



Department of Animal Sciences
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AN EQ 363 – Introduction to Wool and Fiber Evaluation

Instructor: Michelle Crites

Tuesdays, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm – ANSCI 131, ARDEC Metabolic Research Building

This course will serve as a survey of the American wool and fiber industry. We will discuss the methods and equipment used to evaluate wool, mohair, cashmere, and other natural fibers for production and sale in a commodities market. As a participant, you will learn to handle the wool fleeces and use quantitative evaluation techniques to assign it a value from both a producer's and processor's viewpoint.

The length of the academic portion of this class is 8 weeks, resulting in a 1-credit class. However, if you wish to participate on the CSU Wool Judging Team, you will have the option to continue to meet and practice for the duration of the 16-week semester.

8/22	Week 1	ANSCI 131	Introduction to the wool industry
8/29	Week 2	ANSCI 131	Fiber evaluation methods
9/5	Week 3	ANSCI 131	Scouring, carding, spinning – Quiz, paper assigned
9/12	Week 4	ANSCI 131	Introduction to giving oral reasons – Paper due
9/19	Week 5	ARDEC	Judging classes of fleeces
9/26	Week 6	ARDEC	Judging rails of fleeces
10/3	Week 7	ARDEC	Judging class of commercial fleeces to be used for final
10/10	Week 8	ANSCI 131	Final: oral reasons – 8-week course concludes
10/17	Week 9	ARDEC	Contest Practice
10/24	Week 10	ARDEC	Contest Practice
10/31	Week 11	ARDEC	Contest Practice
11/7	Week 12	ARDEC	Contest Practice
11/14	Week 13	ARDEC	Contest Practice
11/21			No class – Thanksgiving Break
11/28	Week 14	ARDEC	Contest Practice
12/5	Week 15	ARDEC	Contest Practice
12/12	Week 16	ARDEC	Optional Practice – Finals Week

There will be a field trip to Yocom-McColl Testing Labs in Denver during the second half of the semester. Date to be determined based on facility availability. Attendance on this trip is mandatory, at least two week's notice will be given before the date arrives. Transportation will be provided.

Traveling Contests:

National Western Stock Show, Denver, CO – Jan 9-11

- Transportation from CSU to the Adams County Fairgrounds
- Hotels will be provided by the Wool Team accounts
- Awards dinner will be provided by the Wool Team accounts, all other meals and expenses provided by participant
- Registration due December 11th – you must be confirmed and committed to participate by class on December 5th

San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo, San Antonio, TX – Feb 9-11

- Transportation from CSU to San Antonio will be provided from Wool Team accounts – Fundraising is expected from each participant
- Hotels will be provided by the Wool Team accounts
- All other meals and expenses provided by participant
- Registration due January 15th – you must be confirmed and committed to participate by the close of NWSS on January 11th.

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, San Angelo, TX – Mar 11-14

- Transportation from CSU-DIA provided by instructor, transportation to Houston (flight) provided by Wool Team accounts
- All other meals and expenses provided by participant
- Registration due February 5th – you must be confirmed and committed to participate by class on January 30th.