

Human and Animal Interactions in the United States

Course: ANIM SCI 248 Credits: 2

Prerequisites: n/a

Course Offering: Autumn Quarter, 2010

Wednesday: 4:00 – 5:18 pm, Room 202, Animal Science Building

Saturday Field Trips: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm (Non-home football weekends, dates to be announced)

-Verify meeting times in class the Wednesday prior to departure.

Students must attend three of the four trips

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GEC Category 4; Diversity; International Issues

GEC Learning Objectives

International Issues courses help students become educated, productive, and principled citizens of their nation and the world. Students will learn and exhibit an understanding of political, economic, cultural, physical, and social differences among the nations of the world, including a specific examination of non-Western culture. Within ANIM SCI 248, students will expand their understanding of the role that animals play in shaping society, culture, and economics within the U.S. and Europe.

Introduction

Animals have an inherent role in our society, from symbolism (mascots, zodiac signs), to pets/companions, to children's literature (cartoons and books), to entertainment (zoo, circus, horse racing) to providers of food and fiber. In more recent years we have witnessed changes in the way our society views animals. There have been intense debates about animal behavior, welfare, and management in many facets of our lives.

This is the first course in a two-course series (ANIM SCI 248 & ANIM SCI 697.05 /ANIM SCI 697.06 [3 credits]) designed to give you an appreciation for how history, government, geography, and infrastructure can impact the use of animals within our society. Together, the two courses will provide you with an opportunity and a forum in which you can compare our mid-western culture (especially focusing on the role of animals in our immediate communities; ANIM SCI 248) with that of other cultures (and directly comparing it with a European culture via travel to Ireland; ANIM SCI 697.05 or with an Eurasian culture via travel to New Zealand; ANIM SCI 697.06). The combination of courses will require you to be actively engaged in the

learning process, as most of the activities take place outside the traditional classroom via field trips and study abroad activities that involve experiencing and witnessing human/animal interaction in real-world settings.

Course Objectives:

- To create awareness of the role and impact that animals have on our daily lives
- To explore the use of and attitudes toward animals in our communities
- To allow students to broaden their knowledge, gain an appreciation for other cultures, and study the impact that animals have on different aspects of our society as well as others around the world
- To gain an appreciation for how history, government, geography, and infrastructure can impact cultural development of our societies and the use of land and animals within our societies
- To allow students to become more engaged in a learning experience that explores how animals are involved with our communities and beliefs

Required reading: Course packet and on-line (Carmen)

Course Format

Wednesday

The class will meet once a week on Wednesdays to review assigned readings, discuss current events, reflect on interactions and reactions related to field trips, and prepare for travel. In addition, the class will meet for short field trip experiences near the OSU campus as noted in the class syllabus. Class attendance is required. Excused absences will be allowed for activities officially sanctioned by The Ohio State University or in the case of an emergency with documentation.

Saturday

Four field trips are planned to allow you to witness and experience first-hand various interactions between humans and animals and how animals are used in our culture. The field trips will take us to sites in the Columbus area as well as throughout Ohio. Participation in three of the four is required, but you are encouraged to participate in all four field trips. Travel will be by tour bus and all travel will initiate and end at the Animal Science Building. Field trip time commitments will vary with travel location; however, in general students should expect to depart as early as 6:30 am and return as late as 6:00 pm on any given Saturday (check the schedule and attend class for updates). Lunch for field trip experiences will be the responsibility of the students with options that may include packing a lunch or purchasing a lunch on site. General destinations and trips may include:

- A local animal shelter
- A wildlife preserve or zoo
- Livestock production units
- Animal assistance organizations
- Equine training and exhibition settings
- Companion animal boarding and veterinary clinics
- Laboratory animal resource facilities

Grading:

Criteria	Number Required	Points	Total Possible
Media Items	4	4 pts each	16 pts
Saturday Field Trip Essay	3	10 pts each	30 pts
Participation on Field Trips	3	12 pts each	36 pts
Quizzes - Unannounced			18 pts
TOTAL			100 pts

Grading Scale:

A = 93 to 100%	A- = 90 to 92%	B- = 80 to 82%
B+ = 87 to 89%	B = 83 to 86%	C- = 70 to 72%
C+ = 77 to 79%	C = 73 to 76%	E = 62% or less
D+ = 67 to 69%	D = 63 to 66%	

Methods of Evaluation:

Satisfactory completion of this course is a prerequisite for ANIM SCI 697.05 Study Abroad 'Human and Animal Interactions in Europe'

Media Items: You are expected to search available media outlets for current events that involve human/animal interactions that related to topics designated by the instructors. A short, written explanation (~150 - 200 words, double space, Arial - 12 pt font, 1 inch margins) describing why the article was chosen and how it relates to a specific aspect of the field trip and the overall class objectives is required. Students will be asked to share a brief synopsis of the article content with the class to facilitate additional discussion. Four unique media article/event reports are required. Dates for completion will be assigned by the instructors.

Field Trip Essay: You will be required to write three, two page (~ 500 words) essays characterizing the human-animal interactions you witnessed during a field trip. The essay will be due the Wednesday following the field trip and must be submitted electronically via the Carmen site. Essays must be submitted using Arial, 12 pt font, 1 inch margins, double spaced.

Participation on Field Trips: You will be required to participate on at least three field trips during the quarter. If you actively participate on all four field trips you will be awarded 5 bonus points and the best score from three of your four field trip essays will be used in grading. If your achieve all possible points on the first three field trip essays you will not need to write a fourth essay.

Academic Integrity

Students are subject to the provisions of the *Code of Student Conduct* (http://www.asc.ohio-state.edu/honors/conduct_document.htm), a compilation of rules and conduct and major policies and procedures affecting students. The code is published in the *Student Handbook* by the Office of Student Life. Academic misconduct (plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of misconduct as defined by the university) will not be tolerated in this course. According to Faculty Rule 3335-31-02 Academic Misconduct is defined as any activity which tends to compromise the academic integrity of the institution or subvert the educational process. Please see the Student Resource Guide or the instructor if you have questions about this policy.

Disability Services

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact Dr. Moeller privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in room 150 Pomerene Hall (<http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>) to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Topic Outline by Week

Week 1:

Wednesday – Class Introduction and Overview

Week 2:

Wednesday – Ireland travel information

Saturday – Field Trip

Week 3:

Wednesday – Review and Discuss Field Trip

Week 4:

Wednesday – University Lab Animal Resources Tour

Saturday – Field Trip

Week 5:

Wednesday – Guest Lecture

Week 6:

Wednesday – Review and Discuss Field Trip

Saturday – Field Trip

Week 7:

Wednesday – Guest Lecture

Saturday – Field Trip

Week 8:

Wednesday – Review and Discuss Field Trip

Week 9:

Wednesday – Guest Lecture - History of Ireland

Week 10:

Wednesday – Tour

Week 11:

Wednesday – Guest Lecture