



## **ANS 415 01W (CRN 40441): Companion Animal Management**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Summer I 2025

Meeting Times: Asynchronous Online

Meeting Location: D2L/Zoom

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Dr. Brooke Clemmons

Office Location: AG/ET 233B

Office Hours: By appointment \*Can be in-person or via Zoom (contact if you would like to meet via Zoom)

University Email Address: Brooke.Clemmons@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: **email**

Communication Response Time: 48 business hours (I respect your weekends and holidays – please respect mine)

### **COURSE INFORMATION\**

Textbook Required: None

Software Required: Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Acrobat

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **Course Description**

Anatomy, physiology, nutrition, genetics and health of companion animals including cats, dogs, rabbits, rats, mice, reptiles, amphibians and fish. Problem solving and enterprise management. Prerequisites: [ANS 1319](#) and junior standing.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Compare and contrast the anatomy and physiology of major companion animal species, including dogs, cats, rabbits, rodents, reptiles, amphibians, and fish.
2. Evaluate species-specific nutritional requirements and formulate appropriate feeding strategies across life stages and health statuses for a variety of companion animals.
3. Interpret principles of companion animal genetics, including hereditary traits, breeding decisions, and management of genetic disorders.
4. Assess common health conditions, preventative care practices, and veterinary interventions relevant to diverse companion animal species.
5. Apply knowledge of animal behavior and physiology to improve welfare, training, and environmental enrichment strategies.
6. Analyze real-world scenarios in companion animal care and management, identifying problems and proposing evidence-based solutions.
7. Demonstrate foundational skills in enterprise management, including budgeting, marketing, and legal/ethical considerations in companion animal-related businesses or services.
8. Integrate scientific, ethical, and practical perspectives to address contemporary issues in companion animal husbandry and care.
9. Interpret industry standards, regulatory frameworks, and best practices related to the housing, transportation, and use of companion animals.
10. Communicate effectively about companion animal care and management, using discipline-specific language and formats appropriate for both professional and public audiences.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Minimal Technical Skills Needed**

Students will need to be able to access and use the course online platform for the University, D2L. They will also need to have access and be able to use Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and other components of the Microsoft Office Suite.

### **Instructional Methods**

This course will be offered as an online, asynchronous course. All lectures will be recorded and provided on the D2L system. All assignments and exams will be listed in D2L and will be due/take on the D2L platform. Additional information about exams and assignments will be provided prior to the upload of those assignments.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

In order to be successful in the course, students will need to ensure that they **actively** participate in the course, including any online activities or discussions; thus watching lectures and completion of assignments is paramount. A good rule of thumb is that students should spend approximately 2-3 hours outside of class on the course material for every hour of meeting time (i.e. for 1 hour of lecture you should study 2-3 hours outside of class). If you have any questions at all regarding the course structure, material, or anything else related to the course, feel free to post the question on the discussion forum on D2L or email the instructor. I can't help you if you don't ask for help!

## GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100% (900 to 1000 pts)

B = 80%-89% (800 to 899 pts)

C = 70%-79% (700 to 799 pts)

D = 60%-69% (600 to 699 pts)

F= 59% or Below (< 600 pts)

Assignment	Point Value
Problem Sets	400
Exam 1	150
Exam 2	150
Exam 3	150
Exam 4/Final Exam	150
Total	1000

## Assessments

All assessments and grading are presented in the above table. Assessments will include primarily exams, but will also include assignments throughout the semester. You will be graded on a combination of exams and assignments.

**Exams:** Exam dates and topics will be announced on D2L and are also provided in the syllabus (below). All exams will not inherently be cumulative (except the final); however, due to the nature of the course, material builds upon previous material and material from previous exams may be included on subsequent exams. Students will NOT be allowed to take exam late unless **prior, university-approved excuses** have been cleared with the instructor. Students will have 75 minutes to take exams 1-3 and will have two hours on the final exam. All exams are due by 11:59pm on the due date.

**Assignments:** Students will be given assignments throughout the semester. These assignments may be worksheets, quizzes, case studies, etc.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

### LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

### ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems **do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner**. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc. Additionally, all students **MUST** have the Microsoft Office Suite. This can be procured from CITE.

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **Interaction with Instructor Statement**

The BEST way to contact me is via email, and I will make every effort to return emails within 48 business hours. If I do not respond within this timeframe, please feel free to follow up with me.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

Your participation is required and expected for success in the course. In the event that you are unable to submit assignments on time, please let the instructor know **prior** to the assignment deadline and as soon as possible. Late homework/assignments will be accepted with a 10% penalty each day the assignment is late (including weekends) up to 50%. Late work will not be accepted after 7 days after the assignment due date without prior approval. Exams must be taken during the designated timeframe unless the student has a university-approved excuse.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

### **University Specific Procedures**

#### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

#### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

### [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

### [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

I take academic honesty incredibly seriously. Unless otherwise specified in the instructions or verbally in the lectures, you are not allowed to get any assistance from classmates or other people for work in the course. Unless otherwise stated, exams will be closed-note, closed-book exams. You will NOT be allowed to use ANY resource on the exam other than your own. Additional information about Academic Dishonesty can be found here:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesprocedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **Examples and Definitions of Academic Dishonesty**

Below are examples of academic dishonesty from 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Rules and Regulations from TAMUC:

“Academic dishonesty includes the commission of any of the following acts. This listing is not, however, exclusive of any other acts that may reasonably be called academic dishonesty.

Clarification is provided for each definition by listing some prohibited behaviors.

**ABUSE AND MISUSE OF ACCESS AND UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS:** Students may not abuse or misuse computer access or gain unauthorized access to information in any academic exercise.

**CHEATING:** Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices or materials in any academic exercise. Unauthorized materials may include anything or anyone that gives a student assistance, and has not been specifically approved in advance by the instructor.

**COMPLICITY:** Intentionally or knowingly helping, or attempting to help, another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

**FABRICATION:** Making up data or results, and recording or reporting them; submitting fabricated documents.

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

**FALSIFICATION:** Manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented in the research record.

**FORGERY:** Making a fictitious document, or altering an existing document, with the intent to deceive or gain advantage.

**MULTIPLE SUBMISSIONS:** Submitting substantial portions of the same work (including oral reports) for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor of the class for which the student submits the work.

**PLAGIARISM:** The appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit.

**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING GROUP PROJECTS:** If someone in a group commits academic misconduct, the entire group could be held responsible for it as well. It is important to document clearly who contributes what parts to the joint project, to know what group members are doing, and how they are acquiring the material they provide."

## **Penalties for Academic Dishonesty**

Discipline is up to the discretion of the faculty member. Below are common first offense disciplinary actions as outlined by TAMUC:

"The most common penalty imposed by a faculty member for a first violation is an "F" in the course.

Less severe penalties may be imposed if the circumstances warrant. Examples of lesser penalties include:

A grade reduction for the course

A zero on the assignment

A requirement to participate in extra requirements or training

Some combination of these"

## **Students with Disabilities--ADA Statement**

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 162

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

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

## **Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **RECOMMENDED COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

Date	Topic	Assignments
6/2	Intro to Small Animal Care/Safety	
6/3	Small Animals as Pets	
6/4	Animal Rights and Animal Welfare	
6/5	Careers in Small Animal Care	
6/6	Nutrition and Digestive System	Exam 1 and Problem Set 1 due 6/8
6/9	Dogs	
6/10	Cats	
6/11	Rabbits	
6/12	Hamsters	
6/13	Gerbils	Exam 2 and Problem Set 2 due 6/15
6/16	Rats	
6/17	Mice	

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*



6/18	Guinea Pigs	
6/19	No Class – Emancipation Day	
6/20	Chinchillas	Exam 3 and Problem Set 3 due 6/22
6/23	Ferrets	
6/24	Hedgehogs	
6/25	Sugar Gliders	
6/26	Amphibians	
6/27	Reptiles	
6/30	Birds	
7/1	Fish	
7/2-7/3	Final Exam	Final Exam and Problem Set 4 due 7/3

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*