Liverpool John Moores University

Title: COMPANION ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR
Status: Definitive
Code: **6209NATSCI**   (122556)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

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

Team	Leader
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Academic Level:	FHEQ6	**Credit Value:**	20	**Total Delivered Hours:**	50
Total Learning Hours:	200	**Private Study:**	150		

Delivery Options
Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	20
Off Site	6
Practical	14
Workshop	10

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Report	Welfare	Problem-based learning scenario	50	
Essay	Training	Essay	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   Critically evaluate a problem scenario that raises behaviour and welfare issues in companion animals and make realistic proposals, with clear justification, as to how these may be addressed.
3   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.
4   Critically 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, police dogs.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Welfare Problem Scenario	1	2
Human-Animal Bond & Training	3	4

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). 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/workshops are delivered by external specialists to provide work-related learning opportunities.

Notes

An advanced course on animal behaviour, specialising in the varied roles our companion animals are faced with in modern society and the impacts these may have on their welfare. Dogs will be the main focus but a range of other companion animals will be discussed as appropriate.