

**Great Basin College
Course Syllabus**

Course Title: AGR 496 Agriculture Capstone **Credits:** 3.0

Semester Offered: Spring 2008 **Instructor Name:** Tracy Shane

Class Schedule: 3 to 4 Live Class Meetings TBA **Office Hours:** M,W 12:00-2:00pm
Tuesday 3:00-4:00pm

Office: Lundberg Hall RM 128F **Office Phone:** 753-2344

Email Address: tracyb@gwmail.gbcnv.edu **Cell Phone:** 934-5646

Format: Hybrid – Internet Assignments/Four Live Class Meetings
This is NOT a self-paced class

Student Learning Assessment:

Assessment Devise: Standard College grading scale will be used. The following items will be graded accordingly and will carry the assigned grading values:

A) Reading Assignments/Homework (10 pts each)	60 pts
B) Online and In-class Discussions (10 pts each)	50 pts
C) Position Paper	100 pts
D) In-class presentations (3 total – 50 pts each)	150 pts
E) Research Project	200 pts
F) Quizzes (10 pts each)*	0-60 pts*
G) Tests (2 tests @ 50 pts each)	<u>100 pts</u>
	660-720 pts

*Quizzes will only be given if the instructor feels students are not spending adequate time reading the assigned chapters and web links.

Passing grades for this course range from “A” through “D”. Grade values are as follows:
A 90-100% B 80-89% C 70-79% D 60-69% F 59% or less

Course Expectations and Academic Dishonesty

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and/or cheating will not be tolerated in any fashion. Students are expected to develop their own skills through the process of learning and critical thinking. Students should make themselves aware of the “Student Conduct Policy” on page 29 of the Great Basin College 2007-2008 general catalog. Students will not get outside help for taking exams. If a student does not cite a reference properly in an assignment, I will meet with the student the first time it happens and the student will correct the mistake(s) and hand the assignment back in. The second time works are not cited within the text the student will be given a zero on the assignment and will be reported to the Vice President of Student Services.

Attendance/Participation: Attendance of the live class meetings in essential for, not only each student’s success, but the success of the entire class. Students will be expected to be

engaged and participate in all class discussions (both online and in-class). The live classes will be arranged during dates and times that fit with each student's schedules.

Assignments: Course work is due on the day it is assigned. Webcampus will mark assignments as late if they are turned in late. Late assignments will not receive a grade, unless arranged ahead of time with the instructor. All assignments, including discussion posts and replies, are due on Sundays at midnight. It is advised that students log in at least once a week, as homework assignments will be due weekly. The course calendar will help alert you to when assignments are due and assessments are available. All attempts will be made to grade and return assignments within 1 week of the date they were due.

What you can expect from me: Since most of this class will be conducted online, many of you may wish to email me with questions rather than call during my regular office hours. During the week (Mon-Thurs), I will respond to your emails within 24 hours. During the weekend (Fri-Sun), I often travel for recruiting trips and may not be available to respond back to your questions by email in a timely manner. Please contact me on my cell phone when you have questions during this time.

Using Webcampus:

If you have never taken a class online or are unfamiliar with Webcampus, you may want to attend one of the student Webcampus workshops that will be held at the beginning of the semester.

If you are having problems with Webcampus, please contact the GBC helpdesk (not me). You can also get help in person at the locations listed below.

GBC Helpdesk

Website: <http://www.gbcnv.edu/~techdesk>

Phone: 775-753-2147, Monday-Friday 7am to 10pm, Saturday 8am- 5pm

For In person assistance: Elko: High Tech Center Open Lab, Monday-Friday 7am to 10pm, Saturday 8am to 5pm; Battle Mountain, Ely, Pahrump, & Winnemucca check center for times

Additional Considerations:

Prerequisite: Students must have completed enough credits to be in senior standing.

Required Textbooks: Farm Animal Welfare. 1995. Rollin. ISBN 08138-2563-6
Rationality and Ethics in Agriculture. 1995. Lehman. ISBN 0893011797

Great Basin College is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to qualified students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. A qualified student must furnish current verification of disability. The ADA Officer (Julie G. Byrnes) will assist qualified students with

disabilities in securing the appropriate and reasonable accommodations, auxiliary aids, and services. For more information or further assistance, please call 753-2271.

Writing Papers for this class:

The short position paper should be four to five double-spaced pages. The research paper should be no less than ten double-spaced, typed pages. All papers should deal with an important animal ethical issue. Students are requested to discuss the topic they have selected with the instructor prior to beginning the paper. Each paper is to be completed on a different topic.

Expected Learner Outcomes:	Learner Outcome Measurements:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form ideas, beliefs, and opinions regarding animal welfare and justify with supporting information 	Homework, Discussions, Research Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate and critique writings on animals in human culture and animal welfare 	Homework, Discussions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform written and verbal evaluation of one aspect of animals in human culture 	Research Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete research for (including proper citations of sources) on aspect of animals in human culture 	Research Project
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify uses of animals in a variety of cultures and situations 	Homework, Discussions, Tests

Course Catalog Description:
AGR 496
Agriculture Capstone

Advanced study in a specialized area of agriculture management. Interdisciplinary topics within an emphasis area will be selected by student and academic advisor. Students will also produce a comprehensive portfolio. Prerequisite: Senior level standing in the Bachelor’s of Applied Science in Agriculture Management emphasis area.

Course Schedule:

The class schedule is subject to change with prior notification by instructor

Date	Week	Subject	Readings/Assignments	
1-21-08	1	<i>Martin Luther King Holiday – No School</i> Review syllabus, course topics, course expectations, Syllabus quiz, learn Webcampus, post introduction	Syllabus	Quiz 1 Discussion
1-28-08	2	Introduction, read notes and associated links, turn in essay question responses <i>Instructor Gone 1-30 to 2-3</i>	Ch. 1 Rollin	Essay questions
2-4-08	3	Read notes, associated links, turn in essay questions, reading quiz Chapters 1 & 2	Ch. 2 Rollin	Essay questions Quiz 2
2-11-08	4	Read notes, associated links, complete discussion	Ch. 3 & 4 Lehman	Discussion
2-18-08	5	<i>President's Day Observed – No School</i> Read notes, associated links, turn in essay questions, reading quiz, chapters 3, 4, 12 (L)	Ch. 12 Lehman	Essay questions Quiz 3
2-25-08	6	Read notes, associated links, complete discussion Reading quiz, chapters 4 & 7 (R)	Ch. 4 & 7 Rollin	Discussion Quiz 4
3-3-08	7	Live class meeting for role playing exercise	Web links	Role- playing exercise
3-10-08	8	Mid-term		
3-17-08	9	Read notes, associated links, turn in essay questions Reading quiz, chapters 3 & 5(R)	Ch. 3 & 5 Rollin	Essay questions Quiz 5
3-24-08		<i>Spring Break – No School</i>		
3-31-08	10	Work on position paper and role playing exercise, Live class meeting for role playing exercise	Web links	Position Paper Due 4/6
4-7-08	11	Read notes, associated links, complete discussion	Ch. 11 Lehman	Discussion
4-14-08	12	Read notes, associated links, turn in essay questions	Web links	Essay questions Quiz 6
4-21-08	13	Read notes, associated links, turn in essay questions	Web links	Essay questions
4-28-08	14	Read notes, associated links, complete discussion	Web links	Discussion
5-5-08	15	Work on Research Paper and Presentation		Research Paper Due 5/11
5-12-08	16	Finals Week – Term Paper Presentation Due, Study for final exam		Final Exam Due 5/18

Live Class Meeting #1 (Date TBA) – Role playing exercise presenting position and negotiating agreement

Live Class Meeting #2 (Date TBA) – Role playing exercise presenting position and negotiating agreement (Turn in Position Paper)

Live Class Meeting #3 (Date TBA) – Present research on one aspect of animal ethics or use in human culture (From Research Paper)