# APBI 314 “Animals and Society” Syllabus

***Learning objectives***

* To become aware of the diverse use of animals in contemporary society in such areas as food production, companionship, recreation and science.
* To develop the ability to find, evaluate and use information about animals and society
* To develop awareness of social and ethical issues surrounding how people affect animals, and to develop the habit of thinking critically about these issues
* To develop an appreciation of the role of animals in human culture
* To understand the protection of animals afforded by society and the law, and its limitations

***Instructors***

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***Evaluation***

Evaluation depends strongly on written assignments and written take-home exams, all based on independent problem-solving that requires research of scientific, legal and other sources. None of the evaluation involves factual recall/memorization. This course depends greatly on “discussion-method learning”: students typically do a reading or exercise before class, and this becomes the basis of in-class discussion supplemented by some lecture material. Success depends strongly on regular attendance and active participation.

Assignment 1 5

Assignment 2 10

Assignment 3 10

Midterm exam (take-home) 30

Final exam (take-home) 30

Attendance 10

Participation (including oral presentation) 5

Bonus marks for field trips (maximum of 2) 2

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***Readings***

Readings will be available on Connect.

# Typical schedule (order and a few topics vary from year to year)

*Introduction, course outline*

*Animals in food production*

* Introduction to animal agriculture
* Pigs 1: Intensification and changes in pig production
* Pigs 2: Gestation housing
* Egg production as an intensive industry
* Beef as a two-phase industry with extensive and feedlot production
* Poultry
* Dairy
* Working animals
* Farm animal standards and humane labeling

*Animals & culture*

* Animal art and Romantic Movement
* Animals & culture 2: The role of science
* Animals & culture 3: Four world-views

*Companion animals and animal protection*

* Animal protection law 1
* Animal protection law 2
* The animal protection movement
* Companion animal issues and dog breeds

*Animals in Science*

* The 3Rs and governance of animal use in science
* Visit to Animal Care

*Wildlife*

* Wildlife rehab OR humane pest control
* Exotic pets
* Effects of human activities on wild animals
* Zoos

*Wrap-up*

* Feedback, course evaluation, and discussion of exam questions