

ANFS 350 – ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SPRING SEMESTER

Course Description:

Introduction to domestic and companion animal behavior, in relation to animal management, production, and welfare. Lectures cover animal behavior and its basis, including genetic, physiological and environmental factors, as well as different types of behavior, including communication, feeding, social, parental, and others. (3 CREDITS)

Prerequisites:

ANFS 101 or BISC 208. It is assumed that students have some knowledge and understanding of the basic biology of animals.

Textbook, Supplemental Readings, and Miscellaneous Information:

Although not required, the textbook that is referenced for this course is "Domestic Animal Behavior for Veterinarians & Animal Scientists" by Katherine A. Houpt. 2011. 5th Edition. Wiley-Blackwell Publishing. NOTE: the 4th edition (2005) is also acceptable and contains much of the same basic information/examples for animal behavior.

There are several good books and internet resources on “Animal Behavior”; some of this information will be posted in Sakai. During the course, there will be discussions related to specific topics of animal behavior. Specific papers, videos, web links, etc. for these discussions will also be made available through Sakai. You will be responsible for reviewing all materials.

Professor and Office Hours:

Dr. Marlene G. Emar
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Office hours : MW: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or MTWRF – by appointment.

The professor maintains an "open-door" policy. If the scheduled office hours are not suitable, appointments can be made for other days/times (e-mail works best for these arrangements). Drop-in visits are also welcomed.

Course Objectives and Learning Goals:

ANFS 350, “Animal Behavior” is designed for students in Animal Science or a related field who are interested in the many forms of animal behavior - their cause and function. The specific objectives of the course include:

1. Introduce students to the topic of animal behavior and demonstrate the complexity of this subject area. Students will learn to recognize the terminology and concepts related to animal behavior.

ANFS Learning Goal - "Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major core concepts in the animal and food sciences, specifically in Animal Behavior".

UD Gen. Ed. Goals - "Develop the intellectual curiosity, confidence, and engagement that will lead to lifelong learning".

2. Present practical applications of animal behavior, in relation to production, management, and welfare. The discussion topics are intended to give students an opportunity to actively learn about various behavioral topics and enhance their understanding of current issues/problems in animal production. The short quizzes are also intended to encourage independent thought and learning.

ANFS Learning Goal - "Students will demonstrate knowledge of the major core concepts in the animal and food sciences, specifically in Animal Behavior".

UD Gen. Ed. Goals - "Develop the ability to integrate academic knowledge with experiences that extend the boundaries of the classroom".

3. To encourage students to understand the relevance of animal behavior, both as a biologist and a human being.

ANFS Learning Goal – "Students will use critical thinking and reasoning, skeptical inquiry and scientific approach to solve current problems in animal behavior"

UD Gen. Ed. Goals - "Develop the ability to integrate academic knowledge with experiences that extend the boundaries of the classroom".

NOTE: The University of Delaware's General Education goals can be found at <http://www2.udel.edu/gened/>. The Department of Animal & Food Sciences' mission and learning goals can be found at <http://canr.udel.edu/program-assessment/>.

Course Policies:

1. The class format consists of lectures, discussion topics, short quizzes, and three exams. There are two meeting times that are scheduled each week (Tues/Thurs 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM). The class will meet in 132 Townsend Hall. See the course schedule on "Sakai home page" for specific lecture topics that will be presented through the semester.
2. Any assigned readings/videos/web links should be viewed before the lecture.
3. This course is managed through UD-Sakai (<http://www.udel.edu/sakai>). The course syllabus and schedule, PowerPoint presentations, discussion resources, and additional information/web links will be provided through this management system.
4. Attendance is strongly encouraged. **NOTE** that there will be 8 unannounced quizzes through the semester. Only excused absences will be acceptable for considering a make-up quiz/assignment. See the Official Student Handbook for criteria for an excused absence. In summary, excused absences are religious holidays, medical (with an official medical excuse), athletics, marching band, and a death in the family.
5. Disruptive classroom behavior should be avoided. Please make sure that your cell phone is turned off. Laptops are allowed for viewing PowerPoint slides and taking notes. If you are late for class, enter quietly. If you are late for class, enter quietly. Limit conversations with your neighbor! Be considerate of your colleagues in the classroom.

Disability Statement:

Any student who thinks s/he has a need for accommodations based upon the impact of a disability should contact the professor as soon as possible. You should also contact the Office of Disabilities Support Services (240 Academy Street - Alison Hall Suite 119; phone: 302-831-4643; <http://www.udel.edu/DSS/>) to coordinate appropriate accommodations.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. All students must be honest and forthright in their academic studies. To steal the works or ideas of another, to cheat on an assignment, or to allow or assist another to commit these acts corrupts the educational process. Students are expected to do their own work and neither give nor receive unauthorized assistance. Any violation of this standard must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct: <http://www.udel.edu/stuguide/14-15/index.html> .

Discussion Topics:

There will be four discussion topics through the semester. Each topic will relate to recent lectures and current papers/internet resources, etc. will be posted on UD-Sakai. These items should be viewed prior to the topic discussion. Discussions will be informal and students should be prepared to discuss them in class.

Quizzes:

There will be eight unannounced quizzes throughout the semester. The questions on the quizzes will be based on the 2-3 lectures prior to each quiz or on a related video. Each quiz will count 5%, with a total of 40% for all quizzes counting toward the final grade. The length of time for each quiz will be 10-15 minutes.

Invited Guest Lectures:

On occasion, other faculty and professionals will present Lectures for the class. Students will be expected to attend and participate in these lectures. The guest lecture materials will be included in the exams.

Grading:

There will be three exams (includes one exam scheduled during finals week). The exams will count 60% toward the final grade. The short quizzes will account for the remaining 40%. NOTE: Exam 3 will be scheduled during finals week and it will NOT be comprehensive (it will only include the lecture materials since exam 2).

ITEM	% OF GRADE
Exam 1	20
Exam 2	20
Exam 3	20
Eight Quizzes (5% each)	40
TOTAL PERCENTAGE	100

Grades will not be curved. A grading standard will be used for the final letter grade:

TOTAL %	Grade
91 and greater	A
87 - 90	A-
83 - 86	B+
79 - 82	B
75 - 78	B-
71 - 74	C+
67 - 70	C
63 - 66	C-
59 - 62	D+
55- 58	D
51- 54	D-
50 and lower	F