

Companion Animal Nutrition

ANSC 2035

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 11:00 – 11:50
AB 104

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Purpose: The purpose of this course is to offer introduction to and instruction in the fundamentals of nutrition as it pertains to common pets and other companion animals. The objective is to provide non-majors and beginning majors in biological sciences the opportunity to learn the nutrients, the digestive process, and the application of nutritional sciences to the health and well being of their companion animals. Terminology will be emphasized to provide students with the basics needed to begin to understand food labeling in general and pet food labeling in particular.

Text and supporting references:

Reference text - *Principles of Companion Animal Nutrition*, 2006, John P. McNamara, Pearson/Prentice Hall.

Reference texts: *Nutrition and Care of Companion Animals*, 1996, Nancy A. Irlbeck, Kendall/Hunt Publishing;

Canine and Feline Nutrition. A Resource of Companion Animal Professionals, 1995, Linda P. Case, Daniel P. Carey, Diane A. Hirakawa, Mosby Publishing.

Presentation and grading: The course will consist of **three** 50-minute lectures per week with discussion, questions, and interaction encouraged. **Three Midterm** type exams will be given at times consistent with course progress. Quizzes will be given each Wednesday; **the highest 10 quiz scores will be counted toward course credit. NOTE: Quiz and midterm makeup's will be granted for University excused absences only.** A project in which commercial companion animal foods and feeds are evaluated for composition and quality will be assigned. Grading will be curved appropriately if

necessary, but will initially follow an even 10 percentage point spread from 100 to 50 to equate to the conventional “A” to “F” grading system.

CELL PHONES: TURN THEM OFF. TEXTING HAS BEEN USED TO COMMIT ACTS OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY. CELL PHONE USE DURING A QUIZ WILL BE CONSIDERED ACADEMIC DISHONESTY. IT’S A HARD LINE, BUT IT NEEDS TO BE DRAWN!

Course outline: The course will generally follow the topics and order presented in the required text because, for a service course for non-majors, following such a sequence will provide students with a more logical outline. Additional material will be interjected as appropriate, and made available to students if not already illustrated or described in the required text.

<u>Topic (description)</u>	<u>Number of lectures(approximate)</u>
Introduction to nutrition (A general overview of nutrition as a discipline and how it relates to pet animals)	1
Nutrition during the life cycle (Description of an animal’s life cycle, development, growth, reproduction, etc., and how various changes that occur relate to the nutrition of the animal)	2
The nutrients: (The various nutrients will be described, as well as how they are utilized by the animal for the life cycle). Lecture topics are broken down as follows:	11
Carbohydrates	2
Fats	2
Protein	2
Vitamins	3
Minerals	2
Requirements for water, energy, and protein (Water, energy and protein provide more than most students realize; this topic will put needs for these three categories of macronutrients into a meaningful perspective)	2
Food and feed processing (Methods and constraints of specific processing techniques will be studied so that students can develop an appreciation for the physical nature of foods and feeds for pet animals)	3

Formulation and analysis

3

(How total mixed rations for animals are developed, and how diets can be broken down for analytical purposes will provide students with knowledge of how this vitally important aspect of the pet food and feed industry functions)

Species specific nutrition:

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(The nutritional considerations of various pet and companion animal species will now be covered. With the above background presented, students will be able to more effectively appreciate and understand how the various species differ, as well as require certain nutritional strategies for optimal life cycle quality). The order and lecture breakdown are as follows:

Canine	1.5
Feline	1.5
Equine	1.5
Rabbit	1.5
Llamas and alpacas	1.5
Birds	1.5
Fish	1.5
Rodents	1.5
Reptiles	1.5
Summary and Review	1