SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

COURSE NUMBER: AGR 325  CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. **TITLE:**
Small Animal Science

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
A study of the history and importance of the small and exotic animal industry, breeds, selection, and management are all topics which will be covered.
Prerequisite: AGR 310 – Applications in Animal Technology

III. **PURPOSE:**
The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to witness the broad scope of the small animal industry.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
To provide students with information so that it can be used in a practical clinical situation. To teach students selection and management practices of how small animals relate to achieve a successful enterprise.

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**
A. Background
   i. History
   ii. Breeds / strains / types
   iii. Behavior
   iv. Special Anatomical Features
B. Husbandry
   i. Housing
   ii. Nutritional Requirements
   iii. Reproduction
   iv. Sanitation
   v. Transportation
C. Clinical Procedures and Information
   i. Restraint
   ii. Physical Examination
   iii. Physiological information
   iv. Diagnostic techniques / sampling
   v. Surgical information
   vi. Common Diseases / Zoonosis / Human Health Hazards
D. Species to be covered:
Amphibians        Canine
Avian             Chelonians
Chinchilla        Guinea Pig        Ornamental Fish
Crocodillians     Hamster          Rabbit
Degu              Hedgehog          Rat
Feline            Invertebrates     Snakes
Ferret            Lizards           Sugar Glider
Gerbil            Mouse

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:
Instructional activities may consist of the following:
A. Lectures
B. Videos
C. Field trips
D. Guest speakers
E. PowerPoints
F. Class projects
G. Hand’s on with animals when possible

VII. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:
The information presented in this class is essential for the student to have basic understanding for clinical success.

VIII. RESOURCES:
A. Blackboard
B. Internet websites
C. AALAS publications
D. Textbook

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:
Grades will be based upon the cumulative scores of quizzes, examinations, outside assignments, papers, participation, and a final. Late assignments will not be accepted and will receive a zero.
Grading Scale:
90 – 100 = A
80 – 89  = B
70 – 79  = C
60 – 69  = D
Below 60  = E
The final grade is calculated by taking the total number of points possible divided by the number earned.

X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Roll will be taken at the beginning of class to check attendance. Only students providing written proof of an excused absence will not be penalized for
**missing quizzes or participation points.** Students with an excused absence will have one week to make up any exam missed, otherwise a zero will be given for the missed exam. Unexcused absentees will not be allowed to make up any material, including examinations. Tardy students will not be able to make up any daily quizzes.

Please refer to the current copy of the Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin.

**XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:**
Any act of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course and will result in a zero for the assignment or test in question. A letter regarding the incident will also be sent to the head of the department and the dean to be included in the student’s permanent record.

(Adopted by the MSU Board of Regents)
Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person’s material as one’s own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation on unacknowledged material as if it were the student’s own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

**XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:**

**XIII. PREREQUISITES:**
AGR 310 – Applications in Animal Technology
XIV. **STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:**

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

XV. **MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY**

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students.

It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.

*Instructor’s Note: Only simple, non-graphing calculators will be allowed for exam purposes. No cell phones, laptops, or graphing calculators will be allowed during an exam.*