**Course Title**: HUMAN-ANIMAL RELATIONSHIP IN HISTORY  
**Course Code**: HST1196  
**Recommended Study Year**: 1  
**No. of Credits/Semester**: 3  
**Mode of Tuition**: Sectional approach  
**Teaching Hours**: 3 hours per week  
**Category in Major Prog.**: Elective  
**Prerequisite(s)**: None  
**Co-requisite(s)**: None  
**Exemption Requirement(s)**: N/A

**Brief Course Description**
This course examines the changing cultural and social positions of animals in the human world from the ancient to present time. Animals have served as food, working companions, pets, and totems, and some of them are the source of deadly diseases like Ebola and AIDS. In recent years, animals have also found themselves at the center of political controversies, when attitudes towards animals have increasingly become a yardstick to measure a country’s standard of civilization and morality. For example, Chinese and Korean people’s practice of eating dogs and Japanese people’s tradition of whaling have been subject to much criticism in the West. The changing human-animal relationship is therefore a useful lens to understand not only the important role animals have played in human life, but also the changes in people’s ethical system over time.

**Aims**
This course deals with the changes in human-animal relationship from cross-cultural and multi-disciplinary perspectives, and the various forces that have shaped this historical process of change.

**Learning Outcomes**
The students will be able to  
(1) identify the various forces and factors that have shaped the human-animal relationship in different periods of time  
(2) analyze current controversial animal issues with a historical perspective  
(3) synthesize primary, secondary, written and visual sources to make an informed interpretation of historical and current issues relating to the course  
(4) acquire oral communication skills and writing skills

**Indicative Content**
I. Introduction: What do Lingnan Cats Mean to Lingnanians?  
II. Animal, Myth, and Totem
III. From Hunting to Domestication of Animals
IV. Animal, Food, and Food Taboo
V. The Age of Reason and Modern Zoos
VI. Animals, Science, and Epidemics
VII. Pet-keeping Culture and the Rise of the Middle Class
VIII. The Politics of Animal Protection from the 19th Century to the Present
IX. Conclusion: John Berger’s “Why Look at Animals”

Teaching Method
This course will be taught through lectures, class discussions of assigned readings, and group presentations.

Measurement of Learning Outcomes
(1) an essay will measure LOs 1, 3, 4. An essay of approximately 2,500 words will require students to identify, on the basis of different types of sources, the forces and factors that shaped the human-animal relationship in a particular historical context. While some core readings will be assigned, the students are also expected to conduct some research on their own. A minimum of 10 sources will be required.

(2) group presentation will measure LOs 1, 2, 4. A thirty-minute group presentation will require students to compare different approaches to a controversial issue in the field of human-animal relationship. Students will be expected to grasp the major arguments of the readings assigned to them and from materials of their own choice.

(3) Weekly discussions will measure LOs 1-4. Weekly discussions will focus on assigned readings. Students will be given 4 to 5 guided questions each time to help them understand the major themes of the readings and connect the readings with related issues.

(4) Final examination will measure LOs 1,3,4. The take-home examination, which is in essay form, will require students to make coherent arguments based on readings, class materials and discussions.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>Essay</th>
<th>Group Presentation</th>
<th>Weekly Discussions</th>
<th>Take-home Examination</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students will be able to identify the various forces and factors that have shaped the human-animal relationship in different periods of time</td>
<td>X</td>
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**Assessment**

Essay 30%

Group Presentation 15%

Class Participation and Discussions 20%

Take-home Examination 35%

**Required Readings**

Selected Readings from the following


鄺穎萱：《十二唐狗》, 香港：小書局，2009。

《嶺南貓集》 (Lingnan Cats)，香港：嶺南大學貓社，2011。