



PRECISION LIVESTOCK FARMING ACADEMY: DIGITAL INNOVATIONS IN VETERINARY PRACTICE

The Blended Intensive Program (BIP) is a short-term learning format offered under the Erasmus+ framework. It combines virtual and physical mobility components, allowing students from different countries to engage in international, interdisciplinary learning experiences. BIPs are designed to enhance digital skills, promote collaborative work, and foster cultural exchange through a mix of online theoretical training and in-person practical activities. Participants typically earn 3 ECTS credits upon successful completion, gaining both academic knowledge and valuable soft skills in a condensed, high-impact format.

We invite veterinary students to take part in a short-term mixed course organized by the Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Ankara. The course will be on the following date:

Virtual Training:



16–20 June 2025



12.5 hours over 5 days | Interactive sessions

On-site Mobility in Ankara:



30 June – 4 July 2025



Ankara University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine + Private Farms

Including 1-day field trip & overnight stay in Aksaray

For the course, the student can earn 3 ECTS credits.

Program of the Course

“Precision Livestock Farming Academy: Digital Innovations in Veterinary Practice” offers a multidisciplinary training program combining theoretical instruction, team-based activities, and practical sessions in real farm settings. The course covers core topics such as the application of artificial intelligence, IoT, sensor systems, automated feeding and health monitoring technologies, and decision-support tools in livestock management. Active learning modules will focus on digital welfare assessment, sustainability indicators, and early disease detection methods. Participants will engage in hands-on training at sheep, beef, and dairy farms in the Ankara region, gaining exposure to smart farming practices. A one-day field trip with overnight accommodation to a technologically advanced dairy operation in Aksaray on July 3rd will offer additional immersive experience in large-scale digital livestock systems.”

For details please check the program.

Language of Instruction:

English

ECTS:

 3 ECTS

Number of Places Available:

 20 students

Program Director:

Prof. Dr. Begüm Yurdakök Dikmen (Ankara University)

Deadline for Applications:

 25 May 2025

The Program

This Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Program (BIP) introduces students to the fundamentals and applied technologies of **Precision Livestock Farming (PLF)** through a combination of online theory and in-person practical learning. Participants will engage in interactive virtual modules and immersive, hands-on fieldwork in sheep, beef, and dairy farms. The program includes farm visits, expert-led discussions, and a one-day trip to a high-tech dairy farm in Aksaray.

PLF focuses on the application of AI, IoT, sensors, data analysis, and smart farming tools to improve livestock health, welfare, production, and sustainability, aligning with EU digital and green transition goals.

Objectives

- Understand the role of digital innovations in animal health and welfare
- Gain insights into sensor-based monitoring and early disease detection
- Explore AI, robotics, and data-driven decision-making in livestock systems
- Visit real farms to observe PLF technologies in action
- Strengthen multidisciplinary collaboration and research activities in veterinary practice



Schedule

Virtual Component (16–20 June 2025)

10 hours of synchronous, team-based sessions on core PLF concepts, featuring expert speakers from across Europe. It introduces the foundational principles in Precision Livestock Farming (PLF).

On-site Mobility (30 June – 4 July 2025)

Field visits, hands-on modules and workshops, such as:

- Sensor-based monitoring systems
- Smart feeding & manure management
- Welfare assessment in sheep
- Multi-day farm experience in dairy, beef and sheep farms around Ankara & Aksaray



Participation

Open to students enrolled in:

- Veterinary Medicine (4th–6th year)
- Animal Breeding or related disciplines
- PhD and Master candidates in relevant fields

Required Knowledge

- Participants should have basic understanding of anatomy, physiology, and behavior of livestock species
- Familiarity with animal welfare principles and production systems
- Awareness of health management practices in farm animals
- English proficiency (B1 level or higher)



Supporting Documents

Relevant supporting materials on PLF and detailed documentation for the program/links for the online course through Zoom will be provided to participants in advance of the start date.

Accommodation

Participants will be provided accommodation in university dormitories.

If the students request to stay in hotel or other accommodation options please contact IVSA Ankara (Kemal Cagrı Gokmen: +90 545 213 23 76).

Additionally, the overnight stay in Aksaray during the one-day field trip will also be fully supported.

ECTS and Certification

Participants completing the program will receive a **Certificate of Attendance** and be awarded **3 ECTS**.

Financial Support

Selected participants from abroad may receive Erasmus+ short-term mobility grants (up to €400 for 5 days of mobility). Grants are coordinated through the students' home universities and subject to approval by National Agencies. Contact your Erasmus coordinator for guidance. Host university provides accommodation in student dormitories.

How to Apply

◆ **Step 1**

Apply for Erasmus+ BIP scholarship at your home university

◆ **Step 2**

Selection of nominees by each university partner

◆ **Step 3**

Registration documents to be sent to the contact mail  **[tugrulzekikeskin@gmail.com]**

 **Deadline: May 25, 2025**

Registration documents should include:

- Copy of passport or official ID
- Student ID/certificate

- Europass CV
 - Motivation letter (PDF)
 - Proof of English proficiency (certificate or transcript)
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Selection Criteria

If applications exceed available places, students will be selected based on:

- Academic background (related to veterinary or animal sciences)
 - Motivation and relevance to their studies/research
 - English proficiency
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Withdrawal Policy

Students must notify the organizing team promptly if they are unable to participate after selection.

Contact

Prof. Dr. Begüm Yurdakök Dikmen

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