**Course description**

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| Course title | Fur animals husbandry |
| Language of lecture | English |
| Type of course | Obligatory |
| Level of the course, faculty and field it is conducted | Engineering studies at the Faculty of Animal Sciences and Bioeconomy, Direction: Animal Science |
| Form of study | Stationary |
| Course hours | Lectures: 25/Classes: 20/Trainings:…. |
| ECTS credits | 3 |
| Name of lecturer(s) | Andrzej Jakubczak |
| Didactic unit | Institute of Biological Basis of Animal Production |
| Objective of the course | To introduce selected elements of biology of different species of fur animals kept on farms, methods of breeding and maintenance including feeding, coat and skin quality assessment and the principle of skin lotting. |
| Pre-requisities | Anatomy, physiology, genetics |
| Learning outcomes | At the end of the course Student:   * knows and understands the methods and principles of obtaining and evaluation of raw materials and products of animal origin * knows and understands principles of fur animals breeding technology, knows varieties of these animals, their origin and principles of animal welfare as well as reproduction, prophylaxis and hygiene * knows and understands the mechanisms of impact of agricultural production including animal production on the environment and the principles of their evaluation * is able to perform technical tasks in the field of animal production in order to solve existing problems * is aware of the conscious influence of agricultural production and to assess the impact of agricultural production on the shape and condition of the natural environment (with particular consideration to animal production) |
| References | Current topic references will be made available during the course. |
| Teaching methods | Lecture and auditory exercises (multimedia presentation), laboratory classes, also using distance learning methods and techniques, group work, making a project |
| Examination methods | Written tests and exam |

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| Course content | **Lectures** | |
| 1. | History, role and importance of fur animals farming |
| 2. | Domestication of fur animals |
| 3. | Benefits and risks of fur animals farming for the natural environment. |
| 4. | Biological characteristics of farmed species |
| 5. | Construction and facilities of a fur animals' farm |
| 6. | Basics of nutrition of fur animals. |
| 7. | Animal reproduction and juvenile rearing. |
| 8. | Directions of fur animals use. |
| 9. | Principles of breeding work on fur farms. |
| 10. | Planning and organization of fur animals farms |
| 11. | Implementation of WelFur animal welfare assessment program to Polish conditions. |
| 12. | Biosecurity and disinfection on fur animals farms. |
| 13. | Molecular diagnostics of pathogens occurring in fur animals. |
| 14. | Discussing selected regulations concerning fur animals. |
| 15. | Prevention and control of fur animal diseases. |
| **Classes** | |
| 1. | Structure of skin and hair. |
| 2. | Structure of the hair coat. Macroscopic evaluation of under- and top-coat hairs. |
| 3. | Characteristics of colour variation and inheritance of fur colour in red foxes, polar foxes and minks. |
| 4. | Characteristics of colour variation and inheritance of fur colour in polecats, raccoons, nutria, chinchillas and rabbits. |
| 5. | Individual identification of fur animals based on molecular markers. |
| 6. | Methodology of rationing for fur animals. |
| 7. | Standardization of feedstuffs for foxes and minks. Feeding program - classes in a computer laboratory. |
| 8. | Planning and organization of fur animals farms. |
|  | 9. | Rules of breeding work conducting on fur animals farms. |
| 10. | A trip to a fur animals farm. |