Animal Studies Minor

Program Overview
Animal Studies is an interdisciplinary field that aims not only to investigate animals themselves, but also the relationship between human and non-human animals. Animal Studies brings together scholarship from the social and natural sciences, as well as the humanities. The Animal Studies minor exposes students to courses focusing on human and animal relations and interactions, animal biology/physiology, animal behavior and cognition, and the role played by non-human animals in the larger world around them. The selection of courses is designed to yield a greater knowledge of and appreciation for animals and our relationship with them.

Goals and Objectives of the Animal Studies Minor
- Students will develop a greater understanding of human-animal interactions and relationships
- Students will develop a greater understanding of animal biology/physiology, behavior and cognition
- Students will develop a greater understanding of the role played by non-human animals in the larger world around them
- Students will be exposed to ethical issues surrounding human-animal relationships

The Minor
All students seeking the minor will take the following courses:

1. **PSY 208 Human-Animal Relations** (PSY 100 or PSY 101 is prerequisite)

2. An understanding of how human and non-human animals relate and interact requires understanding form and function of the organisms, so all students seeking to minor in Animal Studies will complete one of the following courses: BIO 260 Anatomy and Physiology (BIO 101 or BIO 165 are prerequisites), or BIO 406 Comparative Anatomy, or BIO 417 Systemic Physiology (These courses all have prerequisites).

3. A background in the biological underpinnings of behavior is helpful when considering the interactions and relationships between human and non-human animals. All students seeking to minor in Animal Studies must take **PSY 201 Biological Bases of Behavior**. (PSY 100 or 101 is prerequisite)

4. Students will take three additional courses to complete the Animal Studies minor (Note: many of these have pre-requisites and/or co-requisites); at least one of these courses must be from a department other than Psychology or Biology. Students may choose from among the following, which are included in order to provide additional knowledge of human and non-human animal relations and interactions, animal biology/physiology, animal behavior and cognition, and the role of non-human animals in the larger world around them:

   - Independent Study*
   - Independent Research*
   - Internship*
   - BIO 261 Anatomy and Physiology II
   - BIO 401 Animal Behavior
   - BIO 407 Developmental Biology
   - BIO 409 Ecology
   - BIO 419 Invertebrate Zoology
   - CLA 201 Classical Mythology
   - ENG 150 Nature in America**
   - ENG 426 Nature Writing in America
   - ENG 452 Writing and Reading Animals
   - ENV 101 Environmental Science
   - ENV 106 Exploring the Earth
   - HIS 386 American Environmental History
   - PHL 282 People, Animals, and Ethics
   - PHL 316 Food and Justice
   - PHL 328 Philosophy and Evolution: Consciousness and the Human-Animal Connection
   - POL 327 Environmental Politics in America
   - PSY 221 Animal Learning and Memory
   - PSY 225 Comparative Animal Behavior

At least half (three) of the courses counting toward the minor must come from outside the student’s major department.

Notes:
* With permission of the Animal Studies Director, students can count one semester of an appropriate independent study, research, or internship toward the minor (in category 4).
** This course is a freshman seminar