

ANSC 4311
Senior Capstone
Spring 2017

Instructor:

Dr. Rebecca K. Splan

RAS 105

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Office hours: Please email to schedule appointment

Course Description: The course is designed to provide senior animal science students with an opportunity to reflect upon the animal science course of study and synthesize the material learned throughout their coursework and help prepare students to enter the workforce.

Course Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Create a professional resume.
- 2) Communicate effectively through a professional cover letter.
- 3) Effectively demonstrate interviewing skills.
- 4) Create a research prospectus.
- 5) Appropriately use social media for professional purposes.
- 6) Demonstrate effective research skills.
- 7) Synthesize information from the Animal Science curriculum.

Program Learning Outcomes, Department of Animal Science:

Student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

- 1) Apply basic skills of interpreting research data gathered in an agricultural context.
- 2) Apply critical thinking skills to mitigate potential challenges in diverse animal sciences and related agricultural industries.
- 3) Develop problem solving skills.
- 4) Communicate through written, spoken and graphical methods.

Required Materials:

Course readings will be assigned by the instructor.

Academic Integrity and Honesty: The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. For more information, please see SRSU guidelines on Student Conduct and Discipline, found in the Student Handbook: http://www.sulross.edu/sites/default/files//sites/default/files/users/docs/stulife/student_conduct_discipline.pdf

Accommodations: Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu

Absence and Late Assignment Policy:

It is expected that ALL assignments will be submitted on time. Points may be deducted for late work. Valid absences include 1) medical emergency (signed note from a medical doctor is required), 2) participation in a SRSU-sanctioned activity (a letter from the faculty advisor is required before the absence), or 3) other emergencies or conflicts that are allowed at Dr. Splan's discretion. Students are expected to make up missed work as quickly as possible.

Assessment and Grading:

Research Prospectus	50 pts
Research Paper	100 pts
Research Presentation	50 pts
Resume and Cover Letter	100 pts
Written Assignments (6 @ 50 pts)	300 pts
Mock Interview	50 pts
Attendance and Participation	50 pts
TOTAL	700 pts

Grading Scale:

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

Written Assignments: Several written assignments will be assigned throughout the course to supplement course material.

Tentative Lecture Schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Week 1	Lifelong learning
Week 2	Logical and fallacious arguments
Week 3	Career options and professional school
Week 4	Resume writing and searching for jobs
Week 5	Effective research and finding a problem worth solving
Week 6	Cover letters and interviews
Week 7	Insurance topics
Week 8	Financial and retirement planning
Week 9	SPRING BREAK
Week 10	Tax topics
Week 11	Leadership and networking
Week 12	Dealing with people
Week 13	TBD
Week 14	Student presentations
Week 15	Student presentations