

Course syllabus 2025 (updated 1/8/2025)

ANS 3250L - Dairy Cattle Practicum

Class #10317

Friday, 8-10th period (3:00 to 6:00 PM), location: see schedule, 2 credits

Real times 3:00 to 6:30 PM due to heavy traffic.

Instructor

Dr. Albert De Vries, Room 104F in the Larson Dairy Science building. Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday (the hour after ANS 3251), or when mutually convenient. The instructor decides in all cases not covered in this syllabus. Guest instructors will present some of the practicums. Email only through E-learning. I will try to respond within 2 days, but I do not respond to email on the weekends.



Teaching Assistant

Carlos Niño de Guzmán Cerna. Office hours are the hour after class, or when mutually convenient. Email only through E-learning.

Course Description

Practical application of the principles of biology and management of dairy cattle. Topics: Milking procedures, cattle handling, records, computer applications in dairy production, body condition, lameness, hygiene scoring, genetics, feeding, farm visits. All hands-on topics are routine management practices on dairy farms.

Prerequisite

Coreq: ANS 3251 - Biology and Management of Dairy Cattle (Class # 10318). Students must be concurrently enrolled in ANS 3251 or have successfully completed ANS 3251 earlier.

Course Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to

- Appraise the behavior of dairy cattle through hands-on interactions with these animals.
- Score animal behavior, nutrition, reproduction, milking, genetics, and facilities of dairy cattle housed on a dairy farm.
- Evaluate and critique dairy cattle management on a dairy farm.

Risks

We will walk behind the animals in their manure. Students may get dirty and should bring rubber boots. Plastic boots will not be provided for everyone. We will be working with dairy young stock and cows, including touching, and moving. Working with livestock is inherently risky. Many of these animals are

capable of (but not likely to) injuring people, especially when they are in the fight or flight mode inspired by a stressful situation. The instructors will work to provide students with the ability to manage livestock with minimal stress, thus lowering the risk of injury to people and animals. The University of Florida is not liable for illness or injuries to students participating in coursework per UF policy, students are required to purchase the Student Health Insurance Plan or comparable coverage. See:

<https://healthcompliance.shcc.ufl.edu/>

We aim to provide a van to drive from Animal Sciences to the Dairy Unit. Students are welcome to drive their own vehicles to the Dairy Unit but may only park in the designated area. However, UF is not assuming any responsibility for accidents or damages to your vehicles associated with this practicum.

Class Attendance and Make-Up Work

This is a hands-on course, and your physical participation is important for learning. Class attendance from start to finish of each practicum is required. It is the student's responsibility to make sure the attendance sheet at the start of each class is signed. Notifications of missed signatures will be accepted until 11:59 PM of the day of the class. Every student is allowed to miss 1 class unexcused after the first week, except on days when tests are given, or when students give presentations. If a student misses (part of) a class, either excused or unexcused, the student is responsible for catching up on the material covered. Talk with your course mates or find the handouts on the course website. Use of cell phones is not allowed during class time unless we give you permission. These policies are in place to make learning as successful and pleasant as possible for everybody. Not attending class is also unfair to the students on the waiting list who would like to take this course. Exceptions to these rules are unlikely granted and should not be expected. But we are all human too. Relax 😊

Course Website and Communication

The course website is through <http://elearning.ufl.edu>. We will use the website primarily to post materials, grades, and for announcements. All electronic communication between students and instructors needs to occur through <http://elearning.ufl.edu> so we have a clear record of the emails.

Text and Material Covered

No text is assigned. Students may be asked to read assigned readings and turn in assignments.

Grading (100% maximum)

- 30% Class participation. Students need to sign-in at the start of each practicum. Participation means being engaged during the entire class period and turn assignments in on time and of satisfactory quality. Every practicum is worth the same number of points. Unsatisfactory participation may result in a loss of points. An unexcused missed practicum results in a loss of 4% off the final class score (max 100%).
- 20% Final presentation: Teams of two students present on a topic of their choice. Details will be provided.
- 50% Tests: Three non-cumulative tests will be given with mostly short answer questions. Tests are closed book with no outside aids allowed. Make up tests are only given in exceptional cases to be decided by the instructor.

- Scores can be appealed within 1 week of returning the grade. We will regrade the whole test. Because grading in this course is naturally somewhat subjective, we will be reluctant to change scores. In past years, most students in this course obtained an A or A- grade.
- We will use the grade book in e-Learning to calculate final grades, if possible.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned based upon the following scale:

- A = 90-100%
- B+ = 85-89.9%
- B = 80-84.9%
- C+ = 75-79.9%
- C = 70-74.9%
- D+ = 65-69.9%
- D = 60-64.9%
- E = <60%

Standard Syllabus Statements

Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Attendance and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

For online course with recorded materials a statement informing students of privacy related issues such as: Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Online Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this

course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/> . Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/> . Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g., assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code> .

Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Information: 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/>

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/>
 - Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library, Wellness Coaching.
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu
- *Career Connections Center*, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, <https://career.ufl.edu/> .
- Student Success Initiative, <http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu> .

Student Complaints:

- Residential Course: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>
- Online Course: <https://pfs.tnt.aa.ufl.edu/state-authorization-status/#student-complaint>

ANS 3250L – Dairy Cattle Practicum – Friday 8-10th period (3:00 – 6:00 PM) – Spring 2025

Real times 3:00 to 6:30 PM due to heavy traffic.

The schedule may change during the semester. Check ELEARNING.UFL.EDU for the latest schedule.

Week	Date	Day	Topic	Location	Instructor
1	1/17	F	Introduction	156	De Vries
2	1/24	F	Walk through and herd flow	DU	De Vries
3	1/31	F	Cow stockman ship	DU	De Vries
4	2/7	F	Virtual farm tours/student presentations	156	De Vries
5	2/14	F	BCS, hygiene, locomotion, lesions scoring	DU	De Vries
6	2/21	F	Test 1 in class. Farm evaluation introduction	156	De Vries
7	2/28	F	Insert CIDR, give shots, draw blood	DU	Hansen
8	3/7	F	Feeding evaluation	DU	De Vries
9	3/14	F	Facilities	DU	De Vries
10			<i>Spring Break, March 15-23</i>		
12	3/28	F	Test 2 in class. Modeling lab	156	De Vries
13	4/4	F	Health evaluation	DU	TBA
14	4/11	F	Student presentations	156	De Vries
15	4/18	F	Genetics	DU	De Vries
	TBA		Milking practicum (TBA)	DU	De Vries
Exam	4/30	W	Test 3 in class (3:00 – 5:00 PM)	TBA	

Locations:

DU: IFAS Dairy Unit, van leaves Animal Science building at 3 PM

156: classroom 156 in the Animal Science building

TBA: to be announced

Ride: van leaves from the parking lot in front of the Animal Science building at 3 PM