

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: COMPANION ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **5223NATSCI** (125803)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Biological and Environmental Sciences  
Teaching School/Faculty: Biological and Environmental Sciences

Team	Leader
Penny Oakland	Y
Brian Preston	
Jennifer Sneddon	

**Academic Level:** FHEQ5      **Credit Value:** 20      **Total Delivered Hours:** 55  
**Total Learning Hours:** 200      **Private Study:** 145

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	27
Off Site	6
Online	2
Practical	14
Workshop	6

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Test	Tests	Online Tests	50	
Portfolio	Evaluation	Portfolio	50	

### Aims

*To evaluate the behaviour and welfare of companion animals.*

## Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Discuss a range of behaviour and welfare issues in companion animals and consider the possible underlying causes.
- 2 Discuss the human-animal bond in relation to functions of companion animals in modern society e.g. as pets, in working roles and in animal assisted therapy.
- 3 Evaluate the effectiveness of positive reinforcement to the training and behaviour modification of companion animals with different roles e.g. pets, working sheepdogs, guide dogs, detection dogs.
- 4 Discuss the role of a companion animal behaviour consultant

## Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Online Tests	1	2	3	4
Training & Welfare evaluations	1	2	3	

## Outline Syllabus

*Introduction to the behaviour & welfare of companion animals. Consequences of domestication at breed level. Introduction to sensory perception & communication signals. Common behavioural problems & possible causes. Companion animal welfare issues (e.g. welfare assessment, legislation, training & behavioural modification methods, breeding). Animal learning in relation to training & behaviour modification. Pet behaviour consultancy: the role of a companion animal behaviour consultant including aspects of clinical procedures - principles, procedures and practice. The human-animal bond & animal assisted therapy.*

## Learning Activities

The module is delivered via a series of lectures, workshops, practicals and fieldwork. A number of lectures are delivered by external specialists to provide work-related learning opportunities.

## Notes

An introduction to companion animal behaviour which focuses mainly on dogs, specialising in the varied roles our companion animals are faced with in modern society and the impacts these may have on their welfare.