Hon 491W: Gone to the dogs
Summer Session II, 2013

Happiness is a warm puppy. Charles M. Schulz

SYLLABUS
Gone to the Dogs: Companion Animals in Social Science, Medicine, and Humanities

Instructor: Dr. Lori Yancura. loriena@hawaii.edu
Class Time: Online

Course Objectives:
Dogs are important in our society. Nearly 60% of U.S. households own a pet, most commonly a dog.1 The goal of this course is to explore the role of dogs in social science, medicine, and the humanities. Students will come away from the course with a basic understanding of dog care and training, research on the use of dogs and other companion animals in the educational settings, how dogs are used in psychological and physical therapy, and how dogs are represented in art and literature. Students will come away from this course with an increased ability to read literature from a variety of academic disciplines, stronger writing skills, and a better understanding of human animal interactions.

Course Methods:
Most of the work in this online class will be done independently. Detailed descriptions of the assignments are posted in the modules section of laulima. Assignments will be due on a weekly basis and will consist of the following:
• **Final Paper:** this paper can be on any dog/animal related topic that suits students’ professional and personal interests. Possible topics include how dogs can be used to facilitate learning in elementary school classrooms, how dogs have been used to treat PTSD, representations of dogs in certain literature genres or visual media, a business plan for a dog-based business, etc...
  o Students must clear paper topics with the instructor by the 2nd week of class
  o Papers should be 7-10 pages in length and include scholarly references
  o Students will be responsible for turning in several pre-assignments throughout the duration of the class to keep them on task with their papers
    ▪ Thesis statement
    ▪ Outline
    ▪ Rough draft
• **Reading summaries:** students will turn in 1-2 page typed reading summaries for the group of readings under each of the four main topics. Due dates for these topics will be posted on laulima.
• **Forum Postings:** students are responsible for contributing to class discussions by making at least 6 forum postings on weeks when they are posted
  o Students must post a new thread for each of the three topics
  o Students must respond to at least one other student’s thread for each of the three topics
• **Powerpoint Project:** students will turn in a powerpoint or other visual presentation (prezi, short film) summarizing their project at the end of the class

1 http://www.gallup.com/poll/25969/americans-their-pets.aspx
Grading Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Point Breakdown</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>Thesis statement – 50</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>Every Thursday by Midnight HST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Outline – 50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rough Draft – 100</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Final Paper - 200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Summaries</td>
<td>4 @ 75 points each</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>Most Thursdays by Midnight HST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum Postings</td>
<td>4 @ 50 pts per week</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Most Thursday by Midnight HST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerpoint Project</td>
<td>1 @ 110 pts</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>XXXX by Midnight HST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Points</td>
<td></td>
<td>1000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to Get Started in this Course:
1. Read the welcome e-mail and the Learning Support Agreement to make sure you understand the basics of the online learning environment and know where to get technical support – you should have received these via e-mail prior to the start of the course, but copies are also available in the Nuts and Bolts folder in the Modules section of Laulima
2. Make sure you understand how to find the information that you need in Laulima by reading the Treasure Map document – you should have received these via e-mail prior to the start of the course, but copies are also available in the Nuts and Bolts folder in the Modules section of Laulima
3. Mark your calendar for Thursdays because they are when weekly assignments are DUE
4. Read though this syllabus (again!) to make sure you understand what you need to do. I check my e-mail every weekday. I'm happy to answer your questions!

How to Progress Through this Course:
1. Start each week by downloading the Weekly Checklist from the weekly folder section in the Modules section of Laulima
2. Complete the assigned reading for that week by Thursday at midnight HST
3. Do the reading summaries (if assigned) and participate in all three discussions in the Forums section of Laulima
4. Rinse and Repeat (just kidding, but you will do the same thing every week!)

Proposed Readings by Topic:

Care and Training:
Dog care/training book of students’ choice

Dogs in Education

**Therapy Dogs**

**Dogs in Art and Literature**

**Grading Policies:**
1. All assignments must be turned in **on or before the due date** You can always work ahead in class, but you can never work behind.
2. **No Incompletes.** Following University of Hawai‘i policy, please note that an incomplete (I) may be submitted for an undergraduate **only** when the student “has not completed a small, but important part of a semester's work if the instructor believes that the incomplete was caused by conditions beyond the student's control” (2009-2010 UHM Catalog, p. 14).
3. **PLAGIARISM**, defined as “the act of passing off as one's own the ideas or writings of another” ([http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/)) is unacceptable and will result in a failing (“F”) grade for the class. Work submitted to other instructors to fulfill other class requirements may NOT be submitted to meet requirements of this class.

*It is a privilege to be a member of the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa community. This privilege provides students with the opportunity to learn and to participate in the many programs that are offered on campus. Along with this privilege, students are expected to be responsible in relationships with others and to respect the interests of the institution. These interests are fully set forth in the University's Student Conduct Code, which can be found at [http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code](http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code).*