

# Syllabus

## Course Information

Course Number: ANSC 307 Honors  
Course Title: Meats  
Sections: 201, 203, 207  
Time: Lecture: 9:20 to 10:10 am, MW  
Laboratories  
201: M 1:35 pm to 4:25 pm  
203: T 12:40 pm to 3:30 pm  
207: F 8:00 am to 10:40 am  
Location: Lecture: online; Laboratories: MSTC 100 (Rosenthal Meat and  
Technology Center)  
Credit Hours: 3 (2 lecture hours; 3 lab hours)  
Semester: 2021A

## Instructor Details

### *Instructor*

Name: Jeffrey W. Savell  
Office: Room 348B Kleberg Center  
Phone: Work: (979) 845-3992; Mobile: (979) 255-6676  
E-Mail: j-savell@tamu.edu  
Office Hours: Contact through email or text

### *Graduate student lecture assistants*

Name: Tori Teegarden  
E-Mail: vteegard@tamu.edu  
Phone: (303) 929-1691

Name: Stayci Seaquist  
E-Mail: ses200@tamu.edu  
Phone: (512) 810-0153

## Graduate student laboratory instructors

### Section 201 – Monday, 1:30 pm to 4:20 pm

Lab instructor:	Shelley Curry	Lilly Kochevar
E-Mail:	shelley2017@tamu.edu	lkochevar@tamu.edu

### Section 203 – Tuesday, 12:40 pm to 3:30 pm

Lab instructor:	Trent Schwartz	Lilly Kochevar
E-mail:	tschwartz2@tamu.edu	lkochevar@tamu.edu

### Section 207 – Friday, 8:00 am to 10:50 am

Lab instructor:	Tori Teegarden	Paige Williams
E-Mail:	vteegard@tamu.edu	paige.williams@tamu.edu

## Course Description

Integrated studies of the meat animal processing sequence regarding the production of meat-type animals and the science and technology of their conversion to human food.

## Course Prerequisites

Grade of C or better in [ANSC 111](#) and [ANSC 113](#); junior classification or approval of instructor.

## Special Course Designation

Cross-listed with NFSC 307

## Course Learning Outcomes

- The student will understand the complexities involved in the conversion of live animals into food and by-products.
- The student will be able to determine yield and quality grades of beef, pork, and lamb.
- The student will know the basic anatomy and wholesale cuts of each species.
- The student will understand the broad factors affecting meat tenderness, meat color, meat processing, and diet/health.

## Textbook and/or Resource Materials

### *Laboratory Manual*

Savell, J.W. and G.C. Smith. 2021. Meat Science Laboratory Manual (9<sup>th</sup> Edition), American Press, Boston, Massachusetts

### *Textbook*

Aberle, E.D., Forrest, J.C., Gerrard, D.E., and Mills, E.W. 2012. "Principles of Meat Science (5th Edition)." Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, Dubuque, Iowa.

Set of knives available from the Meat Judging Team (for those participating in the hands-on laboratory). Details about how to obtain these knives will be given during the first week of labs.

## Grading Policy

### *Optional final*

The final examination will be optional for those students who do not have unauthorized absences in lecture or lab (for both online and face-to-face attendance). Exempt students will be allowed to take the final to attempt to improve their grade, but the test score will be included in the overall grade calculation.

### *Examinations*

The exams will consist of a 25-point take-home portion that will involve lecture material, given out the Wednesday before the exam, and a 75-point in-class portion that will involve lecture and lab material. The take-home portion will involve problem-solving and other questions that will allow the student more real-world application of information in assimilating answers.

The format of the exams will be combinations of short answer (one to several word answers), short essay (several sentences, a paragraph or two), matching from a word bank, mark with an x the incorrect answers (true/false), multiple choice, and identification of items from the lab.

### *Group Presentations*

The class will be divided into four groups with assignments made to prepare a technical report on one of the following topics:

- Grass-fed versus grain-fed beef
- *E. coli* O157:H7
- Animal welfare
- Meat in the diet

Oral presentations will be made on **April 21** and **April 26**. This group exercise will be worth 100 points.

### *Laboratory homework*

Homework assignments from the laboratory manual will be completed and turned in the next week before each lab. The lab homework assignments are worth 100 points.

*Grading – grades will be computed on the basis of 600 total points (500 for exempt students)*

<b>Item</b>	<b>Points</b>
Exam A	100
Exam B	100
Exam C	100
Group Presentations	100
Lab homework	100
Final exam	100
Total	600

### *Letter grade determination*

<b>Letter grade</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Pre-final points</b>	<b>Post-final points</b>
A	90.0%	450	540
B	80.0%	400	480
C	70.0%	350	420
D	60.0%	300	360

### *Opportunity to improve grade in future semesters*

Students with no more than four unauthorized absences will be allowed to retake exams in subsequent semesters to attempt to improve their grades. Students who are eligible for this option must take the exams during the class time and date they are offered. The new exam grade will be inserted into the grade book for the student, and if the new average improves the grade to the next grade level, a grade change request will be initiated in Howdy.

## Late Work Policy

### *Late homework*

Failure to turn in homework when specified will result in the following point deductions: (1) same day, but after lab = -1; (2) 1 day late = -2; (3) 2 days late = -3; and (4) 3 days late = no credit.

## Course Schedule

### *Lecture schedule*

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Topic</b>
January 18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday	January 20	Introduction
January 25	Structure and Composition of Muscle and Associated Tissues	January 27	The Mechanism of Muscle Contraction
February 1	Conversion of Muscle to Meat	February 3	Slaughter-Dressing of Livestock
February 8	Kosher and Halal	February 10	Producer- and Packer-Related Problems
February 15	<b>Exam A</b>	February 17	Meat Inspection
February 22	Meat Inspection	February 24	Meat Tenderization
March 1	Meat Color	March 3	Packaging Systems for Meat
March 8	Appraisal of Market Animals	March 10	Appraisal of Market Animals
March 15	USDA Slaughter Animal/Carcass Grades	March 17	Growth/Development of Meat Animals
March 22	<b>Exam B</b>	March 24	Objective Evaluations of Meat Animals
March 29	Meat Curing, Bacon and Ham Manufacturing	March 31	Sausage Manufacturing
April 5	Sausage Manufacturing	April 7	Contribution of Meat to the Diet
April 12	Contribution of Meat to the Diet	April 14	Meat Safety
April 19	<b>Exam C</b>	April 21	<b>Group Presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animal Welfare</li> <li>• <i>E. coli</i> O157:H7</li> </ul>
April 26	<b>Group Presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meat in the Diet</li> <li>• Grass-fed versus grain-fed beef</li> </ul>		

## Lab schedule

Week of	Topic	Knives required	Exceptions
January 18	Introduction and Meat Inspection	No	Because of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, students in Monday's lab (Section 201) will cover these topics on Monday, January 25 in addition to that week's topic
January 25	Anatomy	No	
February 1	Pork Slaughter	Yes	
February 8	Pork Evaluation and Fabrication	Yes	
February 15	Pork Evaluation and Fabrication	Yes	
February 22	Lamb Slaughter	Yes	
March 1	Lamb Evaluation and Fabrication	Yes	Because of Texas Independence Day, students in Tuesday's labs (Section 203) will have this on Tuesday, March 16, 2021
March 8	Lamb Evaluation and Fabrication	Yes	
March 15	Only Tuesday's labs (Sections 501 and 502) will meet this week, on Tuesday, March 16, 2021. No other labs will meet this week	Yes	
March 22	Beef Slaughter	Yes	
March 29	Beef Evaluation	No	Because April 2, 2021 is a Reading Day, students in Friday's labs (Section 207) will cover this topic either on Friday, April 9, 2021 or Friday, April 16, 2021 in addition to that week's topic
April 5	Beef Fabrication	Yes	
April 12	Beef Fabrication	Yes	
April 19	Ham and Sausage Manufacturing	No	

## *Exam dates*

<b>Exam</b>	<b>Date</b>
Exam A	Monday, February 15
Exam B	Monday, March 22
Exam C	Monday, April 19
Final exam	Tuesday, May 4, 8 to 10:30 am

## Optional Course Information Items

### *Equipment and uniforms for laboratories*

Lockers will be available for clothing in the Rosenthal Center during the laboratory period only. (These lockers will not be issued for the full semester.) Rubber footwear must be worn during all laboratory periods, which involve participation on the slaughter floor, in the cutting room or in the cooler.

The Rosenthal Center will provide safety helmets, rubber aprons, boning aprons, coveralls, frocks, rubber footwear, cutting gloves, arm guards, and white aprons, which are located in the laundry and uniform storage room. Because equipment will be used by other students in the other lab periods, you will be responsible for cleaning it and placing it back in the room for the subsequent laboratory periods.

### *Learning Management System*

We are using Canvas ([canvas.tamu.edu](https://canvas.tamu.edu)) as the Learning Management System.

# University Policies

## Attendance Policy

Attendance for the major exams is mandatory. There are no makeup examinations. For students with an authorized excuse, the grade for a missed major examination will be determined by averaging the scores for the other major examinations that were taken.

The university views class attendance and participation as an individual student responsibility. Students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about excused absences, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

## Makeup Work Policy

Students will be excused from attending class on the day of a graded activity or when attendance contributes to a student's grade, for the reasons stated in Student Rule 7, or other reason deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about makeup work, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Absences related to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 may necessitate a period of more than 30 days for make-up work, and the timeframe for make-up work should be agreed upon by the student and instructor" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.1](#)).

"The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.2](#)).

Students who request an excused absence are expected to uphold the Aggie Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. (See [Student Rule 24](#).)

## Academic Integrity Statement and Policy

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."

"Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must keep appropriate records at all times. The inability to authenticate one's work, should the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case" ([Section 20.1.2.3, Student Rule 20](#)).

You can learn more about the Aggie Honor System Office Rules and Procedures, academic integrity, and your rights and responsibilities at [aggiehonor.tamu.edu](http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu).



## Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy

Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact Disability Resources in the Student Services Building or at (979) 845-1637 or visit [disability.tamu.edu](http://disability.tamu.edu). Disabilities may include, but are not limited to attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible.

## Title IX and Statement on Limits to Confidentiality

Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

With the exception of some medical and mental health providers, all university employees (including full and part-time faculty, staff, paid graduate assistants, student workers, etc.) are Mandatory Reporters and must report to the Title IX Office if the employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an incident that meets the following conditions (see [University Rule 08.01.01.M1](#)):

- The incident is reasonably believed to be discrimination or harassment.
- The incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who, at the time of the incident, was (1) a student enrolled at the University or (2) an employee of the University.

Mandatory Reporters must file a report regardless of how the information comes to their attention – including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Although Mandatory Reporters must file a report, in most instances, you will be able to control how the report is handled, including whether or not to pursue a formal investigation. The University's goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and to ensure access to the resources you need.

Students wishing to discuss concerns in a confidential setting are encouraged to make an appointment with [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (CAPS).

Students can learn more about filing a report, accessing supportive resources, and navigating the Title IX investigation and resolution process on the University's [Title IX webpage](#).

## Statement on Mental Health and Wellness

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student's academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in proper self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. 24-hour emergency help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org).

## COVID-19 Temporary Addendum to Minimum Syllabus Requirements

The Faculty Senate temporarily added the following statements to the minimum syllabus requirements in Spring 2021 as part of the university's COVID-19 response.

### *Campus Safety Measures*

To promote public safety and protect students, faculty, and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, Texas A&M University has adopted policies and practices for the Spring 2021 academic term to limit virus transmission. Students must observe the following practices while participating in face-to-face courses and course-related activities (office hours, help sessions, transitioning to and between classes, study spaces, academic services, etc.):

- Self-monitoring—Students should follow CDC recommendations for self-monitoring. **Students who have a fever or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should participate in class remotely if that option is available, and should not participate in face-to-face instruction.**
- Face Coverings—[Face coverings](#) (cloth face covering, surgical mask, etc.) must be properly worn in all non-private spaces including classrooms, teaching laboratories, common spaces such as lobbies and hallways, public study spaces, libraries, academic resource and support offices, and outdoor spaces where 6 feet of physical distancing is difficult to reliably maintain. Description of face coverings and additional guidance are provided in the [Face Covering policy](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) available on the [Provost website](#).
- Physical Distancing—Physical distancing must be maintained between students, instructors, and others in course and course-related activities.
- Classroom Ingress/Egress—Students must follow marked pathways for entering and exiting classrooms and other teaching spaces. Leave classrooms promptly after course activities have concluded. Do not congregate in hallways and maintain 6-foot physical distancing when waiting to enter classrooms and other instructional spaces.
- To attend a face-to-face class, students must properly wear an approved face covering. If a student refuses to wear a face covering, the instructor should ask the student to leave and join the class remotely. If the student does not leave the class, the faculty member should report that student to the [Student Conduct office](#) for sanctions. Additionally, the

faculty member may choose to teach that day's class remotely for all students or dismiss the class in the case of a traditional face to face lecture.

### *Personal Illness and Quarantine*

Students required to quarantine must participate in courses and course-related activities remotely, if that option is available, and **must not attend face-to-face course activities**. Students should notify their instructors of the quarantine requirement. Students under quarantine are expected to participate in courses and complete graded work unless they have symptoms that are too severe to participate in course activities.

Students experiencing personal injury or illness that is too severe for the student to attend class qualify for an excused absence (See [Student Rule 7, Section 7.2.2.](#)) To receive an excused absence, students must comply with the documentation and notification guidelines outlined in Student Rule 7.

## College and Department Policies

College and departmental units may establish their own policies and minimum syllabus requirements. As long as these policies and requirements do not contradict the university level requirements, colleges and departments can add them in this section.