

**Behavior and Training of Domestic Animals**  
**ANSC 1602/SAAS 202, Spring 2021**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Instructors:** Dr. Kristen E. Govoni  
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**Class:** Husky CT or Thursdays 12:30-1:45 PM for hands on sessions

**Office hours – Dr. Govoni:** By appointment. I am happy to set up a time to talk by phone or WebEx to answer your questions. Email is the best way to contact me or you can leave a voicemail if I am not in the office.

**Office hours - Dr. Nadeau:** Office hours are by appointment. I am happy to set up a time to talk by phone or WebEx to answer your questions. Email can be sent 24 hours a day. You can send email to jenifer.nadeau@uconn.edu. My voice mail will take a message if I am not there, and a message can be left at any time, day or night.

**Textbook:** 1) Animal Behavior, Michael D. Breed and Janice Moore  
2) Additional required reading will be provided as needed.

**Course Description:** The application of ethology to domestic animal management and training.

**Objectives:**

1. Understand the basics of normal and abnormal behavior in domestic animals and learn to apply psychological principles to animal management and training.
2. Interpret research results and evaluate their applicability to domestic animal management.
3. Understand how to apply the principles of ethology to solve animal welfare problems.

<b>Grading</b>	<b>% of Total Grade</b>
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Exam 4	15%
Student Animal Training project	15%
Scientific Paper Review	5%
In-class participation and write-ups	10%
Quizzes	10%

## FINAL GRADES

Final grades will be determined based on the scale below:

A	= 93 – 100
A-	= 90 – 92
B+	= 87 – 89
B	= 83 – 86
B-	= 80 – 82
C+	= 77 – 79
C	= 73 – 76
C-	= 70 – 72
D+	= 67 – 69
D	= 63 – 66
D-	= 60 – 62
F	= ≤ 59

**Quizzes:** Participation quizzes will be interspersed throughout the lecture videos. Complete each quiz by the end of that week to earn your participation points.

**Exams:** Four exams will be given during the semester based on the lectures, discussion, and assigned reading given before each exam. Although textbook chapters have been assigned, additional information will be provided in lectures and discussions, so you are strongly encouraged to view all material and participation in person meetings. It will be difficult to do well in this course if you do not keep up with the lectures and discussions. All exams will be taken at the scheduled time. If a medical excuse is presented or you are excused for a trip by prior arrangement with me, a make-up exam will be scheduled. Otherwise, a zero will be recorded for the missed exam. Exams will be given on HuskyCT on the date listed below. You will need to take the exam by 11:59 PM. They will be open book/note. However, you are strongly encouraged to review lectures and material ahead of time (STUDY!!!). In the event you are not able to take the exam that day (due to an excused absence), you must contact Dr. Govoni before the exam to make other arrangements.

**HuskyCT:** A course site has been created on HuskyCT. Class notes, reading assignments and additional information needed for class will be posted. In addition, grades will be posted in the HuskyCT grade book for you to review. Login using your netid and password at <https://learn.uconn.edu/>. Although we have an email account on HuskyCT, we strongly encourage you to email us at the address above as we do not check the HuskyCT email as often. This will now be the primary place for you to find lectures and course material. I still encourage you to contact me directly by email with questions, but I will monitor this at least 1x/day (Mon – Fri) to check the discussion board and assignments.

### Classroom rules of conduct:

1. Please turn off cell phones and MP3 players during class.
2. Basic calculators should be used for calculations. Cell phones will not be allowed during exams.
3. Academic misconduct in any form is in violation of the University of Connecticut Student Code and will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to: copying or sharing answers on tests, quizzes and assignments, plagiarism, and having someone else do your academic work. Please see the student code at: [http://www.dos.uconn.edu/student\\_code.html](http://www.dos.uconn.edu/student_code.html) for details.
4. Absence of students due to religious beliefs: Students anticipating such a conflict should inform their instructor in writing within the first three weeks of the semester, and prior to the anticipated absence, and should take the initiative to work out with the instructor a schedule for making up missed work.
5. Make-up policy is with prior consent of instructor only. Exams must be made up by the next scheduled class after the exam.

6. Assignments that are handed in late will be docked 10% per day that it is late and no longer accepted after 1 week late. Extensions are granted only with prior consent of the instructor.
7. This class will follow the “finals rescheduling” policy as indicated on the website for the Office of Student Services and Advocacy. <http://www.ossa.uconn.edu/>
8. Please be patient with yourself and your instructors. This is a new way of life and teaching and education for all of us.
9. Your health comes first, so please contact me ASAP if you are not able to take a quiz or test due to illness or unsafe conditions.
10. If you do not have access to HuskyCT on a regular basis or difficulty with internet connection, please let me know ASAP so that we can make accommodations.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** [Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#)

\*\*\* I will do my best to meet accommodations and work with CSD in this new format. If I miss something, please let me know. My goal is for everyone to be successful in this course.\*\*\*

**Anticipated absence due to religious observances or extra-curricular activities:** Students anticipating such a conflict should inform their instructor in writing within the first three weeks of the semester, and prior to the anticipated absence, and should take the initiative to work out with the instructor a schedule for making up missed work. For conflicts with final examinations, students should contact the Office of the Dean of Students.

**Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment and Related Interpersonal Violence**<sup>[SEP]</sup> The University is committed to maintaining an environment free of discrimination or discriminatory harassment directed toward any person or group within its community – students, employees, or visitors. Academic and professional excellence can flourish only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect. All members of the University community are responsible for the maintenance of an academic and work environment in which people are free to learn and work without fear of discrimination or discriminatory harassment. In addition, inappropriate amorous relationships can undermine the University’s mission when those in positions of authority abuse or appear to abuse their authority. To that end, and in accordance with federal and state law, the University prohibits discrimination and discriminatory harassment, as well as inappropriate amorous relationships, and such behavior will be met with appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the University. Additionally, to protect the campus community, all non-confidential University employees (including faculty) are required to report sexual assaults, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking involving a student that they witness or are told about to the Office of Institutional Equity. The University takes all reports with the utmost seriousness. Please be aware that while the information you provide will remain private, it will not be confidential and will be shared with University officials who can help. More information is available at [equity.uconn.edu](http://equity.uconn.edu) and [titleix.uconn.edu](http://titleix.uconn.edu).

**Photo permission:** The UConn Department of Animal Science may send a representative to this class to photograph or videotape its proceedings for use in college publicity images, including postings on the website and/or social media as well as printed materials. If you do not wish to be photographed or recorded, please contact Michelle Lewis at [Michelle.B.Lewis@UConn.edu](mailto:Michelle.B.Lewis@UConn.edu).

**Copyright**—*Our lectures, notes, handouts, and displays are protected by state common law and federal copyright law. They are our own original expression and we’ve recorded them prior or during our lecture in order to ensure that we obtain copyright protection. Students are authorized to take notes in our class; however, this authorization extends only to making one set of notes for your own personal use and no other use. We will inform you as to whether you are authorized to record my lectures at the beginning of each semester. If you are so authorized to record our lectures, you may not copy this recording or any*

*other material, provide copies of either to anyone else, or make a commercial use of them without prior permission from us.*

## **Husky Study Groups**

Are you interested in forming a study group with other students in the class? There is a study group application in Nexus that can help you get started. Here is a [video](#) with students you can go on Nexus [here for help](https://nexus.uconn.edu/secure_per/studygroups/index.php) for more information.

## **Resources for Students Experiencing Distress**

The University of Connecticut is committed to supporting students in their mental health, their psychological and social well-being, and their connection to their academic experience and overall wellness. The university believes that academic, personal, and professional development can flourish only when each member of our community is assured equitable access to mental health services. The university aims to make access to mental health attainable while fostering a community reflecting equity and diversity and understands that good mental health may lead to personal and professional growth, greater self-awareness, increased social engagement, enhanced academic success, and campus and community involvement.

Students who feel they may benefit from speaking with a mental health professional can find support and resources through the [Student Health And Wellness-Mental Health](#) (SHAW-MH) office. Through SHAW-MH, students can make an appointment with a mental health professional and engage in confidential conversations or seek recommendations or referrals for any mental health or psychological concern.

Mental health services are included as part of the university's student health insurance plan and also partially funded through university fees. If you do not have UConn's student health insurance plan, most major insurance plans are also accepted. Students can visit the **Student Health And Wellness-Mental Health located in Storrs on the main campus in the Arjona Building, 4th floor**, or contact the office at (860) 486-4705, or <https://studenthealth.uconn.edu/> for services or questions.

## **Accommodations for Illness or Extended Absences**

Please stay home if you are feeling ill and please go home if you are in class and start to feel ill. If illness prevents you from attending class, it is your responsibility to notify your instructor as soon as possible. You do not need to disclose the nature of your illness, however, you will need to work with your instructor to determine how you will complete coursework during your absence.

If life circumstances are affecting your ability to focus on courses and your UConn experience, students can email the Dean of Students at [dos@uconn.edu](mailto:dos@uconn.edu) to request support. Regional campus students should email the student services staff at their home campus to request support and faculty notification.

**COVID-19 Specific Information:** People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and can include:

- Fever,
- Cough,
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills

- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Additional information including what to do if you test positive or you are informed through contact tracing that you were in contact with someone who tested positive, and answers to other important questions can be found here: <https://studenthealth.uconn.edu/updates-events/coronavirus/>

### **Mask and Social Distancing Expectations**

To ensure a safe learning environment for everyone, masks/face coverings must be worn at all times when in the classroom. If a student is not wearing a mask/face covering, they will be asked by the instructor to put one on immediately or leave the classroom. Repeatedly failing to follow this expectation will result in a referral to community standards. If an instructor is not wearing a mask/face covering, students should feel comfortable asking the instructor to put one on immediately. More information about proper usage of masks is available from Uconn Environmental Health and Safety at this [link](#).

Additionally, we will observe 6 feet of physical distancing in the classroom at all times. Please make sure to sit only in chairs or desks that are marked with a green circle and checkmark, and do not rearrange furniture or stickers. The university has arranged classrooms and seating to maintain physical distancing. Using these visual cues will help keep us all safe.

Activities that involve temporarily removing the mask, such as eating or drinking are not allowed. Please leave the classroom for such activities.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The University Of Connecticut is committed to protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities and assuring that the learning environment is accessible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. Students who require accommodations should contact the Center For Students With Disabilities, Wilbur Cross Building Room 204, (860) 486-2020 or <http://csd.uconn.edu/>.

Blackboard measures and evaluates accessibility using two sets of standards: the wcag 2.0 standards issued by the World Wide Web Consortium (w3c) and section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act issued in the United States Federal Government.” (Retrieved March 24, 2013 from [Blackboard's website](#))

### **Software/Technical Requirements (with Accessibility and Privacy Information)**

The software/technical requirements for this course include:

- Huskyct/Blackboard ([huskyct/ blackboard accessibility statement](#), [huskyct/ blackboard privacy policy](#))
- Microsoft Office (free to UConn students through [uconn.onthehub.com](http://uconn.onthehub.com)) ([microsoft accessibility statement](#), [microsoft privacy statement](#))
- Dedicated access to high-speed internet with a minimum speed of 1.5 mbps (4 mbps or higher is recommended).

For information on managing your privacy at the University of Connecticut, visit the [university's privacy page](#).

**Note:** This course has not been designed for use with mobile devices.

## Help

This course uses the learning management platform, [Huskyct](#). If you have difficulty accessing Huskyct, you have access to the in person/live person support options available during regular business hours through the [help center](#). You also have [24x7 course support](#) including access to live chat, phone, and support documents.

## Student Technology Training

Student technology training is now available in a new Huskyct short course created by students for students. It will prepare you to use the it systems and services that you will use throughout your time at uconn, whether learning online or on-campus. It is available at [https://lms.uconn.edu/ultra/courses/\\_80016\\_1/cl/outline](https://lms.uconn.edu/ultra/courses/_80016_1/cl/outline) .

## Minimum Technical Skills

To be successful in this course, you will need the following technical skills:

- Use electronic mail with attachments.
- Save files in commonly used word processing program formats.
- Copy and paste text, graphics or hyperlinks.
- Work within two or more browser windows simultaneously.
- Open and access pdf files.

University students are expected to demonstrate competency in computer technology. Explore the [computer technology competencies](#) page for more information..

## Evaluation of Course Experience

Students will be given an opportunity to provide feedback on their course experience and instruction using the university's standard procedures, which are administered by the [Office Of Institutional Research and Effectiveness](#) (OIRE).

The University of Connecticut is dedicated to supporting and enhancing teaching effectiveness and student learning using a variety of methods. The Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) is just one tool used to help faculty enhance their teaching. The set is used for both formative (self-improvement) and summative (evaluation) purposes.

## **Things to consider!**

- Due to the nature of online/distance learning, many of the planned lectures will be taped with a voice recording. You can watch these any time, but I encourage you to take notes while listening to the recording and do it well before the exam.
- Guest lectures are still in progress. Where possible, we will use BlackBoard Collaborate to include the speaker (during the designated class time) or videotape the person ahead and post online for you to watch any time.

- Student Projects – these will continue as outlined at the start of the semester. I will post instructions for how to upload your video. We now ask that you provide a short introduction at the start of the video (tell us about your animal). Everyone will have a chance to view the videos on their own time. An assignment will be posted related to viewing other students' videos.

**SYN = at scheduled time**

**IP = in person, come to campus as directed**

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Topic	Pages
Tue	1/19	Introduction to animal behavior and learning (JN)	2-12, 145-169
<b>Synchronous</b>		<b>Discussion of training project/review animal assessment</b>	
<b>(SYN)</b>			
Thur	1/21	Adaptive purpose, evolution of behavior, reinforcement (JN)	13-24, 157-164
Tue	1/26	Animal communication, shaping behavior, dog behavior (JN)	211-247
Thur	1/28	Migration, orientation, navigation, more training principles	253-288
		Animal updates	
Tue	2/2	Cognition, emotion, consciousness, avian flock behavior (JN)	175-206
Thur	2/4	Feeding, drinking and eliminative behavior, cat behavior (JN)	293-319
Tue	2/8	<b>Exam 1</b>	
Thur	2/11	Social behavior, cooperation, kinship; <b>animal assessment due</b> (KG)	423-454
		<b>paper review</b>	
Tue	2/16	Sexual behavior, mating systems (JN)	357-388
Thur	2/18	Zoo animal behavior – Bethany Thatcher, CT's Beardsley Zoo	325-351
<b>SYN</b>			
Tue	2/23	Sleeping, grooming, and exploratory behavior, parrot and psittacine behavior (JN)	131-132
Thur	2/25	Aggression and Fear/Self-defense/Police Dog (KG)	
<b>SYN/In Person (IP)</b>		<b>deadline for option to submit paper for review</b>	
Tue	3/2	<b>Exam 2</b>	
Thur	3/4	Ruminant behavior, beef/sheep ethogram (JN)- <b>meet at Horsebarn Hill Arena</b>	
<b>SYN/IP</b>			
Tue	3/9	Hormones and behavior (KG)	27-69
Thur	3/11	Horse behavior, observe teasing and breeding at barn (JN) – <b>meet at Horsebarn Hill Arena</b>	
<b>SYN/IP</b>			
		<b>Paper due</b>	
Tue	3/16	Nervous system and behavior and Circadian Rhythm (KG)	27-69
Thur	3/18	Guiding Eyes for the Blind (Kathy Rooney)	
<b>SYN/IP</b>			
Tue	3/23	<b>Exam 3</b>	
Thur	3/25	Technology and behavior/Police Dog (KG; Dairy barn visit)– <b>meet at KDC</b>	

**SYN/IP**

Tues 3/30 Development of behavior/Behavior Genetics (KG) 71-104

Thur 4/1 Animal Welfare and Regulation (KG; Sharon – barn walk throughs)

**SYN/IP - Meet at horsebarn arena**

Tue 4/6 Animal Welfare and Regulation, (KG)

Thur 4/8 Training in Animals (Trainer, Trip Barnett; JN)

**SYN/IP**

Tue 4/13 SPRING BREAK

Thur 4/15 SPRING BREAK

Tue 4/20 **Exam 4**

Thur 4/22 Student Projects/**Log Book due**

Tue 4/27 Student Projects