

Animal Science 297S: Boer Goat Management Spring 2015

Student Leadership:

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Dr. Susan Marston

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Office Hours: *By appointment*

Time: Mondays 4-6pm

Location: Hadley Livestock Farm Manor House

Objectives:

1. Introduce and discuss the current practices in goat farm management and apply that knowledge to the management of the student-run goat herd.
2. Familiarize students with how to manage and operate a business.
3. Provide students the opportunity to gain leadership, communication, problem solving and time management skills that will give them an advantage in their careers and make them more valuable to future employers.

Credits: 2 credit, Graded

Grading: Your grade will be based on the following components:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Percent of Overall Grade</u>
Attendance	5
Barn Checks	5
Kid Watch	10
Weekend Chores	5
Kid Records	5
Homework	10
Committee Reports	10
Exams (2 @ 15% each)	30
Final Practical Exam	20

Class Policies

Communication

- We will be using the university emails (____@umass.edu) and Moodle for course-related communication. Therefore, it is important that you check both regularly for class announcements and/or any additional (pertinent) material.

Use of Electronics

- Laptops/tablets are provisionally allowed in lecture so long as the use of such devices pertains directly to the course. Internet use, such as emailing, shopping, updating social media, etc. is distracting to others and **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED** in Boer Goat Management.
- Cell phones are **NOT ALLOWED** in lecture or in the livestock barn. Cell phone calls & texts disrupt the class and are disrespectful to your classmates & instructors.

Attendance and Punctuality:

- Class will begin at 6:00 pm: attendance will be taken at 6:00. If you arrive after attendance has been taken, you will be marked late, unless you have contacted the officers & Dr. Marston beforehand and provided a legitimate excuse for being late. Every **3** late arrivals will be counted as an unexcused absence.
- Documented absences, such as a note from a physician, may be excused. However, you must contact the officers & Dr. Marston **within 48 hours** of the absence to receive instructions about completing any missed assignments or exams.

Academic Honesty

- Since the integrity of the academic enterprise of any institution of higher education requires honesty in scholarship and research, academic honesty is required of all students at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Any form of cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, or facilitating of academic dishonesty in Goat Management will result in failure of the class. More information about these policies and procedures for reporting violations can be found at the following website:

http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/codeofconduct/

Academic Accommodations

- Many accommodations are available at the University of Massachusetts to ensure that students with disabilities participate fully in academic and student life. They provide a student with a disability equal access to the educational and co-curricular process, without compromising essential components of the curriculum. Accommodations are determined on an individual basis, based on the student's documentation. For accommodations to be timely, they must be arranged well in advance. Students are responsible for contacting Disability Services at the beginning of each semester so that reasonable accommodations can be made in a timely manner (first two weeks of classes). For more information, visit: <http://www.umass.edu/disability/students.html>

Health & Human Safety

- **Coveralls and boots must be worn** while in direct contact with the goats (or any other animals) at the UMass farms. If you are a VASCI student you are required to bring your own coveralls and boots. If you are a non VASCI student, there are a few extras that you may borrow throughout the semester. Make certain your personal belongings are labeled with your name or some other easily identifiable way. Coveralls will be laundered on site for you. Boots can be either over-the-foot or over-the-shoe, but they must be able to be sanitized with a Clorox solution ("bleachable"). Wear clothing you don't mind getting dirty.
- If you have a compromised immune system, are pregnant, or likely to become pregnant, we ask that you stay out of the barn for safety/health reasons.
- A "goat buddy" is required whenever you interact with the goats. Animal behavior can be unpredictable; therefore livestock barn policy requires that another student or staff member be present in the event of injury or accident.

Animal Care Training

- The Animal Welfare Act, the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals require that Institutions ensure that all personnel caring for, treating or using animals are qualified to perform their duties. All UMass Amherst animal users, including students in Boer Goat Management, are required to attend a one-time general training course prior to working with animals. If you previously attended a training session at UMass, you will not need to do so again.

****Students found to be in violation of any of the aforementioned rules will be asked to leave the premises.**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **How do I get credit for Goat Management?** Students must register for Animal Science 297S, which is a two credit, graded course that can be repeated for credit, spring only.
2. **Is there an expectation for “Off Hours” work?** Yes!! Barn checks and weekend chores are also an expected part of your participation in the class. You, along with several other students, will be assigned an animal to care for before, during and after kidding. Preparation and participation in kidding and follow-up neonatal care is a mandatory part of the course.
3. **I don't have a car...How do I get down to the barn for meetings, barn checks and/or weekend chores?** There are car pools that transport students down to the Hadley Farm. If you need a ride to the weekly meeting: **WE LEAVE THE ISB PARKING LOT PROMPTLY AT 3:45PM!** We will make arrangements for transportation for “off hour work” by student car-pools. The officers can pick people up for barn checks and weekend chores if necessary. **However, 24 hours advanced notification is required!**

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Lecture Topic	Activity
1/26	Course Introduction <i>*Class held in ISB 427L</i>	----
2/2	No Class	----
2/9	Overview of Boer Goats and Parturition Procedure	Kidding Cart and Dystocia Simulation
2/17	Neonatal Care and Diseases	Hoof Trim and Fecal Counting
2/23	Exam # 1	Committee Work
3/2	Herd Health	Fecals and PCVs
3/9	Immunology and Vaccinations	Vaccinations and Committee Work
3/23	Anatomy, Conformation, and Showing	Identify Body Parts and Showing Techniques
3/30	Exam # 2	Committee Work
4/6	Castration, Tattooing, Scrapie Tagging	Tattooing & Scrapie Tagging
4/13	Kid Selection	----
4/20	Committee Reports	----
4/27	Final Practical	