This semester in this course, I used AI to help me answer three different research questions. While doing this, I learned what I had to do to get specific answers. I needed to be specific in my questions, and I realized that sometimes, I may need to word things differently a few different times to get the exact results I needed. I needed to have a conversation with it and tell it exactly what kind of answers I needed, rather than just ask a question and expect the exact answers I was looking for. I learned how to use AI to help me get resources for my paper and not just gather information that AI gave me. Instead of just using the AI answers, I had to ask for sources to read over the entire article/journal and determine what I wanted to include. AI helped me find resources to use rather than searching through thousands of articles on google/google scholar.

I enjoyed the structure of this course and feel like it was well paced. I think the weekly meetings were good and the feedback I got each week was helpful for me to continue my research. The journal logs were definitely helpful for writing my papers

One thing I enjoyed about this course was the flexibility around it. Even though my primary major is animal science and I do not have much advanced knowledge about agriculture/economics, I liked that I could cater the topics around my interests. I think this flexibility would encourage other students with different interests to try out a course like this. While I still followed the baseline of the major topics, I definitely catered it more towards the veterinary and animal topics and I really enjoyed combining my vet knowledge with economics/agriculture knowledge. This was something I never really thought of, as I never really thought they could be so intertwined with each other. One thing I think could be improved with this course could be more interaction throughout the week, although this could have been from mostly meeting on zoom. I also think it could be helpful to have a guideline on what we should include in our final papers. I know I was told after I asked what needed to be included, but I think it would have been helpful to have a guideline initially before asking. After asking about what I should include (like always including recommendations at the end of each paper), I was a lot more confident in starting and finishing my essay. I think a quick guideline on what could be/should be included in the final paper would be helpful and make it easier to start writing. It would definitely help narrow down such a broad topic. Overall, I really enjoyed this course and I think it was very interesting learning about how AI works and how we can use it to help in research.

I would definitely recommend this course to other students, even if they are not primarily focused on agriculture. It was very interesting to see how AI could help me find resources and write a paper quickly. I learned how you should word things for AI to give you accurate answers and I realized how beneficial it can be for students. I learned more about how AI “thinks” and more of the logistics behind how they give us the answers just by asking it different things. AI can be used for numerous topics and can help make research much easier and more convenient. Overall, I learned that AI can help you find resources, not just give you the direct answer. You just need to ask it more questions that can lead you to writing a full paper. I would definitely say I learned a lot from this project.