

## *Shelter Animal Behavior and Welfare*

### **I. Course information**

Course Number: VEM 5320/VME 6812/VME 6934 All Sections

Course Title: Shelter Animal Behavior and Welfare

Course credit: 3 Graduate Credit Hours

### **II. General information**

Online Course Coordinator: Terry Spencer, DVM, MEd

Office location & office hours:

- **Online by email within e-learning. Please allow 48 hours for reply.**
- **VS-18D on-campus**
- **Contact Julia Alber and/or Ryan Alber for Online Student Support Services**

Office phone number: 352-294-4757

Email:

[sheltermedicine.online@vetmed.ufl.edu](mailto:sheltermedicine.online@vetmed.ufl.edu)

Online Course Instructors:

Lead Instructor: Sheila D'Arpino, DVM, DACVB

Co-Instructors: Sara Bennett, DVM, MS, DACVB; Brenda Griffin, DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVIM

- **Contact instructors by email within the e-learning.**
- **Please allow 48 hours for a response.**
- **Office Hours will be posted by announcement and offered in the Chat Room or via the Adobe Connect tool within e-learning**

Online Course Teaching Assistant: Mary Mould, RVT, MEd

Website: Use GatorLink ID to login at: <https://lss.at.ufl.edu>

For more information about Shelter Medicine courses visit:

<http://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu/http://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu/http://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu/>

### III. Course Objectives

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

1. **Compare differences in intake/outcome policies** among various sheltering models.
2. **Classify the advantages and disadvantages of using various behavioral resources** available to shelters.
3. **Lead daily behavioral rounds** and make population decisions to maximize both behavioral health and life saving efforts.
4. **Assess welfare of individual animals** as well as the general population within the shelter.
5. **Evaluate housing conditions** of sheltered animals.
6. **Design protocols that maximize behavioral health** and minimize risk to physical health.
7. **Compare the reliability, validity, and standardization of available behavioral assessments** and understand the advantages and limitations of such assessments.
8. **Know how to use available behavioral information** to make appropriate placement decisions within various sheltering models.
9. **Compare several behavioral modification techniques** and determine whether the technique(s) are humane and whether the techniques are likely to be effective.
10. **Use basic principles of psychopharmacology** to design a medication protocol for a sheltered animal and monitor its effectiveness.
11. **Diagnose common behavior problems**, create an appropriate treatment plan, and prescribe/monitor appropriate medications for problems such as: jumpy or mouthy dogs, separation anxiety, fearfulness, interspecies aggression, aggression toward people or other species, inappropriate elimination, urine marking, kennel stress and furniture scratching.

Which objectives do the assignments meet?											
	Objective										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Chapter 2 Assignments	X	X									
Chapter 3 Assignments			X	X	X	X					
Chapter 4 Assignments			X	X			X	X			
Chapter 5 Assignment									X		
Chapter 6 Assignment										X	
Chapter 7 Assignment						X		X			X
Chapter 8 Assignment						X		X			X
Chapter 9 Assignment						X		X			X
Chapter 10 Assignment			X	X		X		X			
Chapter 11 Assignments			X	X	X	X		X		X	X

**IV. Course Materials**

**Required Resources:**

1. *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine, Second Edition*, Debra Horwitz and Daniel S. Mills (editors), Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
2. *Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff, Second Edition*, Lila Miller and Stephen Zawistowski (editors), Blackwell Publishing, 2013.
3. *ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters*  
Download a copy from the following website:  
<http://www.sheltervet.org/about/shelter-standards/http://www.sheltervet.org/about/shelter-standards/>
4. Rent two recorded television broadcasts from internet providers:

- a. ***Dog Whisperer* season 9, episode 12: Cesar's Worst Bite** (available from iTunes)
  - b. ***My Cat from Hell* season 2, episode 1: Terrorizing my Clients** (available from Amazon)
5. Various readings available on UF's Electronic Reserves, accessible at <https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu> and within e-learning Course Reserves area.

### Technology Requirements:

1. High-speed internet access, a desktop or laptop computer, and multiple internet browsers (Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Safari). Apple iOS and mobile devices (tablets) are not completely compatible with e-learning.
2. A working headset with microphone to participate in optional live chats in Adobe Connect webinar tool.
3. Microsoft Office Software installed and basic skills for using Word and Excel. Students with a UF GatorLink ID have free access to [Lynda.com](http://Lynda.com) for training and are able to download discounted software from the UF Computing Help Desk ([UF Software Services](#)).

### Recommended Additional Resources (Optional):

1. *The Welfare of Cats*, Irene Rochlitz (editor), Springer, 2007.
2. *Handbook of Behavior Problems of the Dog and Cat*, Gary Landsberg, Wayne Hunthausen, and Lowell Ackerman, Elsevier Sciences, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2012.
3. *The Veterinary Clinics of North America, Small Animal Practice: Update on Clinical Veterinary Behavior*, Katherine A. Houpt and Vint Virga (guest editors), W.B. Saunders, 2003.
4. *Veterinary Psychopharmacology*, Sharon L. Crowell-Davis and Thomas Murray, Blackwell Publishing, 2006.

**V. Due Dates, Assignments, and Grading**

Dates in **BOLD** are **FIRM** and you will lose points if you miss the due date. Other dates can be flexible, **HOWEVER**, if you expect to submit your work more than 3 days beyond a listed due date, then you **MUST** notify your Instructor and TA first or you will lose points.

<b>PACE CHART Spring 2014</b>	
January 4 - 10, 2014 (allow 1 week)	<b>Course Opens: January 4, 2014</b> Chapter 1 Assignments due: January 10, 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, Jan 8: Live Chat and Demo of Course in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern ( extra-credit)</li> </ul>
January 10 - 17 (allow 1 week)	Chapter 2 Assignments due : January 17, 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, Jan 22: Live Chat with Dr. Griffin in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
Jan 17 - Feb 7 (allow 3 weeks)	Chapter 3 Assignments due: February 7, 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday, Feb 13: Live Chat with Dr. Griffin in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
Feb 7 - Feb 28 (allow 3 weeks)	Chapter 4 Assignments due: February 28, 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday, February 25: Field Trip: Alachua County Animal Services 5:00pm-8:30pm (on-campus students only)</li> <li>• Wednesday, February 26: Live Chat with Dr. Lila Miller in Adobe Connect, 9 pm Eastern (OPTIONAL)</li> <li>• Wednesday, March 5: Live Chat with Dr. Bennett in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
Feb 28 – March 14 (allow 2 weeks)	Chapter 5 Assignments due: March 14, 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, March 12: Live Chat with Dr. Katherine Polak in Adobe Connect, 9 pm Eastern (OPTIONAL)</li> <li>• Wednesday, March 19: Live Chat with Dr. Griffin in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern</li> </ul>
March 14 – March	Chapter 6 Assignments due: March 21, 2014

21 (allow 1 week)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, March 26: Live Chat with Dr. Bennett in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
March 21 – 28 (allow 1 week)	<p>Chapter 7 Assignments due: March 28, 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, April 2: Live Chat with Dr. D’Arpino in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
March 28 – April 4 (allow 1 week)	<p>Chapter 8: Assignments due: April 4, 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, April 9: Live Chat with Dr. D’Arpino in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
April 4 - April 11 (allow 1 week)	<p>Chapter 9: Assignments due: April 11, 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, April 16: Live Chat with Dr. Bennett in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
April 11 – April 18 (allow 1 week)	<p>Chapter 10 Assignments due: April 18, 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, April 23: Live Chat with Dr. D’Arpino in Adobe Connect 9 pm (extra-credit)</li> </ul>
<b>April 11 – April 25 (allow 2 weeks for peer-reviews of projects)</b>	<p><b>Chapter 11 Assignments due:</b>  <b>April 11 Project Due</b>  <b>April 25 Peer-Reviews Due</b></p>
April 25, 2013	Course Closes ( all assignments due)

**Weekly Course Schedule and Calendar**

Dates	Assignments	Point Value
January 4- 10	<p><b>Chapter 1:</b> Course Overview and Introductions</p> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 1A: Say Hello in a VoiceThread (2 points)</li> <li>● Assignment 1B: Self-Quiz Completion Code ( 1 point)</li> </ul> <p><b>Live Chat and Course Drive-Thru Wednesday, Jan 8 pm eastern (Extra-Credit)</b></p>	<b>3 points</b>
January 10-17	<p><b>Chapter 2:</b> Shelters and Behaviorists</p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 2:</b> <i>BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 23-</b> Managing and rehoming the rescue dog and cat.</li> </ul> <p><i>ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Introduction</b></li> <li>● <b>Background</b></li> <li>● <b>How to Use This Document</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 2: Review a shelter and identify regional behavior resources for this shelter (4 points)</li> </ul>	<b>4 points</b>

<p>January 17 - February 7</p>	<p><b>Chapter 3: Daily Rounds and Welfare Assessments</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 3:</b>  <i>BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 3</b>- Basic requirements for good behavioural health and welfare in dogs</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 4</b>- Basic requirements for good behavioural health and welfare in cats</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 13</b>- Stress in veterinary behavioural medicine.</li> </ul> <p><i>Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff, Second Edition</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 7</b>- Quality of life, stress, and emotional pain in shelter animals</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 9</b> –Canine Care in the Animal Shelter, pages 115-118 and 133-139</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 10</b> – Feline Care in the Animal Shelter, pages 145-148 and 172-180</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 34</b>- Behavioral enrichment</li> </ul> <p><i>ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Mental Health and Physical Well-being: Monitoring and Daily Rounds AND Populations Well-being</b></li> <li>● <b>Behavioral Health and Mental Well-being: Considerations on Intake, In-Shelter Care</b></li> <li>● <b>Group Housing</b></li> <li>● <b>Animal Housing</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 3:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Assignment 3A: Virtual Rounds (5 points)</i></li> <li>● <i>Assignment 3B: Population Rounds (5 points)</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>10 points</b></p>
<p>February 7 –February 28</p>	<p><b>Chapter 4: Behavior Evaluations</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 4:</b>  <i>Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff, Second Edition</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 33</b>-Behavioral Evaluation, Adoption, and Follow-up</li> </ul>	<p><b>10 points</b></p>



<p>February 7 –February 28</p>	<p><i>ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Behavioral Health and Mental Well-being: Behavior Evaluations</b></li> <li>● <b>Public Health: Animal-Related Injuries</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 4:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 4A: Compare Behavior Assessment Tools (5 points)</li> <li>● Assignment 4B: Make Outcome Decisions-Case Review Pathway Planning (5 points)</li> </ul>	<p><b>10 points</b></p>
<p>February 28- March 14</p>	<p><b>Chapter 5: Principles of Behavior Modification</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 5:</b> <i>BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 5- Training and learning protocols</b></li> </ul> <p><i>ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Behavioral Health and Mental Well-being: Behavioral Modification</b></li> </ul> <p>Four Papers available in <b>Course Reserves</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Animal Behavior Associates, “Guidelines for Choosing a Dog Trainer or Behavior Consultant,” Hetts et al, (2005)</li> <li>● American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior, “AVSAB Position Statement—The Use of Punishment for Behavior Modification in Animals,” (2007)</li> <li>● American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior, “How to Choose a Trainer”</li> <li>● Delta Society: The Human-Animal Health Connection, “Professional Standards for Dog Trainers: Effective, Humane Principles,” Hetts, et al, (2001)</li> </ul>	<p><b>6 points</b></p>

	<p><b>Required Rentals to View:</b> Rent two recorded television broadcasts from internet providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Dog Whisperer season 9, episode 12: Cesar's Worst Bite</b> (available from iTunes)</li> <li>● <b>My Cat from Hell season 2, episode 1: Terrorizing my Clients</b> (available from Amazon)</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 5:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 5: Analyze Training Techniques from Popular Media ( 6 points)</li> </ul>	
March 14- March 21	<p><b>Chapter 6: Psychopharmacology for Behavior Problems</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 6:</b> <i>BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 21-</b> Pharmacology and pheromone therapy</li> </ul> <p><i>Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff, Second Edition</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 36-</b>Behavioral pharmacotherapy in the animal shelter</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 6:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 6: Decide when to use psychopharmaceuticals (6 points)</li> </ul>	<b>6 points</b>
March 21 - March 28	<p><b>Chapter 7: Part One, Diagnosis and Treatment of Behavior Problems</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 7:</b> <i>BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 8-</b> Management problems in dogs</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 10-</b> House soiling by dogs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 7:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 7: Minute Paper (5 points)</li> </ul>	<b>5 points</b>

<p>March 28 - April 4</p>	<p><b>Chapter 8</b> : Part Two, Diagnosis and Treatment of Problem Behaviors</p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 8:</b> <i>BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 14-</b> Separation-related problems in dogs and cats</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 16-</b> Situational sensitivities</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 17-</b> Aggression toward familiar people and animals</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 18-</b> Aggression toward unfamiliar people and animals</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 20-</b> Repetitive and compulsive behavior in dogs and cats.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 8:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 8: Minute Paper (5 points)</li> </ul>	<p><b>5 points</b></p>
<p>April 4- April 11</p>	<p><b>Chapter 9:</b> Diagnosis and Treatment of Feline Problem Behaviors</p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 9:</b> <i>BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chapter 9-</b> Management problems in cats</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 11-</b> House soiling in cats</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 19-</b> Aggression in cats</li> <li>● <b>Chapter 20-</b> Repetitive and compulsive behaviors in dogs and cats.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 9:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 9: Minute Paper ( 5 points)</li> </ul>	<p><b>5 points</b></p>
<p>April 11 - April 18</p>	<p><b>Chapter 10:</b> Placement Pets with Problem Behaviors</p> <p><b>Required Readings for Chapter 10:</b> None</p> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 10:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assignment 10: Minute Paper (6 points)</li> </ul>	<p><b>6 points</b></p>

## Course Guide

April 11- April 25	<p><b>Chapter 11:</b> Final Project Presentations and Peer Reviews</p> <p><b>Assignments for Chapter 11:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 11A: Case Report Behavior Modification and Treatment Plan for Shelter Pet IN VOICETHREAD (30 points)</li> <li>• Assignment 11B: Peer-Review 5 Projects of Classmates (10 points)</li> </ul> <p><b>Course Closes April 25 ALL ASSIGNMENTS DUE</b></p>	<b>40 points</b>
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>100 points</b>

### VIII. Evaluation/ Grading/Testing

GRADES	Assignment Points	Extra Credit Points
Chapter 1: Overview	3	1
Chapter 2: Shelters & Behaviorists	5	1
Chapter 3: Daily Rounds	10	1
Chapter 4: Behavior Evaluations	10	1
Chapter 5: Behavior Modification	6	1
Chapter 6: Psychopharmaceuticals	6	1
Chapter 7: Part One: Dx & Tx	5	1
Chapter 8: Part Two: Dx & Tx	5	1
Chapter 9: Feline Problems	5	1
Chapter 10: Placement of Pets with Behavior Problems	5	1
Chapter 11: Project and Peer-Reviews (Extra-credit Handout)	40	5
Extra-credit Field Trip (On-campus Students Only)		3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>(+18 max)</b>
<b>Total Possible Points</b>	<b>118</b>	

A	94 -100
A-	93-90
B+	89-87
B	86-83
B-	82-80
C+	79-77
C	76-73
C-	72-70
D+	69-67
D	66-63
D-	62-60
E	59 -0