

ATE 2511: Companion Animal Biology and Management

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Course Description:

The course includes an overview of the variety of popular breeds of dogs and cats, including their origins, genetic variation and uses. Also included are discussions of the nutrition, genetics and reproduction of dogs and cats. The genetic control of coloration, body conformation, and abnormalities in breeds of dogs and cats are emphasized. The breed variability, care and management of other companion species including rabbits, other rodents, caged birds, miniature farm animals, camelids, and turtles is also included. Finally, the training of companion animals, with emphasis on the dog and cat, and selected bird species is discussed.

Credits: 3

Schedule: Wednesday 6th period (12:50 – 1:40 PM) and Friday 6-7th period (12:50 PM – 2:45 PM) in room 201 of the Red Larson building of Animal Sciences.

“Recommended Text”: Companion Animals: Their Biology, Care, Health, and Management by Karen L. Campbell and John R. Campbell. Pearson-Prentice Hall. 2009.

Office Hours:

Wednesday 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm, except as announced or an appointment is made.

Course Objectives:

Students will study and apply principles of management, nutrition, genetics, reproduction and behavioral aspects of care and training of dogs, cats, birds, miniature farm animals and rodents and other species that are kept as companion animals. After completing the course, it is the instructor's hope that the students will have gained:

1. An understanding of the procedures to use to select companion animals, including appropriate pet species and breed selection;
2. An understanding of the control of genetic variation in colorations, abnormalities and other traits in dogs, cats and selected bird species along with mechanisms for the genetic improvement of such species through selective breeding;
3. An understanding of the nutritional requirements of companion animals and how to compare alternative commercially available pet foods;
4. An understanding of the reproductive processes of companion animals and the proper care and management of such animals throughout the process of breeding, gestation, parturition (or incubation) and care of newborn/newly hatched offspring; and

- An overview of the training procedures utilized to prepare dogs for use as guide/therapy dogs and/or to compete in obedience, agility, herding and other competitive events.

Examinations and Grading Policy:

Examinations will include two midterm examinations, five announced quizzes and a cumulative final examination. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. The course averages will be computed as follows:

- Midterm Exams: 40%
- Quiz Average: 10% (4)
- Project: 10%- groups of 5, 12 min presentation on your favorite companion animal
- Final Exam:40%

The averages below will assure the following grades:

92 - 100.....A+	79 - 81.9 B -	67 - 68.9 D +
89 - 91.9A-	77 - 78.9 C+	60 - 66.9 D
87 - 88.9B+	72 - 76.9C	56 - 59.9 D -
82 - 86.9B	69 - 71.9 C -	Below 56 E

Please consult UF’s grading policy at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/home.aspx>

OTHER IMPORTANT STUDENT INFO

Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. 0001 Reid Hall, 392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/

Software Use

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Academic Honesty

In 1995, the UF student body enacted a new honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students.

In adopting this honor code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the university community. Students who enroll at the university commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the honor code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the honor code is bound by honor to take corrective action. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon community acceptance and enforcement of the honor code.

The Honor Code: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied: **“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”**

The university requires all members of its community to be honest in all endeavors. A fundamental principle is that the whole process of learning and pursuit of knowledge is diminished by cheating, plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty. In addition, every dishonest act in the academic environment affects other students adversely, from the skewing of the grading curve to giving unfair advantage for honors or for professional or graduate school admission. Therefore, the university will take severe action against dishonest students. Similarly, measures will be taken against faculty, staff and administrators who practice dishonest or demeaning behavior.

Students should report any condition that facilitates dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court. *(Source: 2013-2014 Undergraduate Catalog)*

It is assumed all work will be completed independently unless the assignment is defined as a group project, in writing by the instructor. This policy will be vigorously upheld at all times in this course.

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. Both the Counseling Center and Student Mental Health Services provide confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. The Counseling Center is located at 301 Peabody Hall (next to Criser Hall). Student Mental Health Services is located on the second floor of the Student Health Care Center in the Infirmary.

- *University Counseling Center*, 301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
- *Career Resource Center*, CR-100 JWRU, 392-1602, www.crc.ufl.edu/
- *Student Mental Health Services*, Rm. 245 Student Health Care Center, 392-1171, www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program (ASAP)

Center for Sexual Assault / Abuse Recovery & Education (CARE)

Eating Disorders Program

Employee Assistance Program

Suicide Prevention Program