I. **Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:**
An examination of the scientific principles of nutrition, reproduction, behavior and business practices of the companion animal industry. Three lectures (3).

II. **Prerequisites:**
None

III. **Purposes or Objectives of the Course:**
Upon completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge in the following areas:
A. Nutritional needs of feline, canine, and equine species
B. Reproductive characteristics of same.
C. Overall healthcare management, including routine veterinary care.
D. Basic concepts of animal behavior.
E. Management practices/economics of companion animals

IV. **Expectations of Students:**
A. Lecture, and discussions are based upon reading assignments that should be completed prior to class.
B. Attendance is critical to academic success.
C. Issues of academic dishonesty will be handled according to University Policy and will not be tolerated. See: [http://www6.semo.edu/judaffairs/code.html](http://www6.semo.edu/judaffairs/code.html) for more information.
D. Group work is an important skill in developing a professional mentality. Students are expected to work in assigned groups to complete the project. The group will receive a single grade. In the event of severe disparity regarding the contribution of a group member, that can be examined on an individual basis.

V. **Course Content or Outline:**
A. Introduction (first week)
B. Unit One – Nutrition (3 weeks)
   1. Terms/definitions
   2. Calculating nutrient content
   3. Diseases of deficiencies
C. Unit Two – Reproduction (3 weeks)
   1. Terms/definitions
   2. Breeding cycles/gestation/birthing process
   3. Dystocia (birthing complications)
D. Unit Three – Overall Health care (3 weeks)
   1. Terms/definitions
   2. Parasites/Vaccinations
   3. Routine veterinary care
E. Unit Four – Behavior (3 weeks)
   1. Terms/definitions
   2. Operant/Classical conditioning
   3. Positive/Negative reinforcement
F. Unit Five – Management/Economics (3 weeks)
   1. Companion animal industry - economics
   2. Careers
   3. Marketing

VI. Textbooks and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:
Computer labs (i.e. 105 Magill Hall)
Kent library for research
Writing Center for assistance with revisions and citations
Other resources provided as necessary

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:
A. Individual presentations 15%
B. Group presentations 10%
C. Assignments/activities 15%
D. Exams (4) 50%
E. Participation 10%
   Total = 100%
F. Grading scale:
   A = 90-100%
   B = 80-89%
   C = 70-79%
   D = 60-69%
   F = below 60%