

## Syllabus

### 508 Human-Animal Studies Fall 2007

Revised: 15 August 2007

#### Course Director

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#### Office Hours

Office hours are from 1600 to 1700 on Tuesday and Thursday, or by appointment.

#### Time and Location

The course meets on Thursday from 1300 to 1600 in the Center's Library.

#### Description

The first of two advanced tutorials, this course is a 'reader' in the ethics and theory of human-animal studies. It seeks to familiarize students with the contemporary ideas that inform our study of human-animal relations. Using readings from the primary literature, we discuss the findings and implications of this research through seminar-style classes. Student-led discussions and lectures are an ongoing feature of class. The tutorial is capped with a substantial research paper.

This tutorial loosely models itself after the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications (ELSI) program at the National Institutes of Health and elsewhere. ELSI programs take an interdisciplinary approach to complex questions involving science and society.

A commitment to interdisciplinarity is equally needed in the field of human-animal studies. Too often scientists and activists believe the resolution of concerns and conflicts over humanity's relationship with animals rests with their worldview alone. Dogmatic and demonizing ideologies are the result. In contradistinction, the premise of this course is that questions about the well-being of people, animals and nature are unavoidably about values as well as facts, embodied in differing perspectives. By focusing on the ethics and theory of human-animal studies, we learn about the concepts and presuppositions that inform *how we think the world is*, as well as *what we believe the world ought to be*.

As you read and discuss this literature in class, you should look for the resonance between theoretical ideas themselves, as well as how those ideas inform (and are informed by) the empirical world. This is crucial. If you are expecting to learn a set of facts to regurgitate about various theories, you will have missed the whole point of the course. Instead, open yourself to the ideas and insights these readings bring to our attention, bearing in mind how each one addresses ethical, legal, social

and/or scientific aspects of our topic. Use terms and concepts in your everyday thinking and speaking about animals. Allow yourself to internalize and deploy theory as a conceptual resource to deepen your own understanding, and nuance your communications with others. By doing so, you will have reaped the intended benefit of the course.

### Grading

I assess learning through papers, projects, exercises and/or tests. Grades are assigned using the A-F plus-minus system (e.g. A, A-, B+, B, B-, etc.). Excellent course participation may bump your grade into a higher level (e.g. B+ to A-), while poor participation may drop it to a lower level (e.g. A- to B+). Please remember that, according to graduate school rules, you need an overall grade of B (80% or B- and above) for this course to count towards graduation.

In this course, grades are weighted as follows. See my *Course Policies* and *Testing on TUSK* for further information.

Tests	50%
Book Review	10%
Review Essay	40%

### Texts

- Fudge, Erica. 2002. *Animal*, London: Reaktion Books.
- Garner, Robert. 2004. *Animals, Politics and Morality*, Second ed, New York: Manchester University Press.
- Midgley, Mary. 1998. *Animals and Why They Matter*. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press.
- Rollin, Bernard E. 2006. *Science and Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Turabian, K. L., W. Booth, G. Colomb, and J. Williams 2007. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Thesis, and Dissertations*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- Weston, Anthony. 2006. *A Practical Companion to Ethics*. Third ed. New York: Oxford University Press.

Please note that alongside the readings listed in this syllabus, you will also undertake self-directed reading for a book review and a review essay. These assignments count as your midterm and final exams, respectively. In light of the requirements for these assignments, you should plan on an independent reading load that more than doubles that listed in this syllabus.

### Additional Resources

In addition to the texts above, other resources (e.g. readings, pdfs, podcasts, DVDs) are available online at TUSK, over the web, or through Netflix (and its equivalents). Occasionally, some readings will be on reserve in the Center Library or Webster Library. Resources may be added throughout the term, and will be announced in class.

### Nota Bene

The content and schedule of this syllabus may change at any time. Revisions and other course materials are available under the appropriate heading on TUSK.

## AGENDA

Starts...	Topic...
Week 01 03 Sep  Monday is Labour Day	<u>Ethics: The Point of Departure</u>  Weston, Anthony. 2006. <i>A Practical Companion to Ethics</i> . Third ed. New York: Oxford University Press.  Praxis Assignment – See the <i>Praxis Assignment</i> handout
Week 02 10 Sep	Orlans, Barbara et al. 1998. Moral Issues About Animals, in Orlans, Barbara, Tom L. Beauchamp, Rebecca Dresser, David B. Morton, and John P. Gluck, <i>The Human Use of Animals: Case Studies in Ethical Choice</i> , New York: Oxford University Press, 3-47.  Praxis Assignment
Week 03 17 Sep	Garner, Robert. 2004. Introduction, in <i>Animals, Politics and Morality</i> , Second ed, New York: Manchester University Press, 1-9.  Garner, Robert. 2004. Animal Ethics, in <i>Animals, Politics and Morality</i> , Second ed, New York: Manchester University Press, 9-42.  Praxis Assignment
Week 04 24 Sep	Rollin, Bernard E. 2006. The Waxing and Waning of Faith in Science [Chapter 1], in <i>Science and Ethics</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1-10.  Rollin, Bernard E. 2006. Scientific Ideology and ‘Value Free’ Science [Chapter 2], in <i>Science and Ethics</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 11-30.  Praxis Assignment
Week 05 01 Oct  This class meets on Monday afternoon.	Rollin, Bernard E. 2006. What is Ethics? [Chapter 3], in <i>Science and Ethics</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 31-65.  Rollin, Bernard E. 2006. Animal Research [Chapter 5], in <i>Science and Ethics</i> . Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 99-128.  Praxis Assignment  <b>ETHICS TEST is taken on Friday via TUSK.</b>
Week 06 08 Oct	<u>Foundations of Human-Animal Studies</u>  Midgley, Mary. 1998. Getting Animals in Focus [Chapter 1], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i> . Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 9-18.

	<p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. Competition is Real but Limited [Chapter 2], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 19-32.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p>
<p>Week 07 15 Oct</p>	<p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. Emotion, Emotiveness and Sentimentality [Chapter 3], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 33-44.</p> <p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. The Rationalist Tradition (1) [Chapter 4], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 45-52.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p> <p><b>BOOK REVIEW is due on Friday via email attachment at 1600.</b></p>
<p>Week 08 22 Oct</p>	<p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. The Rationalist Tradition (2) [Chapter 5], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 53-64.</p> <p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. Equality and Outer Darkness [Chapter 6], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 65-73.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p>
<p>Week 09 29 Oct</p> <p>This class meets on Monday afternoon.</p>	<p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. Women, Animals and Other Awkward Cases [Chapter 7], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 74-88.</p> <p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. Sentience and Social Claims [Chapter 8], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 89-97.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p>
<p>Week 10 05 Nov</p>	<p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. The Significance of Species [Chapter 9], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 98-111.</p> <p>Midgley, Mary. 1998. The Mixed Community [Chapter 10], in <i>Animals and Why They Matter</i>. Reissue ed. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 112-124.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p> <p><b>FOUNDATIONS TEST is taken on Friday via TUSK.</b></p>
<p>Week 11 12 Nov</p>	<p><u>Society, Culture and Animals</u></p> <p>Fudge, Erica. 2002. Introduction. <i>Animal</i>, London: Reaktion Books, 7-24.</p>

	<p>Fudge, Erica. 2002. Visible and Invisible. <i>Animal</i>, London: Reaktion Books, 25-66.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p>
<p>Week 12 19 Nov</p> <p>Thu and Fri are Thanksgiving. No class.</p>	<p>Fudge, Erica. 2002. Real and Symbolic. <i>Animal</i>, London: Reaktion Books, 67-112.</p> <p>Fudge, Erica. 2002. Intelligence and Instinct. <i>Animal</i>, London: Reaktion Books, 113-158.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p>
<p>Week 13 Starts 26 Nov</p>	<p>Fudge, Erica. 2002. Conclusion. <i>Animal</i>, London: Reaktion Books, 159-166.</p> <p>Praxis Assignment</p> <p><b>SOCIETY, CULTURE AND ANIMALS TEST is taken on Friday via TUSK.</b></p>
<p>Week 14 03 Dec</p>	<p><u>Study Week</u></p>
<p>Week 15 10 Dec</p>	<p><u>Finals</u></p> <p><b>! REVIEW ESSAY is due on Friday at 1600 via email attachment.</b></p>
<p>Week 16 17 Dec</p>	<p><u>Course Evaluations</u></p> <p>[No classes]</p>