

# **ANSI 4553**

## **Sheep Science**

### **Fall 2008**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Gerald Fitch  
109E Animal Science  
Phone: 744-6065

**SHEEP HERDSMAN:** Mr. Matt Kennedy  
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**TEXTBOOK:** The Sheepman's Production Handbook, Sheep  
Industry Development, Inc., Englewood, Colorado

**LECTURE:** Tuesday, 8:00 to 8:50 A.M.  
Thursday, 8:00 to 8:50 A.M.

**LABORATORY:** Tuesdays, 1:30 to 3:20 P.M.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- 1) Familiarize students with breeding, nutrition, physiology, management, and economics involved of sheep production.
- 2) Provide students with hands-on experience with management practices and producer examples of sheep production in Oklahoma.
- 3) Provide students with the knowledge to organize a sheep enterprise; including nutrition, breeding, economics, an annual timetable of necessary management practices.

#### **CLASS ATTENDANCE:**

Roll will be taken at all lectures and labs. IF 10% of the class is absent (unexcused) at the beginning of the class period a pop quiz WILL be given.

Only absences due to University-related activities or deaths in the immediate family will be excused.

## GRADING:

90-100%	A
80- 89%	B
70- 79%	C
60- 69%	D
< 60%	F

<b>Lecture</b>	<b><u>Pts</u></b>
2 Exams (Lab & Lecture)	250
Final (Lab & Lecture)	200
Pop Quizzes	<u>50 -100</u>
Total Examinations	500 - 550
 <b>Lab Assignments</b>	
Sheep Project	<u>200</u>
 <b><u>Total Points</u></b>	 <b><u>700 – 750</u></b>

**ANSI 4553  
SHEEP SCIENCE  
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LECTURE</b>	<b>LABORATORY</b>
August 19	Introduction	No Class
August 21	Breeds	
August 26	Breeding I	Wool
August 28	Breeding II	
September 2	Breeding III	Project
September 4	Breeding IV	
September 9	Breeding V	Selection
September 11	Breeding Case Studies	
September 16	Handling, Facilities & Fencing	Howard
September 18	Nutrition I	
September 23	Nutrition II <b>Due: Breeding Program (\$ included)</b>	Unscheduled
September 25	Review	
September 30	Midterm 1	No Class
October 2	Cancelled	
October 7	Nutrition III	Carcass
October 9	Reproduction I	
October 14	Reproduction II	Management
October 16	Reproduction III <b>Due: Facilities, Fencing and Equipment (\$ included)</b>	
October 21	Management I	Economic Analysis
October 23	Management II	

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>LECTURE</u></b>	<b><u>LABORATORY</u></b>
October 28	Management III	Management
October 30	Management IV	
November 4	Management V	Breeding Soundness
November 7	Review	
November 11	Midterm 2	Shearing
November 13	Health <b>Due: Management, Nutritional Program (\$ included)</b>	
November 18	Marketing	Pregnancy Diagnosis
November 20	Predator Control	
November 25	Case Studies	Finalize Projects
November 27	Thanksgiving	
December 2	Case Studies	Project Discussions <b>Due: Final Project Reports</b>
December 4	Review for Final	
<b>December 11</b>	<b>Final: 8:00 A.M. to 9:50 A.M.</b>	

**ANSI 4553  
SHEEP SCIENCE  
SHEEP ENTERPRISE TERM PROJECT**

This project will be graded as follows:

Breeding Program	20 points
Evaluation	10 points
Facilities & Fencing	20 points
Evaluation	10 points
Nutritional Program	20 points
Evaluation	10 points
Final Written Report	110 points
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>200</u> points</b>

The final written report will be due on December 2, 2008 in **Lab**.

Each student will have the option of completing the project on his/her own, or in **2** person teams. It would be advisable to balance the teams according to background, i.e., mixing expertise in supporting disciplines (economics, reproduction, nutrition, breeding, etc.). **Each team member will receive the same final grade on the project**, therefore it is important to *choose your teammate wisely*.

The enterprise will consist of the development of a complete sheep operation. You are to assume that the property is owned "free and clear". All other capitol improvements, breeding stock purchase, equipment, etc. will be 100% financed. Each portion of the project turned in throughout the semester is to include capital costs, operating expenses and all expenses associated with that portion of the project.

It is up to you to develop a feasible, profitable **commercial** sheep operation under these guidelines. It is now time to utilize all of the knowledge you have gained in your college careers, plus the realistic view to make the correct management and financial decisions. This project will be considered **PROFESSIONAL**. Treat this opportunity as if it were your own operation and the profit or loss of the operation were in your own hands.

**ANIMAL SCIENCE 4553**  
**COURSE PROJECT SAMPLE OUTLINE (NOT COMPLETE)**

- I. Breeding Program
  - A. Objectives of breeding program
  - B. Complete description of program to be utilized
    - 1. Initial Animals
      - a. Source and costs
      - b. Numbers
      - c. Selection criteria
    - 2. Breeding Schedule - Years 1 through 5
      - a. Mating Schedule
      - b. Replacement Selection & Numbers
  
- II. Management and Nutritional Program
  - A. Reproduction
    - 1. Breeding and Lambing Schedule
  - B. Nutrition
    - 1. Feed Availability
    - 2. Utilization of Forage
      - a. Forage available – Acreage, Crop, and costs
      - b. Farming practices
      - c. Sheep rotation
    - 3. Supplementation
      - a. amounts and annual costs
  - C. Monthly Management Schedule
    - 1. Herd Health
    - 2. Vaccination Program
  
- III. Description of Facilities, Fencing and Equipment
  - A. Location
    - 1. Topography
    - 2. Proximity to supporting resources
  - B. Resources
    - 1. Water and Forage Availability
    - 2. Carrying Capacity
    - 3. Labor
    - 4. Facilities - (Current and Proposed)
    - 5. Fencing
  - C. Map of Ranch/Farm
  
- IV. Economic Analysis - 5 Year
  - A. Marketing
  - B. Amortization Schedules and Financing requirements
  - C. Annual Profit/Loss Statement
  
- V. Conclusion
  - A. Critique of System
    - 1. Assets
    - 2. Feasibility of Operation in Detail