ANSC 481: SEMINAR  
FALL SYLLABUS 2015  
Section 904, T 9:35-10:50  
KLCT 123  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructor: Tryon Wickersham</th>
<th>Phone: 979-862-7088</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office: 230 Kleberg</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:tryon@tamu.edu">tryon@tamu.edu</a></td>
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<td>Hours: By Appointment</td>
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES**

481. Seminar. (1-0). Credit 1, I, II, S. Review of literature and research problems related to the livestock and food industries; preparation of a technical report including an oral presentation supported by a written technical paper. Prerequisite: Priority enrollment given to graduating seniors in Animal Science.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES AND COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Seminar is designed to assist senior students in preparing for their career. Students taking this course should have had public speaking, technical writing and a sound foundation of Animal Science courses. Seminar allows students the opportunity to put all of this information together. Students will gain experience in preparing a technical report including an oral presentation supported by a written technical paper. Students will not only learn from the experience gained in preparing and presenting their seminar, but will have the opportunity to observe and participate in the seminar given by their classmates.

Each student enrolled will present a 10-to-20 minute seminar based on results of at least ten technical articles that they have reviewed and discussed in their technical paper.

Choice of topics and manner of presentation, oral and written, are evidence of your training in Animal Science, ability to follow instructions and standards of performance. Pick a topic that you have an interest in, not a topic that you think will be popular with the class or the professor.

**TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIALS**

No textbook required. Reference materials include the Journal of Animal Science Instructions to Authors.
Grading

Your grade will depend upon your oral presentation, use of visual aids, responses to questions, your typed written technical paper, and how well you followed instructions. Regular attendance and courteous attention are also expected. Classroom participation will be considered in borderline cases. Your grade in the course will be based upon the following:

90 to 100 = A  80 to 89 = B  70 to 79 = C  60 to 69 = D  <60 = F

The following will result in a one (1) letter grade reduction in your final course grade:

1) Failure to turn in your technical paper on time.
2) Failure to follow guidelines for written paper.
3) A change in your seminar schedule without an official excused absence.
4) For each absence other than Official University Excused Absences.

Part of your oral seminar grade is based upon your ability to adhere to the time requirements of at least 10 minutes and no more than 20 minutes.

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<tr>
<th>Minutes</th>
<th>Grade Reduction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;10 &lt;20</td>
<td>-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;10 &gt;20</td>
<td>-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt;09 &gt;21</td>
<td>-2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-3</td>
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A seminar evaluation form will be completed by all students and the professor on each seminar presentation. A copy of this evaluation form is in the appendix.

Presentation:
Professor’s evaluation of oral seminar  10%
Student evaluation (classroom average)*  10%

Paper:
Topic Selection  5%
Written technical report peer evaluation  10%
Rough Draft II  15%
Professor’s evaluation of final paper  50%
100%

*Students will be advised to score the seminar as follows:
90 to 100 Professional presentation, exceeded what you thought was required in the course.
80 to 89 Adequate presentation, completed the basic requirements
70 to 79 Inadequate presentation, did not meet the basic seminar requirements.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Session</th>
<th>Class Function</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction/Pictures/Course Requirements (Seminar topic due prior to start of 2nd class period)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><strong>Topic Due &amp; Signup for a Date</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Discuss paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Discuss paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Discuss presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Discuss paper</td>
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<td>10/15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Seminar Presentations (3) Rough Draft I Due</td>
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<td>10/22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Seminar Presentations (3) Peer Reviews</td>
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<td>10/29</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Seminar Presentations (3) Rough Draft II Due</td>
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<td>11/5</td>
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<td>11/12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Seminar Presentations (3)</td>
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<td><strong>11/19</strong></td>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td>Seminar Presentations (3)</td>
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<td>11/26</td>
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<td>Thanksgiving</td>
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<td><strong>12/3</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>Exit Interviews</strong></td>
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COURSE EVALUATION

You will be asked to evaluate this course during the last class period.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) POLICY STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit http://disability.tamu.edu

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT AND POLICY

An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do. More information can be found at www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/
TECHNICAL PAPER, SEMINAR PREPARATION, AND PRESENTATION
INSTRUCTIONS

PROCEDURE FOR PREPARING THE TECHNICAL PAPER, SEMINAR PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION

1. General Information
   A. Seminar topics are to be selected by you and submitted in writing and approved by your professor prior to the second class period. It is suggested that you select a topic of major interest to you because you will learn more, enjoy it more and you will be more effective in your presentation.
   B. You may access the journal at: jas.fass.org/. This website also allows you to search the Journal based on author name and key words (each article has key words after the abstract that relate to its content).
   C. A schedule of speakers and seminar topics for the semester will be given to you the 4th class period.
   D. Seminar topics or the scheduling time of the seminar cannot be changed without prior consent of the professor. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a (1) letter grade reduction in your final course grade.
   E. Seminar must consist of a 10-to-20 minute presentation.
   F. Seminars will be timed and a part of the grade will depend upon your presentation meeting the time requirements.
   G. Seminars will be video recorded for critique purposes.
   H. Only one (1) 3" X 5" card will be permitted for reference while presenting the seminar.
   I. Dress professionally - coat and tie; dress/pantsuit; no jeans; look and act professional.
   J. You have one (1) week after your seminar presentation to review the video of your presentation and set up an appointment to meet with your professor. During this individual conference the professor will share your overall grade for the seminar, discuss both the students’ and the professor’s comments regarding your seminar and the professor’s evaluation of the technical paper.

2. Preparation of Technical Paper
   A. You should select your technical references and prepare your technical paper before concerning yourself about your seminar. The technical paper should be the basis for selecting your visual aids for your seminar.
   B. The first rough draft of your paper is due at our 6th meeting and you will need to bring three copies to class, one for you and two for your peer group. At our 7th meeting, you will bring your corrected copies to your peer group members. At our 8th meeting rough draft II will be given to me. Papers will be returned to you by our 11th meeting and your final copies. Absolutely no exceptions will be made for any due dates late papers or papers not in final form.
C. Your technical paper must consist of a minimum of 3,750 words typed (font size of 12) exclusive of Title page, Literature Cited section and Table or Figure pages. Your paper must include a minimum of ten (10) technical articles that have been reviewed and cited in your paper. A high quality paper will contain between 15-to-25 scientific references cited in your paper and consist of 15-to-25 pages of text (Introduction, Results and Discussion and Conclusions).

D. Take advantage of the Writing Center, located in Evans Library or visit their website at: uwc.tamu.edu (phone: 458-1455) in preparing your paper. The Writing Center is a free resource for students in need of consultation at any stage of the writing process. Their services range from one-on-one tutorial sessions to computer based intervention and writing development programs.

E. Technical articles for your paper should come from the Journal of Animal Science or similar peer-reviewed publications. You have access to the ASAS website and full text articles of the JAS free of charge. The TAMU library (http://library.tamu.edu/) also has access to search engines/databases that allow you to electronically search for articles in a large number of scientific journals at once. Once at the library homepage select the “Database” tab. If you need help ask the librarians. Cited references from refereed publications or other scientific sources are preferred. References from non-refereed publications, magazines, websites, etc., should be avoided and do not count toward the ten (10) minimum references. The number of citations from non-refereed publications should be minimized by careful scrutiny; select only the most pertinent ones for your technical paper.

F. The technical paper must be written to follow the Style and Form of the Journal of Animal Science. A copy can be printed from jas.fass.org. The Style and Form contains examples of how to cite references in the text, and how to write the references in the Literature Cited (pages 9 and 10). Using a current article from the Journal of Animal Science as an example is another way to make it easier to understand the Style and Form. (Print a copy from JAS website and bring to the 2nd class period). The main points of Style and Form are summarized below.

ORAL SEMINAR PRESENTATION

1. Procedure and Organization
The procedures and organization for making your oral presentation are as follows:
   A. Introduction
   B. Objectives
   C. Discussion
   D. Conclusion or Implications
2. **Preparation of Visuals**
   
   A. **You are required to use slides in your presentation.**
   
   B. You are required to use the following **four types of slides** in your presentation:
      1) **Introduction slide** - first slide should list the title of your presentation, your name, course and date.
      2) **Objective slide** - your slide should address the specific question, issue you are discussing.
      3) **Data slides** - use to support your discussion, make a specific point, slides should have a freestanding title, list the data, and list reference at the bottom of the slide.
      4) **Conclusion slide** - the last slide should consist of a brief statement of the facts.
   
   C. Other slides (transition slides) are optional, but can be used to enhance your presentation.
   
   D. Your visuals can come from two sources: make them yourself or borrow them. Poster boards, models or overlays are not permitted.
   
   E. Make sure you have not put a timer or unnecessary transitions on your visuals unless you really want them there.

   **Practice Session:**
   
   The Monday and Wednesday before each class there will be a practice session at 5:30 P.M. Students will have the opportunity to become familiar with the PowerPoint presentation procedures.

### GENERAL INFORMATION AND TIPS AND HINTS ON SEMINAR PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION

1. Seminar is expected to be an enjoyable, learning experience, not a boring or frightening chore.
2. Be considerate of the speaker by prompt attendance (be seated before time for class to begin) and participate as professional by asking questions.
3. Rehearsing for presentation:
   A. Requires many, many rehearsals. Use visuals and speak aloud. Speaking in front of a mirror or a friend is very effective.
   B. Read your seminar aloud. Timing is very important.
APPENDIX

SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL WRITTEN PAPER FORMAT

The first page of your paper will be your title page. Format as follows:

Title of Paper
Student’s Name
Animal Science 481
(Month) (Year)

Your paper will consist of the four main headings:

INTRODUCTION

This section should define the problem and the importance of this topic. A paragraph, not exceeding 2,000 keystrokes, should adequately cover the introduction.

DISCUSSION

This section should utilize your literature references relative to the research conducted on the topic. Explain what was done, methods used, results obtained and conclusions reached. Sufficient data should be presented to allow the reader to interpret the results. When different approaches and experiments are discussed combine their results in your discussion statements. This should be the principle portion of your technical paper.

CONCLUSION

This section should summarize your paper. A paragraph, not exceeding 2,000 keystrokes should adequately cover your conclusions. This portion of your paper should consist of a summary of experimental results establishing the science (facts) and the implications of this information.

LITERATURE CITED

This section is to begin at the top of a separate page and must include a minimum of ten (10) technical articles that have been reviewed and cited in your paper. Citations should conform to the style of the Journal of Animal Science indicated in the 2013 revision.

Tables and/or Figures are to be inserted after the Literature Cited section. They are to be numbered consecutively in Arabic numbers, each Table or Figure is typed on a separate page.

NOTE: Your typed (font size of 12), should be stapled, but not bound, covering your Introduction, Results and Discussion and Conclusion must consist of a minimum of 3,750 words, double spaced. A minimum of ten (10) cited references is required. Your grade will be based 50% on content and 50% on proper paper requirements.
Animal Science 481  
Seminar Evaluation

Name: 
Section No: 

SPEAKER: ________________________________________________

TOPIC: ________________________________________________

DATE: ________________________________________________

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Personal confidence, appearance and poise</td>
<td>(10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Voice, eye contact and presentation without distracting mannerisms</td>
<td>(10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Organization and presentation of topic</td>
<td>(20)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Knowledge of topic and evidence of preparation for presentation</td>
<td>(25)</td>
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<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>Use of visuals to support presentation and quality of visuals</td>
<td>(15)</td>
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<td>VI</td>
<td>Awareness of time and length of seminar</td>
<td>(10)</td>
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<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Response to questions</td>
<td>(10)</td>
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TOTAL (100)__________

Suggestions for Improvement/Seminar Evaluation Comments: