ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

General information	
Name of the integrated course	**PET BREEDING TECHNIQUES**
Integrated teaching modules	**Pet breeding techniques** **Behavioural Modification Techniques**
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**
Alessandra Tateo	alessandra.tateo@uniba.it	+39 0805713937
Serenella D'Ingeo	serenella.dingeo@uniba.it	+39 080 5713947

Headquarters	Campus of Veterinary Medicine, S.P. per Casamassima km 3, 70010 Valenzano (Ba)
Virtual rooms	Microsoft Teams. (Tateo: access code txww580); (D'ingeo: access code 8l1fveg)
Tutoring (time and day)	Prof.ssa Alessandra Tateo: monday/ wednesday: 11:00 - 12:00 ,15.00-17.00 by appointment via email Prof.ssa Serenella D'Ingeo: Monday 11.00/13.00; monday 15.00/17.00 by appointment via email

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	The integrated course in Pet Breeding Techniques aims at achieving knowledge of the fundamental elements for the management of pet breeding and in-depth knowledge of the techniques for modifying the behavior of domestic animals and the correct scientific terminology in the field of ethology.
Course prerequisites	Students must have taken and passed the exam of Animal Breeding and management and Ethological Basis of Animal Learning exam, thus having acquired the basic knowledge of animal biology, genetics, physiology and nutrition, as well as skills in the behaviour of domestic species, on intraspecific and human-animal communication methods and the ethological needs of each species.

Contents of the teaching **Lectures** **CFU: 2** **Hours: 16** **Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)** **CFU: 1** **Hours: 15**	Aims of the discipline. Dog breeds and morphotypes. From wolf to dog: genomic variability and functional attitudes. The zoognostic regions. The dog's biological cycle and the five senses. Environmental needs and social conditions of the dog at different stages of life. The ENCI and the canine registry. Biomechanical principles and dog training. The dog and sporting and recreational activities, competitions and exhibitions. Wellness and quality of life, with reference to current legislation. The social role of the dog and the cat. Structural and functional peculiarities of the cat. The biological cycle of the cat. Environmental and social needs of the cat in different stages of life. Feline registry. Hygiene and Organization of the structures they host animals Practical activities: recognition of the age of animals from dental tables. Identification of the breed and recognition of coats.
Contents: **Lecturer:** **Lectures** **CFU: 2** **Hours: 8** **Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)** **CFU:1** **Hours: 15**	Learning in domestic animals. Types of learning. Emotions and learning. Motivations and learning. Characteristics of associative learning. Characteristics of instrumental learning. Practical Lessons: Practical Learning Techniques: Classical Conditioning. Instrumental conditioning. Reinforcements and punishments. Extinction. Clicker training and classic and instrumental conditioning. Shaping. Chaining. Flooding. Sensitization. Systematic desensitization. Counter-conditioning. The practical lessons will take place at the Labdog laboratory of the Section of Animal Physiology and Behavior of the Department of Veterinary Medicine for the direct application and learning of the behavioral modification techniques.

Biosafety rules for the attendance of practical activities.	Access to the laboratories and animal shelters is allowed only to students equipped with protective clothing (gowns and disposable latex gloves), who have read the biosecurity manual.

Materail for the personal study	Grassi E. L'allevamento cinofilo. Organizzazione e criteri di selezione, gestione Edagricole 2007

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	Bonetti F.Zoognostica del cane Editrice San Giorgio Bologna 1995 Per Jensen: Etologia degli animali domestici. McGraw-Hill – 2011.
Books and bibliography	The additional teaching material is provided by the teachers at the beginning of the course and is available on the TEAMS platform for teaching Pet Breeding Techniques. The teaching material will be integrated with lecture notes, Power Point files and scientific articles published in internationally journals.
Additional materials	

Work schedule			
Hours			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Individual study
125	*24*	*20*	*81*
ECTS			
5	*3*	*2*	*/*

Teaching strategy	
	Lessons are held using a personal computer connected to the projector in order to show, at the same time as the explanation, power point slides and explanatory videos. For practical lessons, seminars will be held on specialist topics. The practical lessons will take place at the Labdog laboratory of the Section of Animal Physiology and Behaviour of the Department of Veterinary Medicine for the direct application and learning of the behavioural modification techniques.

Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding ability	At the end of the course, the student will have knowledge and understanding ability related to: • Know the biology, ethology and breeding needs of companion animals, • Know the descriptive terminology of the matter, the processes of evolution and domestication. • Knowledge of biological cycles, races from a morphological, genetic and genomic point of view, conformal defects, • Knowledge of the basics of animal domestication processes especially in relation to humans. • Basic knowledge on the different types of learning in pets and on the principles of different behavioural modification techniques.
Applied knowledge and understanding ability	At the end of the course, the student will be able to: • Ability to apply knowledge and understanding: managing pets on the farm, understanding relationship issues and planning selection. • Basic knowledge of behaviour modification techniques in pets.
Soft skills	Autonomy of judgement o At the end of the Course, the student should have acquired the ability to identify the main cornerstones for correct management of pet breeding. Furthermore, he must be able to evaluate the significance of specific pet behaviours and express his opinion about different behaviour modification techniques Communication skills o The student should acquire the skills and scientific terminology to be able to correctly relate to technicians and veterinarians in the sector and be able to

	evaluate the meaning of specific behaviours of domestic animals and express his opinion about the different techniques of behaviour modification. Capacity of self-learning Ability to learn independently o The student should acquire the ability to improve his knowledge independently through further studies, more advanced courses and training periods on farms and through direct observation of animals and their behaviour. Autonomy of judgment

Assessment and feedback	
Methods of assessment	The skills acquired will be evaluated during and towards the end of the course, through questions and presentations prepared by the students on topics related to the course. For the animal behaviour modification techniques module, the final assessment of learning and acquisition of skills will take place through an oral test which will take place through an interview in order to evaluate the student's ability to identify the connections between cause/effect underlying the behaviour of pets, to expose basic knowledge on the topics covered by the program and to develop a critical contextual analysis.
Evaluation criteria	In formulating the judgment for each student, the teachers will consider: o Knowledge and understanding: • Know the correct managerial methods of pet breeding; • Ability to discursively organize knowledge of the basic and fundamental concepts of teaching and ability to analyse the cause-effect relationships underlying animal behaviour and learning phenomena, as well as behaviour modification techniques o Applied knowledge and understanding: • Identify the main problems and pathologies resulting from incorrect management • Knowledge of the applied methodologies of animal behaviour modification o Making judgments: • Be able to express your opinion independently • Formulation of critical hypotheses on the causes and factors affecting the expression of domestic animal behaviours and on the possible techniques to be used to modify them o Communication skills: • Good ability to explain the proposed topics • Ability to critically and independently discuss the topics addressed in the teaching programme.
Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	The evaluation of the learning achieved takes place through an oral exam, with the aim of ascertaining the degree of knowledge of the proposed topics, the student's ability to identify the connections between cause/effect underlying the behaviour of domestic animals, to explain basic knowledge on the topics covered by the program and to develop a critical context analysis. The vote is expressed in

	thirtieths. The minimum score to pass the exam is 18. The evaluations with the highest scores are attributed to students capable of using the correct scientific terminology and with good presentation skills. The final grade is the result of the collegial judgment relating to the partial tests in which the student must demonstrate that he/she has acquired a critical sense with respect to the topics studied.
Other comments	To obtain the frequency signature and to be able to access the exam, 50% of the theoretical lessons and 50% of the exercises are required

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