ANS 4932 – Virtual Dairy Challenge (class# XXXXX)

September 15-October 22, virtual only, 1 credit
Meeting times will be decided among students, lecturers, and mentor

Course Description

Students in this course will participate in the NAIDC 15th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge Contest, which this year will be held virtually from September 21 – October 23, 2020. The NAIDC (http://www.dairychallenge.org) organizes contests where students from various universities who study dairy science, learn to evaluate dairy farms and provide recommendations to help reach the farm's goals. All areas of the farm are evaluated: nutrition, reproduction, genetics, welfare, milk yield and quality, management practices, records, sustainability, human resources and economics. Usually, teams of students meet physically around a host farm, visit the farm, work through records, and provide presentations with recommendations to a set of judges. These events are educational, fun, and offer great networking opportunities with students from other schools and the allied dairy industry. UF students have participated in these events since 2003.

This fall semester, due to the coronavirus outbreak, the 2020 Southern Regional will be offered virtually. The event will begin with instructions and data distribution on Tuesday, September 22 and end with the uploading of pre-recorded team presentations and judge Q&A, the week of October 23. Weekly educational programming and team mentor meetings will be offered in between. Mentors will be recruited from the allied industry. In addition, your instructors will provide some training and offer guidance. Students in this course will participate either as a team of UF students, and/or in a team with students from other participating schools.

Prerequisite

ANS 3251 Biology and Management of Dairy Cattle or instructor permission. Some experience with dairy science is necessary. Contact Dr. Albert De Vries, devries@ufl.edu, if you have questions.

http://www.dairychallenge.org/so_event.php (Rules and Regulations): "*Each participant in these North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge events must be a student in a North American educational institution that offers classes that have emphasis in dairy production. Participants must be enrolled in a program of study to meet the requirements for a bachelor's degree or be enrolled in a dairy/animal degree or certificate granting program and have completed one year or equivalent of course work. Students, with or without a bachelor's degree, enrolled in graduate or professional studies programs are not eligible. A student is ineligible to participate if he/she has (1) competed in the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge National Contest, or (2) been an employee or paid consultant of any agricultural organization or service for which his/her duties included on-farm dairy consulting (excluding internships). A contestant may only participate/compete in two regional contests, two Dairy Challenge Academies, and one National Dairy Challenge contest. The final participant eligibility decision rests with NAIDC.*"

Course Goals

Students in this course work in a team to evaluate a dairy farm and offer recommendations for improvement. The course offers a capstone experience, integrating all aspects of dairy farming.

Instructors

Dr. Albert De Vries, https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/people/albert-de-vries/ . Email only through e-Learning once the course has started.

Dr. Izabella Toledo, https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/dairy/dairy-extension-faculty/ . Email only through e-Learning once the course has started.

Class Attendance

Requirements for class attendance are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx.

The course is all virtual delivery, some asynchronous and some synchronous. Group meeting times are be decided among students, instructors, and mentor. Presence at synchronous meetings is required.

Course Website and Communication

The course website is through http://elearning.ufl.edu. We will use the website to post materials and make announcements. Use e-Learning to email the instructors so we have a record of the communication.

Text and Material Covered

Weekly webinars by the NAIDC, meetings with the mentor and lecturers on all aspects of dairy farm evaluation.

Grading

- 50% Class participation
- 25% Dairy Challenge presentation
- 25% Written exam

Grading scale:

Grade	Score		Grade	Score	
A	≥93%		C	≥73%	<77%
A-	≥90%	<93%	C-	≥70%	<73%
B+	≥87%	<90%	D+	≥67%	<70%
B	≥83%	<87%	D	≥63%	<67%
B-	≥80%	<83%	D-	≥60%	<63%
C+	≥77%	<80%	E	<60%	

Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see
https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/

Attendance and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/

COVID Response Statements

> Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

Online Course Evaluation Process

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/ . Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/ . Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code .

Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu
    - Counseling Services, Groups and Workshops, Outreach and Consultation, Self-Help Library, Wellness Coaching.
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu
- Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 352-392-1601, http://career.ufl.edu
- Student Success Initiative, http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu
- Residential Course: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/
- Online Course: http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process

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Most of the meetings with NAIDC are asynchronous. Some meetings are synchronous.

	Week	Week of	Day	Topic	Instructor
	1	9/15		Introduction (Zoom)	De Vries, Toledo
	2	9/22		Contest instructions (Zoom)	NAIDC
				Data distribution (Zoom)	NAIDC
				Key financial indicators (webinar)	NAIDC
				When the boots hit the ground (webinar)	NAIDC
	3	9/29		Records and Finance (webinar)	NAIDC
				Mentor meeting (Zoom)	Mentor
				Q&A meeting (Zoom)	De Vries, Toledo
				Students work on analysis and presentation	
	4	10/6		Reproduction (webinar)	NAIDC
				Nutrition & Feed Management (webinar)	NAIDC
				Mentor meeting (Zoom)	Mentor
				Interview with farm manager (Zoom)	NAIDC
				Q&A meeting (Zoom)	De Vries, Toledo
				Students work on analysis and presentation	
	5	10/13		Milking & udder health (webinar)	NAIDC
				How to use a partial budget (webinar)	NAIDC
				Mentor meeting (Zoom)	Mentor
				Q&A meeting (Zoom)	De Vries, Toledo
				Students work on analysis and presentation	
	6	10/22		Team presentation (pre-recorded)	NAIDC
			Th	Q&A with judges (Zoom)	NAIDC
			Th	Debriefing, meeting with sponsors (Zoom)	NAIDC
			Th	Judges presentation, recognition & awards (Zoom)	NAIDC
	7	TBA		Review (Zoom)	De Vries, Toledo
		TBA		Written exam	De Vries, Toledo