AGSC 354: Bovine Reproduction Practicum

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Course Description
A hands-on study of the practical aspects of reproduction in cattle. Students will apply their knowledge of reproductive anatomy and physiology in hands-on field and laboratory exercises.

Course Objectives
The objective of this course is to familiarize students with a broad view of reproductive physiology and anatomy of cows and bulls, as well as the technical aspects of cattle breeding and artificial insemination

Course Methods
This is a hands-on field laboratory consisting of 3 two-hour labs per week.

Course Prerequisites
AGSC 352, Animal Reproduction.

Course Text
Mitchell, J.R., G.A. Doak, and J.A. Smith. 2004. *The Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer of Dairy and Beef Cattle.* Prentice Hall.

Course Outline
Students will learn about:

The Cow	reproductive anatomy
	endocrinology and the estrous cycle
	pregnancy events/palpation
	increasing ovulation rate and embryo harvest
	parturition and obstetrics
	lactation and rebreeding concerns
The Bull	reproductive anatomy and physiology
	principles of semen collection and artificial insemination
The Calf	factors affecting dystocia
	orphan management

Calving
To the extent that is possible, each student is expected to observe the cow herd for signs of parturition onset and participate in normal and assisted parturition practices.

Breeding
Students will be guided through attempts to artificially inseminate selected cows post-partum.

Basis of Student Evaluation
Grades will be distributed as follows:

— Written quizzes (2) ____ 25% of grade
— Final exam ____ 25% of grade
— Laboratory ____ 50% of grade

On a 90 A; 80 B; 70 C; 60 D; 50 F scale

Students are expected to be in attendance at each class meeting with additional out-of-class time for the observation of parturition with the University beef cattle herd out at the University farm.

Students are expected to observe the honor code in all work attempted for the class.