

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

### **Livestock Judging Lab I**

#### **Course Description**

AG 136. Livestock Judging Lab I. 2 hours credit. This course is to be taken in conjunction with Livestock Selection I by those students desiring in-depth experience in livestock judging. The major emphasis of this course is on livestock appraisal including the presentation and evaluation of oral reasons. A major portion of class time is spent evaluating and placing live classes of livestock in the field. Collegiate competition is included.

#### **Course Relevance**

This course will give the participating student an in-depth understanding of live animal evaluation, performance records and EPD's. Students will gain incredible communication and decision making skills that can be utilized in virtually any career in agriculture.

#### **Required Materials**

AG 136 Livestock Judging Lab I. No Text Required.

#### **Learning Outcomes**

The intention is for the student to be able to

1. Evaluate livestock on various phenotypic traits
2. Make specific selection decisions
3. Communicate selection decisions in a articulate and convincing manner

#### **Primary Learning PACT Skills that will be DEVELOPED and/or documented in this course**

Through the student's involvement in this course, he/she will develop his/her ability in the following primary PACT skill areas:

1. Critical Thinking
  - The student will develop critical thinking skills through developing the ability to make quick decisions based on a multitude of information.
2. Speaking
  - The student will improve public speaking and reasoning skills through the development of oral reasons.

Secondary skills (developed but not documented):

Teamwork  
Self-Concept  
Ethical Conduct  
Leadership

Writing  
Reading  
Listening  
Coping with Change

### **Major Summative Assessment Task(s)**

These learning outcomes and the primary Learning PACT skills will be demonstrated by

1. Placing of numerous classes of livestock based on phenotypic traits, performance records, or a combination of both. (critical thinking)
2. Develop oral reasoning skills and perform numerous sets of oral reasons for evaluation. (speaking)

### **Course Content**

- I. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
  - A. Placing livestock
  - B. Oral reasons
- II. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
  - A. Market animal selection
  - B. Breeding animal selection
  - C. Species specific selection
- III. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
  - A. Basic animal anatomy
  - B. Carcass breakdown
  - C. Economic value of traits
  - D. Terminology related to both visual evaluation and carcass composition
- IV. Skills/Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
  - A. Problem solving
  - B. Speaking
  - C. Reading
  - D. Writing
  - E. Listening
  - F. Critical thinking
  - G. Application of concepts

### **Learning Units**

- I. Beef Cattle
  - A. Market animals
  - B. Breeding animals
  - C. Performance records
  - D. Proper oral reasons terminology
- II. Sheep
  - A. Market animals
  - B. Breeding animals
  - C. Performance records

D. Proper oral reasons terminology

III. Swine

- A. Market animals
- B. Breeding animals
- C. Performance records
- D. Proper oral reasons terminology

**Learning Activities**

Lecture, instructor-led class discussions, group study, field trips, outdoor live animal evaluation, collegiate competition.

**Grade Determination**

The student will be graded on completion of judging team competitions, class participation, and other methods of evaluation at the discretion of the instructor.