

Academic subject: Prophylaxis of infectious and parasitic diseases of companion animals			
Degree Class: L38		Degree Course: Animal Science	
		Academic Year: 2020/2021	
		Kind of class: optional	
		Year: III	Period: II Semester
		ECTS: 2 divided into ECTS lessons: 1 ECTS exe/lab/tutor: 1	
Time management, hours, in–class study hours, out–of–class study hours lesson: 10h exe/lab/tutor: 25h in–class study: 0 out–of–class study: 15h			
Language: Italian		Compulsory Attendance: yes	
Subject Teacher: Maria Stefania Latrofa		Tel./fax: 0805449837 e-mail: stefania.latrofa@uniba.it	
		Office: Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bari, Aldo Moro. Italy	
		Office days and hours: Wednesday From 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm	
Prerequisites: “Biosecurity and health management” and “Parasitology, mycology and management of synanthropic animals”			
Educational objectives: The Course of Prophylaxis of parasitic diseases of companion animals aims to provide specific concepts in the prevention of parasitic diseases in companion animals and to improve the technical-professional skills useful for the control and/or prevention of these diseases in an urban area.			
Expected learning outcomes (according to Dublin Descriptors)		<p>Knowledge and understanding: The student will acquire the basic principles of prophylaxis protocols aimed in the management of main parasitic diseases involving companion animals which help to improve both animal welfare and with an interest in public health.</p> <p>Applying knowledge and understanding: The student will be able to design eco-friendly prophylaxis plans to and to prevent the main parasitic diseases involving companion animals. The practical experience will help the student to acquire good laboratory practice and to apply classical and molecular parasitological techniques for the identification and diagnosis of the parasites and parasitic diseases.</p> <p>Making judgements: This teaching will help the student to achieve a growing degree of autonomy in developing prophylaxis plans in order to develop an integrated management using all information available in the control, prophylaxis and monitoring of the main parasitic infestations involving companion animals for reducing the risks of infection, by identification the sources of a parasitic infection and its etiological agent.</p> <p>Communication: Students must be able to fully frame their work in wider contexts and motivate the choices made in an understandable and convincing way as well as to cooperate effectively in the activities of working groups and to easily start working and social relationships. These objectives will be pursued and constantly verified during the teaching activity, favoring the active participation of students during theoretical and practical activities. Students divided in working groups will collaborate in presenting specific topic (i.e., case report, epidemiological studies) trough power point presentations. Students will be encouraged to communicate and improve their skills during the lessons and lab activities provided by the course.</p> <p>Lifelong learning skills: At the end of the course, the student will know the specific terminology of the subject; they will be able to identify the etiological agent affecting companion animals with medical and veterinary concern; they will be able to adopt specific prophylactic measures to prevent the spread of diseases involving both domestic animals as well as those living in the kennels.</p>	
Course program: The course intends to recollect some of the concepts of parasitology (i.e., biological cycle of parasites) and parasitic diseases already learned during the course of the second year. This course will provide useful information for the management of the main parasitic diseases of companion animals and in particular the contents of the course will be oriented to give information for developing prophylaxis plans to prevent the main parasitic diseases of companion animals. The topics of the lectures will be focussed on: Basic principles of identification of parasite (both morphological and molecular basis) and the prophylactic measures for parasites and parasitic diseases of companion animals such as: Eimeriosis, Leishmaniosis, Toxoplasmosis, Dirofilariosis, Ascariidosis, Flea and tick identification.			

Laboratory diagnosis. Importance of environmental hygiene and public health significance will also be dealt during the course.

Teaching methods: The course includes theoretical and practical activities. The theoretical part of the course will be held in classrooms equipped with multimedia tools through the projection of power point presentations. An innovative teaching or interactive teaching will be carried out online using specific websites. The practical activities will be carried out in the didactic laboratories equipped with specific instruments such as optical microscopes. Students will be divided into groups of up to 10 people each. They will be followed by the teacher in charge assisted by the researchers and the technicians of the section. Each student will individually carry out the practical part aimed in the identification of parasitic organisms available from the parasitology collection of the Parasitology and Mycology section by the macro- and microscopic examinations. The students will join field activities that will be carried out in kennels (subject to authorization by the structure) and coordinated by veterinary medical colleagues.

Auxiliary teaching: Laboratory coats and gloves, caps will be provided by the staff.

Assessment methods: The course assessment will be verified through an oral exam on program topics. The student has to use appropriate and scientific terminology. In order to pass the exam of "Prophylaxis of infectious and parasitic diseases of companion animals" (5 ECTS), the student must simultaneously take the exam of "Prophylaxis of infectious diseases of companion animals" (3 ECTS) and that of "Prophylaxis parasitic diseases of companion animals" (2 ECTS).

Bibliography:

Taylor M.A., Coop R., Wall R., "Parassitologia e Malattie Parassitarie degli Animali", Edizione italiana, EMSI, (2009).