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## ANSC\*4010 - Animal Welfare Judging and Evaluation

### Fall 2023 Course Outline

**Section: 01**

**Credits: 0.50**

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## Land Acknowledgement: Guelph

The University of Guelph resides on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron people and the treaty lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We recognize the significance of the Dish with One Spoon Covenant to this land and offer respect to our Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Métis neighbours. Today, this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples and acknowledging them reminds us of our important connection to this land where we work and learn.

## Calendar Description

This course provides senior level students with a structured opportunity to practice assessing animal welfare using scientific evidence. Students learn to present their evaluations in a logical and persuasive manner. They learn general criteria and approaches used to assess welfare and then apply that knowledge for assessment of four different species in practical settings.

**Prerequisite(s):** 15.00 credits including ANSC\*3080, (ANSC\*1210 or ANSC\*2210)

**Co-requisite(s):** ANSC\*3090 or ANSC\*4090

**Department(s):** Department of Animal Biosciences

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## Course Description

In this course you will master the general principles of animal welfare assessment that can be applied to any species of animal in any situation. You will also do a "deep dive" into the literature on four species of animals in specific situations. Our field trips, tours, live assessment, oral reasons (exams) and guest speakers will focus on those four types of animals.

In the Fall of 2023 we will be focusing on assessing the welfare of the following animals/scenarios: Farmed Bison, Tortoises in a Zoo, Laboratory Rats and Cage-Free Laying Hens.

## Lecture Schedule

Wednesdays 5:30-8:20 pm 1715 Lifetime Learning Centre

**There is no final exam for this course.**

## Instructor Information

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Professor

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By appointment

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By appointment

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 Fall 2023 Office Hours:  
 By appointment

## Learning Resources

### Required Resources

Lectures, assigned readings, assignment instructions and rubrics for assignments are posted on the course website: Course link (Website) (<https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/>)

### Course Resources

Links to some animal care guidelines for farm, laboratory and zoo animals can be found on CourseLink.

For example, the generally accepted practices for the care and handling of animal agricultural animals in Canada are published in the form of species-specific **Codes of Practice**, available through the National Farm Animal Care Council (NFACC): <http://www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice>

Scientific research studies about animal welfare are published in **the journal Applied Animal Behaviour Science**: (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/applied-animal-behaviour-science>), and **the journal Animal Welfare** (<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/ufaw/aw>).

**Other sector-specific journals** also publish peer-reviewed articles relevant to animal care and welfare including, but not limited to, Journal of Animal Science, Journal of Dairy Science, and Journal of Poultry Science.

Students will be responsible for using search engines to find additional animal care guidelines as needed and for using scientific data bases to find specific peer-reviewed articles on the species of interest.

### Campus Resources

If you are concerned about any aspect of your academic program: Make an appointment with a Program Counsellor (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/uaic/programcounsellors/>) in your degree program. If you are struggling to succeed academically: There are numerous academic resources offered by the Learning Commons (<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/using-library/spaces/learning-commons/>) including, Supported Learning Groups for a variety of courses, workshops related to time management, taking multiple choice exams, and general study skills.

## Course Learning Outcomes

1. Increase the breadth and depth of your knowledge of animal welfare science
2. Develop skills needed to assess the welfare of a variety of different animals kept in a variety of different settings
3. Practice ethical reasoning
4. Practice working with others, as a team
5. Apply objective assessment of animal welfare on the basis of scientific theory and data
6. Exercise critical thinking
7. Master your oral communication skills
8. Practice writing reasons arising from your assessments, in a clear and concise manner

## Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Topic	Activities	Due:
9/4	No class this week		
9/11	Wednesday, Sep 13, Class 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the course; overview of activities, assessments, and requirements</li> <li>• What is animal welfare?</li> </ul>	Introduce Scenario	

9/18	Wednesday, Sep 20, Class 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definitions and conceptual frameworks of animal welfare</li> <li>• How do we measure animal welfare?</li> </ul>	Discuss Scenario	
9/25	Wednesday, Sep 27, Class 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz (in-class)</li> <li>• Developing an argument (oral reasons) that is logical and easy to follow, using language tailored to your audience</li> <li>• Intro to the rubric for oral reasons</li> </ul> <p>++ Saturday Sep 30 or Sunday Oct 1- Field Trip TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert speaker – cage-free laying hens</li> <li>• Practice scenario with an emphasis on organization and terminology</li> </ul>	Quiz - in class
10/2	Wednesday, Oct 4, Class 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The rubric for oral reasons (cont.)</li> <li>• Making sure your argument is relevant to animal welfare</li> <li>• How to back up your points using data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert guest speaker – farmed bison</li> <li>• Practice scenario with an emphasis on accuracy and use of references</li> <li>• Test Scenario 1 and test questions made available at the end of class</li> </ul>	
10/9	Wednesday, Oct 11, Class 5: TEST SCENARIO 1  ++ Saturday Oct 14 or Sunday October 15 TBD Field Trip	ORAL REASONS FOR TEST SCENARIO 1 (Presented individually to instructors in class)	ANSWERS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS for TEST SCENARIO 1 (due Friday October 13 by 5:30 pm in Dropbox)
10/16	Wednesday, Oct 18, Class 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refining your reasons using a balance of information</li> <li>• Identifying and acknowledging the "good points" and "bad points" in every scenario</li> </ul> <p>++ Alternate weekend for field trip - Saturday Sept 21 or Sunday Sep 22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice scenario with an emphasis on grants and presentation style</li> </ul> Work in (presentation) groups time permitting	
10/23	Wednesday, Oct 25, Class 7 GROUP PRESENTATIONS  ++ Tours to Arkell Cage-free housing TBD this week	Group presentations: welfare issues and indicators for individual species or settings presented to the whole class (zoo tortoises, farmed bison, laboratory rats, cage-free laying hens)	PPT SLIDES FOR GROUP PRESENTATION due Wednesday Oct 25 by 12:00 pm noon in Dropbox)
10/30	Wednesday, Nov 1, Class 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's all in the timing - preparation and delivery under pressure</li> </ul> <p>++ Live assessment to Central Animal Facility will be scheduled for this week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practice scenarios using timed exercises and with an emphasis on presentation timing</li> </ul>	Scheduled times for Live Assessment Teams Thursday November 2 or Friday November 3
11/6	Wednesday, Nov 8, Class 9: TEAM PRESENTATIONS	LIVE ASSESSMENT PRESENTATIONS (Presented by teams to instructors only in class)	
11/13	Wednesday, Nov 16, Class 10: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animal welfare audits and assessments for assurance and certification</li> <li>• Careers in animal welfare assessment</li> </ul>	Guest speaker: Penny Lawlis, MSc Professional Livestock Auditing, Inc Practice scenarios using timed exercise Review of instructions for Test Scenario #2	
11/20	Wednesday, Nov 22, Class 11: TEST SCENARIO 2	ORAL REASONS FOR TEST SCENARIO 2 (Presented individually to instructors in class)  Test scenario 2 will be made available to students on Tuesday Nov 21 at 5:30 pm	

11/27	Wednesday, Nov 29, Class 12:  • Course wrap-up	• Experiential learning self-reflection exercise IN CLASS	ANSWERS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS for TEST SCENARIO 2 (due Wednesday Nov 29 by 5:30 pm on Dropbox)
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## Teaching and Learning Activities

### Field Trips, Tours and Live Assessment

#### Toronto Zoo -view and meet the tortoises and their keepers

Date and Time: tentative - Weekend of Sept 30/Oct 1

#### Bison Farm - view and meet the bison and the farmer who cares for them

Date: Weekend of Oct 14/15 or Oct 21/22

#### Arkell Poultry Research Station - tour the cage-free aviaries and see how birds are scored for welfare assessments

During the week of October 25 - small groups will be scheduled to tour on weekdays

#### Central Animal Facility, University of Guelph-- Laboratory Rat Live Assessment. Individual teams will be scheduled to visit at specific times

Tentative Dates: November 2nd and 3rd. Students will present their findings during class period on November 8

**For off campus field trips (Zoo and Bison Farm), there will be a \$10 bus fee per field trip per student as per Department of Animal Biosciences policy. Students will also be asked to complete and hand in a Field Trip Safety Waiver Form as per University of Guelph policy.**

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/hr-services/environmental-health-safety-ehs/ehs-policies/campus-activities-research-and-field-trips> (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/hr-services/environmental-health-safety-ehs/ehs-policies/campus-activities-research-and-field-trips/>)

## Assessment Breakdown

Description	Weighting (%)	Due Date
<b>Quiz</b> - material from Class 1 and 2 and assigned reading Multiple choice, True/False, Short answer	5%	Wed, Sep 27, IN CLASS On CourseLink
<b>Test Scenario 1 - oral reasons</b> A 3-minute spoken presentation by each individual student to the course instructors providing reasons for their assessment of a scenario provided to them one week in advance, and assessed on their own, outside of class. Further details about the assignment will be provided in class.	10%	Wed, Oct 11, IN CLASS
<b>Test Scenario 1- written questions</b> A set of short essay questions based on evaluation of Test Scenario 1. Further details about the assignment will be provided in class.	10%	Friday, Oct 13 5:30 pm in Dropbox
<b>Group presentation</b> - Key welfare issues of focus species (group mark) A 30-minute (maximum) spoken group presentation given to the whole class based on the key welfare issues and related science and standards of the focus species (1 species/ group). All group members must present and use slides to improve the effectiveness of the presentation. Further details about the assignment will be provided in class.	20%	PPT slides due noon Oct 25. Presentation in class

<b>Team assessment of live animals and facilities</b> A 10-minute (maximum) spoken group presentation given to the instructors based on a live animal and facility assessment completed during the week prior to the due date. Further details about the assignment will be provided in class.	20%	Wed, Nov 8 IN CLASS
<b>Test Scenario 2 - oral reasons</b> A 3-minute spoken presentation by each individual student to the course instructors providing reasons for their assessment of a scenario provided to them 24 hours in advance and assessed on their own, outside of class. Further details about the assignment will be provided in class.	15%	Wed, Nov 22 IN CLASS
<b>Test Scenario 2 - written questions</b> A set of short essay questions based on evaluation of Test Scenario 2. Further details about the assignment will be provided in class.	15%	Wed, Nov 29, 5:30 pm in Dropbox
<b>Experiential learning exercise</b> Self-assessment - Students must attend class to complete this.	5%	Wed, Nov 29, IN CLASS

## Last Day to Drop Course

The deadline to drop Fall 2023 courses without academic penalty is the last day of classes: December 01

After this deadline, a mark will be recorded, whether course work is completed or not (a zero is assigned for missed tests/assignments). This mark will show on the student's transcript and will be calculated into their average.

## Course Grading Policies

### Grading Policies

All oral presentations will be graded by at least two evaluators. Oral presentations will be video-recorded for grading purposes and can be reviewed by the students who presented them for self-assessment. Video recordings of student presentations will not be made available to the class or public without permission.

### Submission of Assignments and Late Assignments

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructors in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact in advance of the due date.

The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

## Course Standard Statements

### Course Policy on Group Work

Groups/Teams of 3, 4 or 5 students will present 1) a group presentation on a focus group and 2) a set of oral reasons for the Live Assessment. Every student in a group/team must contribute to providing content for the presentation. All students must take turns speaking during the presentations, but not necessarily an equal amount.

All students in a group/team will receive the same grade for their presentation.

## Standard Statements for Undergraduate Courses

### Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-misconduct/>) is outlined in the Undergraduate Calendar.

### Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability. Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 10 days in advance, and no later than the first business day in November, March or July as appropriate for the semester. Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time. For students at the Guelph campus, information can be found on the SAS website. (<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas/>)

### Accommodation of Religious Obligations

If you are unable to meet an in-course requirement due to religious obligations, please email the course instructor within two weeks of the start of the semester to make alternate arrangements.

See the Academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Accommodations of Religious Obligations (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-accommodation-religious-obligations/>).

### Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

### Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all undergraduate students except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in the Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/dropping-courses/>).

### Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly. e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

### Health and Wellbeing

The University of Guelph provides a wide range of health and wellbeing services at the Vaccarino Centre for Student Wellness (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/>). If you are concerned about your mental health and not sure where to start, connect with a Student Wellness Navigator (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/navigation/>) who can help develop a plan to manage and support your mental health or check out our mental wellbeing resources (<https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/shine-this-year/>). The Student Wellness team are here to help and welcome the opportunity to connect with you.

**Illness**

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

**Recording of Materials**

Presentations that are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

**Resources**

The Academic Calendars (<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/?index>) are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.

**When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement**

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Undergraduate Calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration. (<https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/academic-consideration-appeals-petitions/>)