

Topics in Companion Animal Issues: Animals and Health

11:067:461, 2 Credit Hours

Tuesday ; Thursday 2:15-3:10 PM ; **HICKMAN HALL 123**

Please note this course is an in-person class with a large interactive component – attendance is required for successful completion of the course

Instructor: Dr. Anna Hausmann (DVM)

Office: 213D Bartlett Hall

Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00am-12:00pm in-person, MASKS REQUIRED, or by appointment

E-mail: anna.hausmann@rutgers.edu

Please e-mail for appointments. Responses are generally within 24 business hours.

Prerequisites:

Juniors and Seniors only ; Two semesters of biology highly recommended

Textbook:

There is no required textbook for this course. All readings will be available to you via the Canvas course website and are noted in the schedule at the end of the syllabus:

canvas.rutgers.edu

Course Description:

Topics in Companion Animal Issues: Animals and Health focuses on allowing you to further explore current health-related concerns of companion animals (focusing on dogs and cats). In this course, you will be reading, assessing the quality of, and presenting primary research literature while investigating “hot topic” issues in the health of dogs and cats. This course will prepare you for utilizing research to make informed decisions, understanding the basics of health concerns in companion animals, developing communication skills, and utilizing critical thinking skills to solve problems. By the end of the course, you will have learned transferable skills that will allow you to approach and solve problems you may face in your future career.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand basics health concerns related to companion animals (focus on dogs and cats). (PLG 3)
Assessment: Discussions, quizzes, and examinations
- Be able to find, assess the quality of, and present peer-reviewed primary literature (PLG 5)
Assessment: Presentations
- Understand how to effectively communicate with others (PLG 6)
Assessment: Communication project

Absence Policy:

This is a seminar-based, discussion course and you are expected to attend and participate in every lecture period. Excused absences are absences that have been documented by the Dean of

Students (deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu) and once the documentation has been cleared you must contact Dr. H directly to determine how to proceed. All other absences, **including arriving to class more than 5 minutes late (after 2:20 pm)**, will be considered **unexcused**. If you have three (3) unexcused absences from the course, you will earn a failing grade (F).

There are no make-ups for exams or the assignments except for appropriately documented and approved absences by the **Dean of Students office** (deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu). Failure to appropriately document absences and/or failure to obtain excusal from the Dean of Students Office will result in an “F” on the exam(s) and/or the assignment(s). No late work will be accepted with proper communication to the Dean of Students and Dr. H.

Grading Procedure:

Quizzes (lowest quiz grade will be dropped) – 85 points [~13%]

Communication Project (**October 11th**) – 100 points [~16%]

Midterm 1 (**October 27th**) – 100 points [~16%]

Midterm 2 (**December 13th**) – 100 points [~16%]

Presentations (**Schedule posted after Add/Drop period**) – 250 points [~39%]

Grades will be calculated as follows:

A = 90% or above, B+= 88% - 89%, B = 80% - 87%, C+= 78% - 79%, C = 70% - 77%, D = 60% - 69%, F = less than 60%

Quizzes

Short, 5-minute quizzes will be administered at the start of select class periods focused on clarifying your understanding of the material. Please see the lecture schedule below for the dates and material that will be covered on each quiz. Quizzes CANNOT be made up and if you arrive late, you will NOT be able to take the quiz. At the end of the semester, the lowest quiz grade will be dropped. No make-up quizzes are possible as answers are posted and discussed after completion of the quiz.

Communication Project

You will be divided into groups of 2-3 to take part in a communication project to help improve your communication skills. More details regarding the members of each group and the expectations of the assignment will be given after the Add/Drop period.

Exams

There will be two midterm exams given during the semester. The first midterm will be given in class on **October 27th** covering lectures 1-15. The second midterm will be given in class on **December 13th** covering material from lecture 16-27.

Research Presentations:

You will be presenting research articles in assigned groups of 3-4 students throughout the semester. Specifics regarding the group members and dates of the presentations will be given after the Add/Drop period.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all the University's educational programs. To receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation:

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with me and discuss the accommodations *as early in this course as possible*. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The university's policy on Academic Integrity is available at:

<http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-at-rutgers/>.

The principles of academic integrity require that a student:

- properly acknowledge and cite all use of the ideas, results, or words of others.
- properly acknowledge all contributors to a given piece of work.
- make sure that all work submitted as his or her own in a course or other academic activity is produced without the aid of impermissible materials or impermissible collaboration.
- obtain all data or results by ethical means and report them accurately without suppressing any results inconsistent with his or her interpretation or conclusions.
- treat all other students in an ethical manner, respecting their integrity and right to pursue their educational goals without interference. This requires that a student neither facilitate academic dishonesty by others nor obstruct their academic progress.
- uphold the canons of the ethical or professional code of the profession for which he or she is preparing.

Adherence to these principles is necessary in order to ensure that

- everyone is given proper credit for his or her ideas, words, results, and other scholarly accomplishments.
- all student work is fairly evaluated and no student has an inappropriate advantage over others.
- the academic and ethical development of all students is fostered.
- the reputation of the University for integrity in its teaching, research, and scholarship is maintained and enhanced.

Failure to uphold these principles of academic integrity threatens both the reputation of the University and the value of the degrees awarded to its students. Every member of the University community therefore bears a responsibility for ensuring that the highest standards of academic integrity are upheld.

STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICES

Just In Case Web App <http://codu.co/cee05e>

Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.rhscaps.rutgers.edu/

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff, and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-9321181.

Scarlet Listeners

(732) 247-5555 / <http://www.scarletlisteners.com/>

Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.

Course Schedule* Fall Term 2022 T/R 2:15-3:10 PM ; Hickman Hall 123

Date/ Lect.:	Topic:	Readings (to be completed <u>PRIOR</u> <u>TO</u> class):	Assignments:
Sept. 6 Lect. 1	Course Introduction Introduction to primary, peer-reviewed, and secondary literature	Required: Syllabus Required: Introductory Module	Library Quiz – QUIZ LINK UNDER WEEK 1 MODULE Due Sept 8th 8:00 AM EST Introductory Survey – CANVAS QUIZ Due Sept. 9th 5:00 PM EST Topics Contract – CANVAS QUIZ Due Sept. 16th 11:59 PM EST
Sept. 8 Lect. 2	Introduction to Rutgers Library and Accessing Literature	Check out the Topics Library Guide at: https://libguides.rutgers.edu/companionanimals	Two Primary Research Articles Upload to Canvas Assignments Due Sept. 12th 5:00 PM EST
Sept. 13 Lect. 3	Introduction to Cannabidiol (CBD)	Required: Read the two primary research articles you uploaded to Canvas Highly Recommended: Personal primary and secondary literature search regarding CBD and companion animals (dogs/cats) [HINT: Check out the lib guide for the course ; see link above]	QUIZ 1: Sept. 13th 2:15 PM <i>Based on lecture 1 and the articles you uploaded to Canvas</i>
Sept. 15 Lect. 4	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to the use of Cannabidiol (CBD) in companion animals (dogs and cats)	Required: Pharmacokinetics of cannabidiol administered by 3 delivery methods at 2 different dosages to healthy dogs Required: Pharmacokinetics, Safety, and Clinical Efficacy of Cannabidiol Treatment in Osteoarthritic Dogs Highly Recommended: Toxicology of Marijuana, Synthetic Cannabinoids, and Cannabidiol in Dogs and Cats	QUIZ 2: Sept. 15th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required readings and previous lecture</i>
Sept. 20 Lect. 5	Introduction to Communication	Required: Master this veterinary procedure: Client communication	Pre-Communication Survey: Sept. 20th 2:15 PM <i>Survey given in class</i>

Sept. 22 Lect. 6	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Non-Verbal Communication	Required: Nonverbal Communication in Veterinary Practice	QUIZ 3: Sept. 22nd 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Sept. 27 Lect. 7	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Difficult Communication	Required: Difficult Interactions with Veterinary Clients: Working in the Challenge Zone	QUIZ 4: Sept. 27th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Sept. 29 Lect. 8	Practice Communication Scenarios	None	Complete Worksheets
Oct. 4 Lect. 9	Practice Communication Scenarios	None	Complete Worksheets
Oct. 6 Lect. 10	Introduction to Vaccinations	None	Post-Communication Survey: Oct. 6th 2:15 PM <i>Survey given in class</i>
Oct. 11 Lect. 11	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Vaccinations	Required: Lack of protection against feline immunodeficiency virus infection among domestic cats in New Zealand vaccinated with the Fel-O-Vax® FIV vaccine (Group 1)	Communication Project Oct. 11th 2:15 PM (SUBMISSION CAN BE VIA CANVAS OR PAPER AT THE START OF CLASS) QUIZ 5: Oct. 11th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Oct. 13 Lect. 12	Introduction to Parasites	None	
Oct. 18 Lect. 13	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Parasites	Required: Preventive efficacy of six monthly oral doses of Simparica Trio®, Heartgard® Plus, and Interceptor® Plus against a macrocyclic lactone-resistant strain (ZoeLA) of heartworm (Dirofilaria immitis) in dogs (Group 2)	QUIZ 6: Oct. 18th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>

Oct. 20 Lect. 14	Introduction to Preventatives	None	
Oct. 25 Lect. 15	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Preventatives	Required: Efficacy of a topical formulation of selamectin plus sarolaner against induced infestations of <i>Amblyomma americanum</i> on cats and prevention of <i>Cytauxzoon felis</i> transmission (Group 3)	QUIZ 7: Oct. 25th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Oct. 27	MIDTERM EXAM	None	Midterm 1: Oct. 27th 2:15 PM <i>Lecture 1 – Lecture 15</i>
Nov. 1 Lect. 16	Introduction to Public Health	None	
Nov. 3 Lect. 17	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Public Health	Required: U.S. dog importations during the COVID-19 pandemic: Do we have an erupting problem? (Group 4)	QUIZ 8: Nov. 3rd 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Nov. 8 Lect. 18	Introduction to Zoonotic Disease	None	
Nov. 10 Lect. 19	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Zoonotic Disease	Required: Seasonal and spatial variation in <i>Toxoplasma gondii</i> contamination in soil in urban public spaces in California, United States (Group 5)	QUIZ 9: Nov. 10th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Nov. 15 Lect. 20	Introduction to Nutrition - Dog	None	
Nov. 17 Lect. 21	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Nutrition - Dogs	Required: Association of diet with clinical outcomes in dogs with dilated cardiomyopathy and congestive heart failure (Group 1)	QUIZ 10: Nov. 17th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Nov. 22 Lect. 22	Introduction to Nutrition - Cats	None	
Nov. 29 Lect. 23	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Nutrition - Cats	Required: One-year study evaluating efficacy of an iodine-restricted diet for the treatment of moderate-to-severe hyperthyroidism in cats (Group 2)	QUIZ 11: Nov. 29th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>

Dec. 1 Lect. 24	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Pain	Required: Meloxicam vs robenacoxib for postoperative pain management in dogs undergoing combined laparoscopic ovariectomy and laparoscopic-assisted gastropexy (Group 3)	QUIZ 12: Dec. 1st 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Dec. 6 Lect. 25	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Declawing of Cats	Required: Declawing has no effect on biting behavior but does affect adoption outcomes for domestic cats in an animal shelter (Group 4)	QUIZ 13: Dec. 6th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Dec. 8 Lect. 26	Seminar/Discussion of literature related to Animal Assisted Interventions (AAI)	Required: Physiological and behavioral effects of animal-assisted interventions on therapy dogs in pediatric oncology settings (Group 5)	QUIZ 14: Dec. 8th 2:15 PM <i>Based on the required reading and previous lecture</i>
Dec. 13	MIDTERM EXAM 2	None	Midterm 2: Dec. 13th 2:15 PM

Schedule subject to change