Instructor:
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Description of Course (1 credit):
Advanced integration and application of factors important in the proper care and management of swine during farrowing and lactation

Justification for Course:
Competitiveness in the pork industry is significantly influenced by the number of pigs weaned per female. Animal care and management during farrowing and lactation directly affects litter size and viability. Therefore, students need the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of key aspects of animal care and management during this important phase of pork production.

Organization:
This course will be delivered via distance education. Each class “week” will cover one ‘module’ beginning each Monday morning at 10:00 am. All activities assigned that week will need to be completed by the following Saturday at noon. Instructor will not be available for any assistance from noon Saturday through the following Monday at 10:00 am. Course modules will be comprised of a short narrated PowerPoint presentation. There will be an activity (assignment, discussion board post, quiz, etc.) that students will be responsible for conducting, and those will be described each week. Some weeks will have more than one activity. The purpose of the activities is to expand your learning of the material within the module.

Course Objectives:
Upon completion of the course the student will be able to:
- Demonstrate knowledge of reproductive anatomy and physiology
- Demonstrate knowledge of parturition and sow lactation management
- Demonstrate knowledge of neonatal management
- Set production targets
- Identify production trends and formulate strategies to improve productivity and meet production targets
Grading:
Grades will be assigned on the following basis:
Item Point total
On-line quizzes (n = 4) 100
Homework assignments (n = 10) 150
Discussion board postings a 100
Final project 25
Total 375

Grading scale will be as follows:
**Letter grade** Percentage **Letter grade** Percentage
A+ 98 - 100 C+ 78 - 79.9
A 92 – 97.9 C 72 – 77.9
A- 90 – 91.9 C- 70 – 71.9
B+ 88 – 89.9 D+ 68 – 69.9
B 82 – 87.9 D 62 – 67.9
B- 80 – 81.9 D- 60 – 61.9
F < 60

Schedule:
**Week no. Beginning Date Activity**
1 Introduction and Week 1 homework
2 Anatomy/physiology; lactation
3 Records/Benchmarks/Behavior and welfare; **Quiz #1**
4 The farrowing process; **Abstract #1**
5 The farrowing process (continued); **Quiz #2**
6 Induction of farrowing/supervision
7 Supervision of farrowing/saving baby piglets
8 Obstetrical intervention; **Quiz #3**
9 Feeding systems and equipment
10 Milk management; **Abstract #2**
11 Developing and using SOPs; (introduce final project)
12 Artificial rearing; farrowing cards; **Quiz #4**
13 Importance of feed intake
14 Miscellaneous and wrap-up
15 **Final Project**