

Course Outline Form: Summer 2018

General Information

Course Code: ANSC*6740

Course Title: Special Topics in Applied Animal Welfare Science – Dairy Cattle Welfare

Course Description:

This graduate course explores in depth the scientific evaluation and improvement of dairy cattle welfare. Course content will include an overview of the scientific literature as it pertains to the primary threats to the welfare of dairy cattle. Practical solutions related to the improvement of the welfare of these animals will also be assessed. Students will have a chance to critically analyse the current scientific literature as it pertains to the welfare of dairy cattle, and use their knowledge to propose new science to address these issues and improve dairy cattle welfare.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): Department of Animal Biosciences

Campus: Guelph

Semester Offering: Summer 2018

Class Schedule and Location:

- 1 - Wednesday, May 2nd, 9am, ANNU 101
- 2 - Thursday, May 3rd, 9am, ANNU 101
- 3 - Friday, May 4th, 9am, ANNU 101
- 4 - Monday, May 7th, 9am, Elora Dairy Research Centre
- 5 - Tuesday, May 8th, 9am, ANNU 101

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Trevor DeVries

Instructor Email: tdevries@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: ANNU 237. Instructors for this course have no office hours.

Contact the instructor through email to set up an appointment.

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

This course should give students a thorough understanding of dairy cattle welfare sciences. The general aims of the course are to:

1. introduce students to dairy cattle welfare science
2. identify the animal welfare issues associated with dairy cattle production systems
3. critique science-based measures used to evaluate those issues identified
4. identify scientifically-based, practical solutions to those issues
5. critically evaluate the scientific literature and identify new areas of research

Course Delivery and Evaluation:

The course will be delivered in an intensive format over a period of 5 days at the University of Guelph. During this time period, contact time will include lectures, discussion, and student presentations. At the end of this intensive class period, students will write a 'concise' literature review on a specific topic related to dairy cattle welfare. This review will be due, and presented to the class, ~8-10 weeks later. Students will be evaluated on class assignments (35%), participation in general discussion (35%), and short literature review (on a specific topic related to welfare of the species; 15%) and presentation of that literature review to the class (15%).