



# **ANSC\*6700 Animals in Society: Historical and Global Perspectives on Animal Welfare**

Fall 2023  
Section(s): C01

Department of Animal Biosciences  
Credit Weight: 0.50  
Version 1.00 - August 14, 2023

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## **1 Course Details**

### **1.1 Calendar Description**

A seminar course covering society's duties to animals. Students will learn about the major ethical theories that deal with society's duties towards animals, the main scientific approaches to animal welfare, and the relationship of science to ethics. A brief history of human-animal relationships will be covered and cultural differences described. Students will use this to analyze some current issues.

### **1.2 Course Description**

This graduate level course will review and discuss society's relationship with animals. It will explore how animals are affected by the ways in which human beings keep them, use them, and conflict with them. The main ethical theories that deal with humanity's duties to animals will be introduced, traced through history, and their strengths and weaknesses discussed. The relationship of science to ethics will be considered and the importance of being able to justify a moral point of view will be emphasized. Various scientific approaches to animal welfare will be described and the crucial importance of animal sentience in these approaches will be discussed. The acceptance of sentience in animals through history will be considered and the problems associated with assessing subjective feelings will be discussed. Society's attitudes to animals in Canada will be compared to elsewhere, and cultural differences will be considered. Society's willingness to pay for improved welfare will be discussed. The inadequacies of Canadian laws to protect animal welfare will be discussed. Finally, a variety of contemporary welfare problems will be described arising from the use of animals in agriculture, biomedical science, product testing, as service and working animals, and as animals in entertainment and sport. Possible solutions will be explored.

### **1.3 Timetable**

Timetable is subject to change. Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

Currently, Seminars will be held on Tuesdays from 11.30 am to 2.20 pm, ANNU room 101

**COVID-19 Disclaimer:** please be aware that the information on course delivery, accessibility and examinations presented in this outline were developed based on current University guidelines. However, due to the continuously evolving situation and resulting changes in public health recommendations, the format and delivery of this course may be revised with limited notice.

## 1.4 Final Exam

This course does not have a final exam.

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## 2 Instructional Support

### 2.1 Instructional Support Team

<b>Instructor:</b>	Ian Duncan Professor Emeritus
<b>Email:</b>	iduncan@uoguelph.ca
<b>Office Hours:</b>	I will be available for face-to-face meetings and discussions after each Seminar at 2.20 pm on Tuesdays. Otherwise I will be available for discussions by e-mail for most of the time between 8.00 am and 8.00 pm on weekdays and occasionally at weekends.

<b>Instructor:</b>	Ian Duncan
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## 3 Learning Resources

### 3.1 Course Technology and Technical Support

#### Technical Help for CourseLink

This course is being offered using CourseLink (powered by D2L's Brightspace), the University of Guelph's online learning management system (LMS). By using this service, you agree to comply with the University of Guelph's Access and Privacy Guidelines. Please visit the D2L website to review the Brightspace privacy statement and Brightspace Learning Environment web accessibility standards.

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/web/privacy/> <https://www.d2l.com/legal/privacy/>  
<https://www.d2l.com/accessibility/standards/>

## Technical Support

If you need any assistance with the software tools or the CourseLink website, contact CourseLink Support.

Email: [courselink@uoguelph.ca](mailto:courselink@uoguelph.ca)

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 56939 Toll-Free (CAN/USA): 1-866-275-1478

Support Hours (Eastern Time):

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–8:30 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Sunday: 12:00 pm–6:00 pm

### 3.1 Library Writing Resources & Workshops

The UofG Library offers a variety of writing resources and workshops. Students looking for feedback on their writing before submitting an assignment may find the free and confidential individual appointments particularly helpful.

<https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/writing-studying/writing-resources-workshops>

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## 4 Learning Outcomes

### 4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. sensitize students to other people's values and views
2. emphasize the importance of being able to justify a moral point of view
3. encourage exploring different forms of inquiry
4. enhance literacy and independence of thought
5. encourage logical thinking and develop critical thinking skills
6. enable students to marshal evidence in a logical way
7. present cogent arguments in a well-structured and convincingly-argued way
8. instill a sense of historical development and cultural diversity

### 4.2 Course Objectives

The general aims of the course are to:

- introduce the main ethical theories that deal with animals
- describe the various scientific approaches to animal welfare
- consider the relationship of science to ethics
- interpret and critically evaluate the literature on animal welfare
- make objective and evidence-based judgments on animal welfare
- be creative in solving welfare problems

## 5 Teaching and Learning Activities

### 5.1 Method of Course Presentation

Topics will be presented using traditional seminar format. There will be a few formal presentations by the instructor, but the major part of the seminars will be spent in discussion, debate and role-playing exercises.

## 6 Assessments

### 6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

Name	Scheme A (%)
Animal Welfare and Cultural Views - Oral Presentation	10
Animal Welfare Legislation - Written Assignment	15
Animal Welfare Debates - Group Oral Presentation	25
Animal Welfare Problems and Solutions - Oral Presentation	25
Animal Welfare Problems and Solutions - Written Assignment	25
Total	100

### 6.2 Assessment Details

#### **Animal Welfare and Cultural Views - Oral Presentation (10%)**

**Date:** Tue, Oct 24

**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Choose a welfare topic and discuss how various cultures deal with it. Comment on the strengths and weaknesses of each view and which view you personally favour and why. (Week 6 seminar).

**Animal Welfare Legislation - Written Assignment (15%)****Due:** Tue, Oct 31, 11:30 AM**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7

Choose a piece of animal welfare legislation from any country and discuss its inadequacy and/or ability to protect animal welfare. Submissions must be no more than 3 pages of text (12 pt. font, double spaced) excluding references. (Week 7 seminar).

**Animal Welfare Debates - Group Oral Presentation (25%)****Date:** Tue, Nov 7**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7

Debate an animal welfare topic formally. Topics and debate teams will be assigned ahead of time. (Week 8 Seminar).

**Animal Welfare Problems and Solutions - Oral Presentation (25%)****Date:** Tue, Nov 21 - Thu, Nov 30**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Choose a particular welfare problem and make a formal presentation, analyzing its causes and suggesting solutions. Answer questions from classmates and instructor. (Week 10, 11 & 12 seminars).

**Animal Welfare Problems and Solutions - Written Assignment (25%)****Date:** 1 week after presentation**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Each student will also write a paper on the same topic of their spoken presentation. Submissions must be no more than 5 pages of text (12 pt. font, double spaced) excluding references. These will be due 1 week after the date of their oral presentation.

## 7 Course Statements

### 7.1 Course Assignments

Hard copy of assignments should be handed in on the due date and submitted electronically via dropbox on or before the due date.

Be sure to keep a back-up copy of all of your assignments in the event that they are lost in transition. In order to avoid any last-minute computer problems, it is strongly recommended that you save your assignments to a cloud-based file storage (e.g., OneDrive), or send to your email account, so that should something happen to your computer, the assignment could still be submitted on time or re-submitted.

It is your responsibility to submit your assignments on time as specified on the Schedule. Be sure to check the technical requirements and make sure you have the proper computer, that you have a supported browser, and that you have reliable Internet access. Remember that **technical difficulty is not an excuse not to turn in your assignment on time.** Don't wait until

the last minute as you may get behind in your work.

If, for some reason, you have a technical difficulty when submitting your assignment electronically, please contact your instructor or CourseLink Support.

<http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/contact-us/>

## 7.2 Late Policy

Oral presentations MUST be given on the scheduled date. For written assignments, if you choose to submit your assignments late, the full allocated mark will be reduced by 10% per day, up to a maximum of three days late.

Extensions will be considered for medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances. If you require an extension, discuss this with the instructor as soon as possible and well before the due date. Barring exceptional circumstances, extensions will not be granted once the due date has passed.

# 8 University Statements

## 8.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

## 8.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

## 8.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and

alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

## 8.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

## 8.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website

<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

## 8.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community—faculty, staff, and students—to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of

their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

## 8.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

## 8.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

## 8.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

## 8.10 Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g.. final exam or major



assignment).

## **8.11 Covid-19 Safety Protocols**

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/>
- <https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campus/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces>

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.

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