

City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus

**Offered by Department of Infectious Diseases and Public
Health with effect from Semester A 2020/2021**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Animal Behaviour and Handling

Course Code: VM 2102

Course Duration: 1 semester

Credit Units: 3 credits

Level: B2

Proposed Area: Arts and Humanities
(for GE courses only) Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations
 Science and Technology

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Equivalent Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Exclusive Courses:
(Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

The course is intended to provide veterinary students with a foundation in animal behaviour, handling and training. The course will provide an introduction to the scientific study of behaviour, including the evolution of behaviour, and emotional and behavioural health. Students will learn about the normal behaviour of species of key veterinary importance (cats, dogs, horses, cattle, small ruminants, pigs, and poultry, plus other species of importance in Hong Kong), including the assessment of body language for each species. Students will be taught about learning theory and how learning theory is used for effective (and ineffective) training. The course will also cover the principles of low stress handling for the key species as well as introducing low stress veterinary practice.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs [#]	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A	A2	A3
1.	Describe the normal behaviour of domestic animals and the evolution of behaviour in these species.	40%	✓		
2.	Assess the behaviour and temperament of an animal, and apply a safe, humane and low stress approach to handling and restraint	40%	✓		
3.	Evaluate the restraint, training and management methods of species of veterinary importance, and advise on appropriate methods to improve safety and welfare.	20%	✓		
		100%			

* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

[#] Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
Lectures	The academic course content will be delivered to the students covering all of CILO 1 and an introduction to CILO 2 and 3.	✓	✓	✓		25 hrs in total
Tutorials	Students will learn about body language and low stress handling in a tutorial setting	✓	✓	✓		6 hrs in total
Practical classes	In laboratory, kennel, training centre and/or clinical settings, students will learn about learning theory and training of dogs and/or horses and how to handle domestic animals (e.g. cats, dogs) in a low stress manner.		✓	✓		8 hrs in total: 2 hrs/session × 4 sessions

- Note: some teaching will be arranged in block.

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: <u>50%</u>						
Essay	✓		✓		15%	
Poster presentation	✓		✓		25%	
Practical training report	✓	✓	✓		10%	
Examination: <u>50%</u>						
Final Examination (2 hrs)	✓	✓	✓		50%	
					100%	

* The weightings should add up to 100%.

5. Assessment Rubrics

(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C)	Failure (F)
1. Assignment tasks	1. Describe the normal behaviour of a domestic animal species not covered during class. 2. Identify appropriate training methods to train a wanted behaviour using animal learning principles.	Demonstrates a high level of knowledge regarding animal behaviour and the application of learning theory. Demonstrates high level of ability to describe these issues in written form.	Demonstrates a well-developed knowledge of animal behaviour and learning theory. Demonstrates well-developed ability to describe these issues in written form.	Demonstrates a basic level knowledge of animal behaviour and learning theory. Demonstrates basic ability to describe these issues in written form.	Demonstrates a lack of knowledge of animal behaviour and learning theory. Demonstrates lack ability to describe these issues in written form.
2. Examination	Describe normal animal behavioural patterns. Define and describe animal learning principles.	Demonstrates a highly developed knowledge and understanding of normal animal behaviour, body language and animal learning	Demonstrates a well-developed knowledge and understanding of normal animal behaviour, body language and animal learning	Demonstrates a basic knowledge and understanding of normal animal behaviour, body language and animal learning	Demonstrates a lack of knowledge and understanding of normal animal behaviour, body language and animal learning

Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

(An indication of the key topics of the course.)

Behaviour, normal behaviour, learning theory, training, handling, retraining domestic animals

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)

1.	Houpt K (2018) <i>Domestic Animal Behavior for Veterinarians and Animal Scientists</i> SBN: 978-1-119-23276-6, Wiley-Blackwell
2.	Jensen P (2002). <i>The ethology of domestic animals: an introductory text</i> . ISBN 0851996027, CABI
3.	Selected articles posted on Canvas

2.2 Additional Readings

(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)

1.	Broom, DM and Fraser, AF (2015). <i>Domestic animal behaviour and welfare</i> . London, Bailliere Tindall
2.	Lindsay, Voith VL (2008) <i>Handbook of Applied Dog Behavior and Training, Adaptation and Learning: Adaptation and Learning</i> Wiley