury duty, court date, accidents, etc...

Please notify us as soon as possible if missing a class. If an extended absence is needed the student or student's parents/guardians need to contact the Dean of Students Office. For more information on the University's Absence policy visit their website at <http://www.umass.edu/registrar/students/policies-and-practices/class-absence-policy>.

GETTING TO CLASS:

Students will carpool to and from class. Rides will be assigned the first day of class. If a student's ride is sick they must contact a TA for a ride no later than 30 minutes before class. Those providing the rides must inform the students they give rides to as soon as possible if they cannot make it.

- **CHICK CHECKS (130 points)**

Students are responsible for one check a week worth 10 points each. Chick checks will be done in pairs. Morning checks are to be completed between 7-10am and afternoon checks are to be completed between 2-4pm. Checks include feeding & watering the birds, rotating pasture, weighting feed, counting the birds, observing for illness/injury, recording behavior, contacting a TA with any concerns, signing the log-book, etc. Exact directions will be given during class and will be emailed to all students. Checks should take approximately 30 minutes - 1 hour. If students do not give water to the birds or forget to take the cap off the water they will be given a zero for the check. The case of spring break checks will be discussed later during the semester.

- **SHOW and SHOW PRACTICE (170 points)**

Students will have the opportunity to train a chicken of their choice to compete in a showmanship competition. When showing a bird, students must show the judge that they have the skills of bird handling and the knowledge of how they were raised. The show

is worth 100 points. The show grade is worth 100 points: 70 points to attend each of the Show practice and 30 points toward the performance at the show.

SHOW PRACTICE (100 points): Students are required to attend one show practice a week for one hour. During this practice, you will learn the knowledge required to participate in a real poultry show as well as the handling skills needed to show the bird properly. Students will work under the supervision of the Showing & Handling TA and will need to work consistently (outside of class) with their chickens to achieve proper technique. Each practice is worth 10 points for a total of 100 points.

SHOW (70 points) : Students are expected to get the proper attire and compete in a showmanship competition (scheduled April 5th). Students will be evaluated on their bird handling skills and basic knowledge of poultry.

- **FIELD TRIP (100 points)**

The field trip location, time, and date are TBA.

- **CHICKEN CHORES (60 points)**

There are many times throughout the semester that we will need the members of the class to help out with different tasks such as putting birds out to pasture, building and adjusting housing, loading birds for auction, and cleaning up at the end of the semester. Each student in the class is required to complete **THREE HOURS** of “chicken chores” or a weekly 10 minutes chore to be done at the same time as their chick checks (i.e. replace foot bath, wash the class coveralls... any chore that will insure the biosecurity around the chicks). Opportunities to do so will be advertised ahead of time.

- **HOMEWORK (200 points)**

There will be one homework per lecture. The homework will be posted shortly after lecture and is due the following week. There are 10 homeworks worth 20 points each.

- **EXTRA CREDITS**

- **CHICK CHECKS**: Students willing to do an extra check a week OR take care of chick checks during SPRING BREAK will be given an **extra 10 points**.

- **CHICKEN CHORES**: Students willing to do a 4th hour worth of chicken chore will be given **10 extra points**.

T.A. APPRENTICESHIP

Animal management classes in general and Poultry management class in particular rely heavily on dedicated undergraduate TAs. If you are interested in becoming one, let the instructor know as soon as you. The current teaching team will evaluate your request. If you are accepted, you will be required to apprentice for a time under the direction of the current TAs and will be required to:

- Take both fall and spring semester for credit.
- Attend two show practices a week; one as class requirement and one to shadow TA.
- Attend TA meetings.

Note: Being an animal management TA is time consuming. When we have chickens, it is a 24/7 job. TAs often will go check on the chickens late at night, early in the morning, and throughout the day. When we do not have chickens time is spent planning upcoming semesters, researching new information and ideas, etc....If one does not have enough time to be an apprentice they will most likely not have enough time to be a TA.

DECISIONS MADE AFTER FIRST MEETING

- 1- **GEAR:** When you acquire boots and coverall, you will let them at the farm for the duration of the semester. A Student will be responsible for doing a load of laundry when needed.
- 2- **SHOW PRACTICE** will be held on Thursdays from 5PM to 6PM and Sunday from 11AM to 12-noon. They strats on January 28th. You need to attend one per week (starting the week of January 25th) but it doesn't have to be always be the same day. For that reason, you need to tell Aliza the week before which of the 2 you will be attending.
- 3- **CHICK CHECKS:** morning checks need to be done between 7-10AM and evening checks between 2 and 4PM. We start January 28th. Here is the table

Chick Check Schedule							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
am check 7-9am	Aliza*	Sydney Kerstin*	Aliza*	Alyssa Lisa*	Caroline Sandra	Caroline Sandra	Aliza*
pm check 2-4pm	Wesley Hedlund Aliza*		Crysta* Mary			Benjamin Gontijo Kathleen Baker*	Aiden*

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