

**South Plains College**  
**Common Course Syllabus: AGRI 2321**  
**Revised Spring 2025**

**Department:** Science

**Discipline:** Agriculture

**Course Number:** AGRI 2321

**Course Title:** Livestock Evaluation 1

**Credit:** 3    **Lecture:** 2    **Lab:** 4

**Course Description:** (3:2:4) Evaluation and grading of market cattle, swine, sheep, and goats and their carcasses and wholesale cuts. Emphasis will be placed on value determination. Selection and evaluation of breeding cattle, sheep, swine, and goats with emphasis on economically important traits. Semester Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 2 Lab Hours: 4 Note: This course may be repeated once for credit.

This course satisfies a core curriculum requirement: No

**Available Formats** conventional/internet

**Campuses:** Levelland Campus

**Textbook:** All Materials will be provided on Blackboard.

**Prerequisites:** *None*

**Supplies:** Computer access and internet access. Ability to open PowerPoint presentations.

**Course Specific Instructions:** The online section of this course will access course information and respond to me and/or other students using the Internet. SPC uses Blackboard to deliver and manage this course.

The conventional section of this course will meet as a normal class. See your instructor for specific instructions.

## **CORE OBJECTIVES TO BE ADDRESSED:**

**Communication** – to include effective written, oral and visual communication.

**Critical Thinking Skills** – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

**Empirical and Quantitative Skills** – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.

**Teamwork Skills** – to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

**Course Description** *A detailed consideration of the factors involved in the selection and evaluation of cattle, sheep, goats, and swine for breeding and slaughter. The College Livestock Judging Team is selected from the conventional section of this class. This course may be repeated once for credit.*

**Course Purpose/Rationale/Goal** – *Introduce the student to fundamentals in Livestock evaluation.*

**Course Requirements:** To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class and laboratory meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations including final projects and/or examinations.

**Course Evaluation:** This course will have weekly lab work and major exams. Grades will be determined using the following scale:

A: 90-100%      B: 80-89%      C: 70-79%      D: 60-69%      F: 0-59%

Major Exams:                      4 (20% each = 80%)

Lab works                              weekly work (20%)

- Lab work is based more on completion and thoroughness vs accuracy in judging abilities. This class is designed to teach a student evaluation skill. It should be noted that you will miss questions and placings...maybe a lot of them. That is part of the process. I will adjust your lab grade at the end of the semester to reflect your time and attention spent completing the assignments.

## **Student Learning Outcomes/Competencies:**

Upon completion of this course and receiving a passing grade, the student will be able to:

1. Accurately evaluate and grade meat animals (cattle, swine, sheep, and goats), their carcasses, and wholesale cuts according to USDA and industry standards.
2. Determine market value for meat animals, carcasses, and whole cuts.
3. Evaluate and select breeding animals based upon their economic potential in common production scenarios.
4. Apply knowledge of both subjective and objective techniques, tools, and information in order to make evaluation, grading, and selection decisions in practical production scenarios.

**RULES OF THE ROAD:** Successful teaching and learning require a partnership between the teachers and students. Everyone is in this classroom to learn something. I will come to class each day prepared to do the following: 1) to deliver the lecture and direct discussion to the best of my ability; 2) to provide an atmosphere that fosters learning; 3) to respect you as unique individuals with your own interests and talents. In turn, I require the following of you: 1) to acquire assistance from the instructor (never hesitate to call or stop by my office); 2) to make a genuine effort to work the assigned problems as soon as possible; 3) to respect the other members of the class as unique individuals. The best way to show respect for the other members of the class is to remember the golden rule.

### **Attendance Policy:**

Students are expected to attend all classes to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus. After 4 unexcused absences, students will be warned of excessive absences. **After 6 unexcused absences, students will be dropped from the course with an "X".**

*When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first-class meeting.*

*Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.*

*It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate, and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.*

**Plagiarism and Cheating:** Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy will result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F for the course if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill.
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation.
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion.
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given.
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment.
4. Entering an office or building to obtain an unfair advantage.
5. Taking an examination for another.
6. Altering grade records.
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment.
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's.
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

**For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.**