ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

General information	
Name of the integrated course	**PROPHYLAXIS OF INFECTIOUS AND PARASITIC DISEASES OF COMPANION ANIMALS**
Integrated teaching modules	**Prophylaxis of infectious diseases of companion animals** **Prophylaxis of parasitic diseases of companion animals**
Degree course	Animal Sciences (L38)
Academic Year	III
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	5 (ECTS lessons: 3; ECTS exe/lab/tutor: 2)
Language	Italian
Period of teaching	II semester (from 2/03/2026 to 19/06/2026)
Attendance	Mandatory

Teacher	**e-mail address**	**phone**
Michele Camero	michele.camero@uniba.it	+39 0805713530
Maria Stefania Latrofa	stefania.latrofa@uniba.it	+39 080 5713837

Headquarters	Campus of Veterinary Medicine, S.P. per Casamassima km 3, 70010 Valenzano (Ba)
Virtual rooms	Microsoft Teams (Infectious diseases code pj9711q; Parasitic diseases code 123b6e6)
Tutoring (time and day)	Tuesday, Thursday: 15:00 – 17:00 or Reservation by email is preferable

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	The integrated course on Prophylaxis of infectious diseases of companion animals and Prophylaxis of parasitic diseases of companion animals aims to provide students with the tools and ways to prevent infectious and parasitic diseases of companion animals. The most common infectious and parasitic diseases of dogs, cats and horses will mainly be treated. Topics regarding farm hygiene and interventions aimed at maintaining the environmental microbial load below pathogenic values will be addressed. The technical-professional skills useful for implementing a control and/or prevention plan against infectious and parasitic diseases of companion animals in urban environments will be provided, in compliance with Public Health concern.
Course prerequisites	The exams in Biosafety and Health management, Parasitology and Management of synanthropic animals are required.

U.O. Didattica e servizi agli studenti
Strada prov.le 62 per Casamassima, km. 3,00
70010 Valenzano (Bari) - Italy
Tel. (+39) 080 5713944-41-46
didattica.veterinaria@uniba.it

Contents of the teaching **Prophylaxis of infectious diseases of companion animals** **Teacher in charge:** **Michele CAMERO** **Frontal teaching** **ECTS: 2** **Hours: 16**	Environmental hygiene: • Atmospheric air, atmospheric air pollution, water, waste. Hygiene of dog and cat farms: • Cleaning, disinfection and sterilization practices; requirements of shelter facilities, construction characteristics of kennels and catteries. Ministry of Health and General Directorate of Animal Health and Veterinary Medicines. Prophylaxis of Infectious Diseases: • Etiological agents of the main infectious diseases of dogs, cats and horses; Symptoms of the main infections of dogs, cats and horses; Immunoprophylaxis; Core and non-core vaccinations of pets.
Practical activities and exercises: **ECTS: 1** **Hours: 10**	The practical exercises will be done in the laboratories of the Infectious Diseases section of the Department and include excursions to farms, veterinary clinics and affiliated kennels. Depending on the situation, students will be divided into groups of 5 to 15 followed by the head of teaching and possibly supported by the help of collaborators.
Prophylaxis of parasitic diseases of companion animals **Teacher in charge:** **Maria Stefania LATROFA** **Frontal teaching** **ECTS: 1** **Hours: 8**	The 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 aimed at giving indications for the development of prophylaxis plans to prevent the main parasitic diseases of companion animals. The topics of the lessons will focus on: Basic principles of direct and indirect prophylaxis for parasitic diseases of domestic animals; Basic principles of prophylaxis against the main parasites involving domestic animals, such as: • Leishmaniasis, Toxoplasmosis, Dirofilariasis, Toxocaryosis, Angiostrongylosis • Laboratory diagnosis on a morphological and molecular basis. • Concepts of sanitizing domestic environments.
Practical activities and exercises: **ECTS: 1** **Hours: 10**	The practical exercises are done in the laboratories of the Parasitic Diseases section of the Department and include excursions to farms, veterinary clinics and affiliated kennels. Depending on the situation, students will be divided into groups of 5 to 15 followed by the head of teaching and possibly supported by the help of collaborators.

Biosafety rules for the attendance of practical activities.	Access to laboratories, stables and isolation unit of the veterinary teaching hospital will be allowed only to students wearing protective clothing (disposable coats and gloves and, when required, also footwear) and that have read the biosafety manual.

Materail for the personal study	
Books and bibliography	• Marinelli P et al. Igiene medicina Preventiva e Sanità Pubblica, ed. Piccin. • Poli-Cocilovo, Microbiologia ed immunologia veterinaria, UTET. • Appunti delle lezioni

U.O. Didattica e servizi agli studenti
Strada prov.le 62 per Casamassima, km. 3,00
70010 Valenzano (Bari) - Italy
Tel. (+39) 080 5713944-41-46
didattica.veterinaria@uniba.it

	Taylor M.A., Coop R., Wall R.,"Parassitologia e Malattie Parassitarie degli Animali", Edizione italiana, EMSI, Roma, 2009.
Additional materials	The additional teaching material is provided by the teachers at the beginning of the course and is available on the TEAMS platform of the relevant teaching.

Work schedule			
Hours			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Individual study
125	*24*	*20*	*81*
ECTS			
	3	*2*	

Teaching strategy	
	Lectures are held in classrooms with multimedia tools for power point presentations and possibly videos and links on websites. The practical exercises are done in the laboratories of the Infectious and Parasitic Diseases section of the Department and include excursions to farms, veterinary clinics and affiliated kennels. Depending on the situation, students will be divided into groups of 5 to 15 followed by the head of teaching and possibly supported by the help of collaborators.

Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding ability	At the end of the course, the student will have knowledge and understanding ability related to: • the quality of environmental and livestock hygiene. • hygiene-related risk factors. • vaccination plans linked to infectious diseases of companion animals. • to the transmission systems of infectious and parasitic diseases. • the biological cycles of the main parasites that infest pet animals. • prevention systems and direct/indirect prophylaxis protocols aimed at managing the main infectious and parasitic diseases of companion animals. • the implications of infectious and parasitic diseases in the context of public health.
Applied knowledge and understanding ability	At the end of the course, the student will be able to: • Apply vaccination plans under the supervision of your veterinary surgeon. • Apply hygiene calendars on farms and kennels/cats with the supervision of the veterinary surgeon. • Apply knowledge on the correct use of the main disinfectants. • Develop environmental sanitation methods against arthropod vectors of the main parasites of companion animals. • Apply knowledge on the correct use of the main sterilization tools. • Design prophylaxis and control protocols for infectious and parasitic diseases. • Apply the main laboratory techniques of classical parasitology and molecular biology for the diagnosis of infection.
Soft skills	**Autonomy of judgment** • Know and evaluate the quality of environmental and livestock hygiene.

U.O. Didattica e servizi agli studenti
Strada prov.le 62 per Casamassima, km. 3,00
70010 Valenzano (Bari) - Italy
Tel. (+39) 080 5713944-41-46
didattica.veterinaria@uniba.it

	• Recognize and evaluate risk factors related to environmental and livestock hygiene. • Know the vaccination plans related to infectious and parasitic diseases of small animals. • Know the means of spread of infectious and parasitic diseases. • Create control plans to reduce infection risks. • Suggest direct and indirect prophylactic measures to control parasitic infestations. • Ability to apply direct and indirect prophylactic measures in practice. **Communication skills** • Fully frame your work in broader contexts and justify the choices made in an understandable and convincing way. • Transfer your knowledge by adapting the communication method to the needs of the interlocutor. • Cooperate effectively in the activities of homogeneous and heterogeneous work groups. • Personally and autonomously organize the knowledge acquired to make simple interdisciplinary connections with related subjects. Demonstrate knowledge and ability to apply the main prophylactic systems against parasitic diseases of companion animals. **Capacity of self-learning** • *At the end of the course the student, based on the cultural elements acquired, must be able to expand their knowledge and update themselves by independently drawing on texts, scientific articles and databases.*

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	The exam of the course allows the acquisition of 5 ECTS of those included in the study plan. The verification of results will be performed: • during the course, through any flip teaching sessions in which the student's autonomy and ability to correctly express the previously learned concepts will be assessed. • during the course through possible written tests in progress.
Evaluation criteria	Through the oral exam the student must demonstrate that he/she has acquired knowledge adequate relating to the prophylaxis and prevention systems of the main infectious and parasitic diseases affecting companion animals in all their characteristics regarding the aetiology, epidemiology, clinical picture, laboratory diagnostics, aspects of active and passive prophylaxis and therapy. • *Knowledge and understanding ability:* ○ Through the oral exam, the student must demonstrate that he or she has acquired adequate knowledge regarding the prophylaxis and prevention systems of the main infectious and parasitic diseases that affect companion animals in all their characteristics, with particular attention to aetiology, epidemiology, clinical picture, laboratory diagnostics, and aspects of prophylaxis and active and passive therapy. • *Applied knowledge and understanding ability:* ○ During the interview, the examiner must verify that the student has acquired an adequate ability to identify the correct prophylaxis system to be applied against specific parasitic infections and infectious diseases

	and that, in describing them, he has correctly exposed the contents using appropriate technical language. • *Autonomy of judgment* o During the exam the student will have to demonstrate that he/she has acquired an evaluative autonomy of judgment in indicating the appropriate diagnostic process to confirm the suspicion of infection and in describing the prophylaxis/prevention measures useful for controlling the illness. • *Communication skills* o During the oral exam, the language used by the student will be provided to the examiner the ability to evaluate the exposure and logical integration of the contents learned by the student as well as the appropriateness of the scientific terminology acquired. • *Capacity to continue learning* o Ability to understand and critically evaluate scientific literature. o The students will acquire the specific terminology of the subject. o The students will be able to move safely and independently in microbiology, parasitology and mycology laboratories. o The students will acquire manual skills on the diagnostic methods commonly used in laboratories and will be able to analyze the results.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	The results of the Prophylaxis of Infectious Diseases of Companion Animals and Prophylaxis of Parasitic Diseases of Companion Animals tests will contribute to the definition of the final grade of the exam in Prophylaxis Of Infectious And Parasitic Diseases Of Companion Animals. The final grade is the result of the collegial judgment relating to a collegial oral test in which the student must demonstrate that he/she has acquired a critical sense with respect to the topics studied. The final evaluation, expressed in thirtieths, will be considered passed with a mark equal to or higher than 18 and will take into consideration not only the accuracy of the answer, but also the communication skills, the clarity of presentation, the disciplinary competence and the level of in-depth analysis.
Other comments	To obtain the attendance signature and be eligible to sit the exam, 50% attendance is required for the theoretical lectures and 50% for the practical exercises. Use of the biosafety equipment and clothing required for attendance at the practical portion of the course is required.

U.O. Didattica e servizi agli studenti
Strada prov.le 62 per Casamassima, km. 3,00
70010 Valenzano (Bari) - Italy
Tel. (+39) 080 5713944-41-46
didattica.veterinaria@uniba.it