

Course Syllabus
ANS 597 – Advanced Companion Animal Management
Summer II, 2015
WEB-BASED

Instructor: Dr. Jackie Wahrmund, Assistant Professor of Animal Science
School of Agriculture
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Office hours: By appointment

COURSE INFORMATION

Text: None. All necessary materials will be provided through eCollege.

Course Description: Comparative anatomy, physiology, nutrition, genetics and health of companion animals including cats, dogs, rabbits, rats, mice, reptiles, amphibians and fish. Problem solving and enterprise management. Analysis of current research in the field of companion animal science.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to critically analyze the comparative anatomy, physiology, nutrition, genetics, and health of various companion animal species, and will be able to compare and contrast these topics across species. Students will also be able to critically compare and contrast molecular and endocrine control of anatomy, physiology, genetics, and health of various companion animal species. Students will be able to analyze and categorize various breeds of companion animal species, and evaluate distinguishing characteristics between breeds which make animals best suited for various environments and intended purposes. Students will develop thorough management plans for caring for cats, dogs, and at least one additional chosen species of companion animals which address animal needs for housing, nutrition, health, and enrichment. Students will also be able to interpret and construct written analyses of recent research articles related to the anatomy, physiology, nutrition, genetics, or health of companion animals. Student progress will be evaluated by quizzes, exams, online discussions, and written research reviews over class content.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students will be required to complete two weekly assignments during Weeks 1, 2, and 4; and one assignment during Week 3. Assignments are due on Sunday of their respective weeks at 11:59 PM. All assignments should be submitted using the Drop Box on eCollege. All assignments are worth 100 points each. Late assignments will be accepted; however, there will be a 20% deduction for each day the assignment is late (10 points for 50-point assignments, 20 points for 100-point assignments). For example, assignments turned in on Monday will lose 20 points, those turned in on Tuesday will lose 40 points, etc. Assignments not turned in by 11:59 PM Thursday will receive a grade of zero. Some assignments may involve posting in the discussion forum. These posts do not count toward the five required (discussed below). Students should pay close attention to the assignment links under each week, as there will be one for all students (undergrad and graduate) and one only for graduate students. Extra graduate student assignments will build upon the first assignments, and will require the student to consider the topic more in-depth through use of reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Students are required to complete quizzes and exams. Quizzes will be administered Weeks 1, 2, and 4, and are worth 50 points each. Exams will be administered Weeks 3 and 5, and are worth 150 points each. Each exam will include at least two 25-point essay questions which will provide the students opportunity to demonstrate their constructive reasoning skills regarding relevant topics. All quizzes and exams must be completed by 11:59 PM on the due date. Quizzes and exams that are not completed by the due date will receive a grade of zero.

Graduate students must also write three research reviews during Weeks 1, 3, and 5. Reviews are due at 11:59 PM on Sunday for Weeks 1 and 3, and 11:59 PM on Thursday of Week 5. Reviews should be submitted using the Drop Box on eCollege. Students must find an article relevant to course material discussed during the week the assignment is due, or during the week immediately prior to the week the assignment is due. Students may only select articles published from 2010 to 2015. Details regarding formatting requirements of research reviews will be provided separately. Articles must be submitted to the instructor for approval by Wednesday of the week they are due. Review articles are not permitted. Reviews must summarize the following:

- Why was the research conducted/What were their objectives?
- How did they conduct the experiment?
- What did they find?
- What are the implications from this research for owners/managers of companion animals?

I expect you to be active participants in the course, and I encourage you to use all of the resources available to you through eCollege. Use the Student Lounge. Participate in the class discussion forum, even when not required for a grade. You will get as much out of this class as you put into it. Throughout the material you will find highlighted topics for discussion. You are required to make at least FIVE posts in the discussion forum every week. For each week you do not meet this requirement you will lose 5% off your final grade for lack of participation.

GRADING

Assignments	
Week 1	100 points
Week 2	100
Week 3	100
Week 4	100
Research Reviews	
Week 1	50
Week 3	50
Week 5	50
Quizzes	
Week 1	50
Week 2	50
Week 4	50
Exams	
Week 3	150
Week 5	150
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Total	1000 points

- A 900-1000
- B 800-899
- C 700-799
- D 600-699
- F Less than 600 points

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library

Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1 July 13-19 Complete Quiz 1 and Assignment by Sunday at 11:59 PM
First Research Review due by Sunday at 11:59 PM

1. Introduction to Companion Animals
2. The Companion Animal Industry
3. Dog and Cat Breeds and Their Characteristics
4. Choosing a Dog or Cat
5. Feeding and Nutrition of Dogs and Cats

Week 2 July 20-26 Complete Quiz 2 and Assignment by Sunday at 11:59 PM

1. Other Species of Companion Animals (depends on results from Pre-Course Survey)
2. Anatomy and Physiology of Dogs and Cats
3. Reproductive Biology of Dogs and Cats
4. Companion Animal Behavior and Social Structure
5. Care, Management, and Training of Dogs and Cats

Week 3 July 27-August 2 Complete Exam 1 and Assignment by Sunday at 11:59 PM
Second Research Review due by Sunday at 11:59 PM

1. Fitting, Grooming, and Showing Dogs and Cats
2. Companion Animal Health
3. Companion Animal Geriatrics
4. Parasites and Pests of Companion Animals
5. Common Diagnostic and Therapeutic Procedures and Terms

Week 4 August 3-9 Complete Quiz 3 and Assignment by Sunday at 11:59 PM

1. Records and Case Histories
2. Business/Financial Aspects of the Companion Animal Enterprise
3. Kennel/Cattery Design and Management
4. Pet Sitting, Pet Motels, and Other Boarding Arrangements

Week 5 August 10-13 Complete Exam 2 by **THURSDAY** at 11:59 PM
Third Research Review due by **THURSDAY** at 11:59 PM

1. Career Opportunities Associated with Companion Animals
2. Managing Unwanted Companion Animals

**DATES AND TOPICS MAY CHANGE AT INSTRUCTOR'S DISCRETION
ADVANCE WARNING WILL BE GIVEN FOR ANY CHANGES**