Broiler Production  
PLS 337.500  
Department of Agriculture  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
Spring 2018

Instructor: Dr. Joey Bray

Telephone: (936) 468 – 4144 office  
(936) 468 – 3705 Department

E-mail: jbray@sfasu.edu (or email through D2L)

Office: Room 101

Text: None Required

Description: Study of production practices for the commercial broiler production industry. In depth study into broiler houses and equipment, grow-out phases and disease control for typical broiler operations.

Objectives:  
1. Become familiar with the commercial broiler industry in the United States.  
2. Become familiar with the terminology used in broiler production.  
3. Learn good principles and practices for raising broiler chickens in a commercial setting.

Program Learner Outcomes:

1. Technical Thinking - The student will demonstrate competence of technical subject matter in poultry sciences.  
2. Communication Skills- The student will demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills.  
3. Leadership Skills- The student will exhibit leadership and other interpersonal skills needed for career placement and advancement.  
4. Problem Solving Skills - The student will exhibit problem solving skills based on quantitative and analytical reasoning.  
5. Critical Skills - The student will demonstrate knowledge of poultry production facilities.

Student Learner Outcomes:

1. Critical Skills - The student will demonstrate knowledge of poultry production facilities.  
   a. Assessment Method #1 - All students taking PLS 337 will be assessed. The assessment tool will include 10 embedded multiple choice questions related to poultry housing and equipment, flock management, biosecurity, and disease control.  
   b. Assessment Method #2 - All students taking PLS 337 will be assessed. The assessment tool will include 10 short answer questions embedded on an exam. The questions will relate to poultry housing and equipment, flock management, biosecurity, and disease control.
Grading Policy:
Each assignment, discussion paper, quiz, and exam will be given a point scale and your final grade will be determined by the total points accumulated from all of the assessments below. **All assignments and discussion papers will have a due date and need to be completed on or before the due date.**

Please check the *Course Timeline* under the *Content* icon or under the *Content Browser* for due dates or at the end of the syllabus. Late assignments and discussion papers will automatically have points deducted from the total points available. **No assignments and discussion papers will be accepted one week after the due date and those points will be forfeited. Also, points will be deducted each day that the assignment is late.**

Mid-term Exams .................100 pts. A = 1050-945
Final Exam ..............................100 pts. B = 944 - 840
Student Homepage .................100 pts. C = 839 - 735
Module Quizzes (9 @ 50 pts.) ........450 pts. D = 734 – 630
Discussion Papers (10 @ 20 pts.) ...200 pts.
Term Paper ..............................100 pts.

Total pts. ......................................1050 pts.

Assignments:
Your first assignment will be to create a homepage that can be viewed by your class peers and the professor. This assignment is to acquaint you with your fellow classmates and the professor. Since this is not a face-to-face course, this will give you the ability to know the students that are in the course. To create your homepage, click the link *Create Student Homepages* under the *Content* or *Discussion* icons. After your homepage is created, view the homepages of other students and complete the *Discuss Homepages* discussion paper.

Discussion Papers:
After the completion of each module, you will be required to submit a discussion paper related to the topics or related readings. You will submit your discussion paper under the corresponding module link under the *Discussions* icon.

Quizzes:
You will have a quiz at the end of each module with multiple choice questions that are related to the topics covered in the module and related readings. All quizzes will be timed and must be submitted on or before its due date. **Quizzes will not be available pass their due date.**

Exams:
There will be a mid-term and final exam. All exams will be timed and prescheduled throughout the semester. Exams must be taken during their respective times. If an exam is missed, you will only be able to take the exam with a university accepted excused absence.

Term Paper:
Each student will be required to write one term paper related to a subject in the field of broiler production. The term paper will consist of an introduction (background info.), body (explain the subject matter, importance, etc.), and conclusion. The subject matter will be assigned to you by the instructor. The term paper will be typed in 12 pt. font, double-spaced, with 1 inch margins and will be a minimum of 5 pages. Pictures, illustrations, graphs and figures that are important and pertain directly to the subject matter can be used and are encouraged; however they will not count towards the 5 page written text minimum. You will have the majority of the semester to work on this paper, so use your time wisely. You can find the *Term Paper Guidelines* under the *Content* icon or *Content Browser.*
Contact in an Online Course:
All contact should be done through D2L or my SFA email, unless it is an emergency. I will make myself available on a regular basis to respond to your comments, questions and concerns. All emails through D2L are confidential between the sender and the person or persons the email is sent to. If I will be gone for several days at a time I will notify you in advance and I will do my best to continue communication while I am gone. If you feel that responses are not meeting your expectations, please contact me or the Agriculture Department at (936) 468-3705

Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as, abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Academic Dishonesty and Cheating:
Any instance of academic dishonesty or cheating will be governed by the guidelines set in the General Bulletin. They are as follows:
- Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) falsifying or inventing any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Students with Disabilities:
To obtain related accommodations and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building in Room 325, 468-3004 or 468-1004 as soon as possible. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodations and/or auxiliary aids to be provided.
http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54):
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Acceptable Student Behavior:
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic/online forums, classroom meetings, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to
the iCare program http://www.sfasu.edu/judicial/earlyalert.asp. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.
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<th>Date</th>
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| **Module 1:** Jan. 16 - Jan. 26, 2018 | Creating a Course Community        | • Getting acquainted with the course, fellow classmates, and the course goals.  
• Student Homepage posted under Student Homepage. (100 pts.)  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 1 : Student Homepage". (20 pts.)  
**Due Dates : Both are due by Jan 26, 2018 at midnight.** |
| Module 2: Jan. 27 – Feb. 5, 2018          | Overview of the Poultry Industry   | • Understanding the commercial broiler industry and the history of its existence.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 2 : Overview of the Poultry Industry ". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 2 : Overview of the Poultry Industry (50 pts.)  
**Due Dates : Both are due by Feb. 5, 2018 at midnight.** |
| Module 3: Feb. 6 - Feb. 16, 2018          | Broiler Housing                     | • Discussion of different types of broiler production facilities.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 3 : Broiler Housing ". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 3 : Broiler Housing (50 pts.)  
**Due Dates : Both are due by Feb. 16, 2018 at midnight.** |
• Discussion Paper in "Module 4 : Broiler House Equipment ". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 4 : Broiler House Equipment (50 pts.)  
**Due Dates : Both are due by Feb. 26, 2018 at midnight.** |
| Module 5: Feb. 27 - Mar. 7, 2018          | Broiler House Preparation           | • Overview of management practices and initial preparation for receiving broiler chicks.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 5 : Broiler House Preparation ". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 5 : Broiler House Preparation (50 pts.)  
**Due Dates : Both are due by Mar. 7, 2018 at midnight.** |
| **Mid-term Exam:** Mar. 8-9, 2018   | Modules 1 - 5                       | • Mid-term  
• Will cover material from Modules 1 - 5  
• **Mid-term must be taken anytime on Mar. 8th- 9th, before midnight.**  
• Worth 100 pts. |
| **Module 6:** Mar. 10 - Mar. 23, 2018    | Brooding Management                | • Discussion of management practices utilized during the brooding period of production.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 6 : Brooding Management". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 6 : Brooding Management (50 pts.)  
**Due Dates : Both are due by Mar. 23, 2018 at midnight.** |
| Module 7 : Mar. 24 - Apr. 4, 2018 | Growing Management | • Discussion of management practices utilized during the growing period of production.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 7 : Growing Management". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 7 : Growing Management (50 pts.)  

**Due Dates : Both are due by Apr. 4, 2018 at midnight.** |
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| Module 8: Apr. 5 - Apr. 13, 2018 | Broiler Feeding | • Introduction into broiler nutrition and feeding regimens for broiler production.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 8 : Broiler Feeding". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 8 : Broiler Feeding (50 pts.)  

**Due Dates : Both are due by Apr. 13, 2018 at midnight.** |
| Module 9: Apr. 14 - Apr. 25, 2018 | Cleanout and Downtime Management | • Discuss the importance of downtime between flocks and practices for preparing for the next flock.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 9 : Cleanout and Downtime Management". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 9 : Cleanout and Downtime Management (50 pts.)  

**Due Dates : Both are due by Apr. 25, 2018 at midnight.** |
| Module 10: Apr. 26 - May 4, 2018 | Broiler Diseases | • Overview of important diseases and methods for disease management.  
• Discussion Paper in "Module 10 : Broiler Diseases". (20 pts.)  
• Quiz 10 : Broiler Diseases (50 pts.)  

**Due Dates : Both are due by May 4, 2018 at midnight.** |
| Final Exam: May 7 - May 9, 2018 | Modules 1 - 10 | • Final Exam (Comprehensive)  
• Will cover material from Modules 1 - 10  
**You will have anytime from May 7th to May 9th to take the final.**  
• Worth 100 pts.  

| Term Paper Jan. 16 - Apr. 13, 2018 | Broiler Production Topic | • Download instructions for term paper off the course content homepage.  
**You will have from January 16th until April 13th at midnight to turn in your assigned term paper.**  
• Worth 100 pts.  
