

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT: AS 235

Instructor: Dr. F. N. Mhlanga
Professor of Animal Science
Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Office Hours: M T 1:00 – 4:00 PM
T R 2:00 – 3:00 PM
Others by appointment

Strengths: Responsibility, Self Assurance, Learner,
Includer, Harmony

Office: Zona Luce 210

Telephone: 325-674-2006

Classroom: Zona Luce 203

Email: fnm07a@acu.edu

ACU MISSION :

To educate students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world

CAS MISSION:

Our mission is to educate students for worldwide Christian service and leadership through programs of study and other learning experiences that blend a liberal arts education with professional and career education.

A & E MISSION:

To educate students for Christian Stewardship for sustainable food, fiber, environmental and natural resources systems in God's creation

PRIMARY AUDIENCE

Animal science majors who have completed their freshman year. However, any sophomore standing student is welcome to participate.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OVERVIEW OF CONTENT

P r a c t i c a l a s p e c t s o f
b e h a v i o r , n u t r i t i o n ,
b r e e d s a n d b r e e d i n g ,
r e p r o d u c t i o n , h e a l t h a n d
m a n a g e m e n t o f d o g s , c a t s
a n d o t h e r a n i m a l s
g e n e r a l l y c o n s i d e r e d t o
b e h u m a n c o m p a n i o n s .

DESCRIPTION OF GENERAL CLASS FORMAT

This course meets three times a week for fifty minutes each period for a total of three hours of classroom instruction. This course is viewed as interactive between the instructor and the student. The course content will cover such topics as nutrition, nutritional requirements and proper feeding techniques of dogs and cats; reproduction and breeding, breeds and breed selection, pet grooming and care, behavior and health. Content will be delivered through lectures, student presentations, touring of animal shelters and small animal veterinary clinics. Learning will be measured by a combination of exams, research papers, reports and presentations

TEXT BOOK

Campbell, Karen L., James E. Corbin, and John R. Campbell. Companion Animals: Their Biology, Care, Health and Management. Prentice Hall, 2005.

CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

The number of people in this country who share their homes and hearts with animals is growing. Every animal, whether it's domesticated or not, whether it communicates through barks, meows, hisses, or chirps, is created by God (Genesis 1: 24-25). Since companion animals are God's creatures, we have no absolute rights over them, only the duty to look after them as God would look after them. Therefore, this course heavily relies on our Christian ethics to help students understand the moral responsibility that we have towards companion animals. The course seeks to help students attain a deeper understanding of how we should manage companion animals in a manner that brings Glory and Honor to God.

COURSE GOAL

The over-all goal of this course is to introduce students to the care and management of companion animals and to articulate the responsibilities of pet ownership and the beneficial aspects of the human-animal relationship.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students will:

- Explore and gain an understanding of the concepts of animal nutrition, reproduction, genetics and their relationship to the growth, development and care of companion animals. control of companion animal populations
- Acquire the skills to analyze and interpret data necessary to draw conclusions about appropriate nutrient requirements and health care practices for companion animals.
- Assess the evidence required to discriminate normal behavior from abnormal behavior of animals as it informs the standards for appropriate care.
- Evaluate the contribution of scientific understandings in addressing social, ethical and religious questions about the value and treatment of companion animals as well as the.

STUDENT COMPETENCIES

	Competency	Measurement Instrument	Measurement Standard
1	Understand and appreciate present day needs and uses of various companion animals	Tests, reflection paper, term paper	State at least five uses of companion animal Express characteristics of animals that are treated as companions Reflect upon the relationship between humans and animals Reflect upon human's responsibility toward companion animals
2	Recognize the appearance and variation in major classes of companion animals	Tests	Identify from photos at least five different breeds of dogs and cats, respectively.

3	Prescribe appropriate dietary requirements, and proper feeding techniques, especially of dogs & cats	Tests	Students should be able to state and define all the major nutrients required for maintaining companion animals in good health A student should recommend a diet for dogs and cats in different life-cycles, respectively
4	Characterize , common health issues and problems, preventive medicine, especially for dogs and cats	Test Term paper	A student should be able to identify from written descriptions, photos, lab slides, or live animals at least five diseases that affect dogs and cats, respectively, their symptoms , treatment and prevention
5	Discriminate normal animal behavior from abnormal behavior and explain how animal behavior if affects the care and management of companion animals	Test Class presentation Paper	A student should be able to articulate social behaviors of cats and dogs and distinguish them from non-normal behavioral manifestations
6	Understand and differentiate between some of the major physiological systems that are important for the function of companion animal.	Test Final Exam	A student should be able to name the parts of the digestive and reproductive systems of cats and dogs.

EVALUATION

Exams: There will be two semester exams and a comprehensive final.

Term paper: This paper involves in depth research of a specific topic related to companion animals. The subject chosen will be related to a specific discipline in animal science (nutrition, reproduction, behavior, genetics, etc) and concentrate on a specific breed of companion animal. The students will write a 10-15 paper that is scientific in nature and style. Paper will be done in teams of three or four students.

Homework: Students will have a variety of homework assignments that will include reading assignments, class presentations, reflection papers on assigned topics and observations of small animal clinics and animal shelters in Abilene. These assignments (see below) will be done in teams of three to four students.

COURSE GRADE

The grade will be computed on the basis:

Activity	Value
Quizzes	10%
Exams	35%
Term paper	15 %
Homework	25%
Final Exam	15%

GRADING CRITERIA

Each activity will be graded on the basis of 100%. Weighted averages will be computed at the end of the semester. The grading system for the course is given in the following table.

% Range	Grade
90 – 100	A
80 < 90	B
70 < 80	C

60 < 70	D
< 60	F

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance

Attendance in lecture is required. You will be dropped from the course if you miss 20% of the class meetings and you will be assigned a grade of WF. If a student misses more than four lectures her/his grade will be lowered one letter grade for each additional absence. You are late to class if you arrive five minutes after the scheduled start time. Every three late arrivals will be counted as one absence. You will be asked to initial a daily attendance roster for class. If you fail to sign the roster, you will be counted absent even if you are in attendance. It is your responsibility to sign the roll.

Academic Integrity

Violations of academic integrity and other forms of cheating, as defined in ACU's Academic Integrity Policy, involve the intention to deceive or mislead or misrepresent, and therefore are a form of lying and represent actions contrary to the behavioral norms that flow from the nature of God. Violations will be addressed as described in the Policy. While the university enforces the Policy, the most powerful motive for integrity and truthfulness comes from one's desire to imitate God's nature in our lives. Every member of the faculty, staff and student body is responsible for protecting the integrity of learning, scholarship and research. The full Policy is available for review at the Provost's office web site (<http://www.acu.edu/campusoffices/provost>) and the following offices: provost, college deans, dean of campus life, director of student judicial affairs, director of residential life education and academic departments.

Statement of Cooperation for Students with Disabilities

Abilene Christian University and the College of Arts and Sciences comply with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability. If you have an established disability as defined in the ADA and you would like to request an accommodation, please see me as soon as possible.

General Policies

1. Students who sleep in class will be asked to leave and will be counted absent.
2. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. This includes playing games, writing email, engaging in instant messaging, or similar activities during class periods. If you disrupt the class, you will be asked to leave and will be counted absent.
3. The use of cell phones or pagers is not permitted in class.
4. Headgear (e.g., caps or hats) is to be removed by men and women upon entering class
5. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in accordance with the policies outlined in the ACU Student Guide.
6. Late work will not be accepted. Assignments are due at the beginning of class.
7. No extra credit will be offered
8. No makeup exams will be given

COURSE OUTLINE AND COURSE CALENDAR

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
August		
24	Introduction/ what are companion animals	Chapter 1
26	Human animal bond: Contributions of companion animals	Chapter 1
28	Contributions of companion animals	Chapter 1
31	Therapeutic uses of companion animals	Chapter 1
September		
2	Domestication of pet animals	Chapter 2
4	Quiz/ Pet Industry	Chapter 2
7	Breeds of Dogs	Chapter 3
9	Breeds of dogs	Chapter 3
11	Breeds of Dogs	Chapter 3
14	Breeds of cats	Chapter 3
16	Breeds of cats	Chapter 3
18	Quiz/ Nutrition of cats & dogs	Chapter 9
21	Nutrition of cats & dogs	Chapter 9
23	Nutrition of cats & dogs	Chapter 9
25	Test: comprehensive	
28	Anatomy & physiology	Chapter 10
30	Anatomy & physiology	Chapter 10
October		
2	Reproduction	Chapter 11
5	Reproduction	Chapter 11
7	Reproduction	Chapter 11
9	Quiz / Major Canine diseases	Chapter 15
12	Major Canine diseases & control	Chapter 15
14	Major Canine diseases	Chapter 15
16	Major Feline diseases % control	Chapter 15
19	Major Feline diseases	Chapter 15
21	Quiz/ Major Feline diseases	Chapter 15
23	Fall Break	No class
26	Behavior & Training	Chapters 12
28	Behavior & Training	Chapters 12
30	Test: Comprehensive	
November		
2	Care Management	Chapter 13
4	Care Management	Chapter 13
6	Pet overpopulation	Chapter 26
9	Pet overpopulation	Chapter 26
11	Birds	Chapter 5
13	Quiz/ Birds	Chapter 5
16	Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, Gerbils; chinchillas	Chapter 6
18	Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, Gerbils; chinchillas	Chapter 6
20	Rabbits, Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, Gerbils; chinchillas	Chapter 7

23	Test: Comprehensive	
25	Thanksgiving	
27	Thanksgiving	
30	Career opportunities related to Companion Animal	
December		
2	Review	
4	Review	
7	Dead day	
11		