HUMAN-ANIMAL STUDIES

THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR
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THE FIELD OF STUDY
Human-Animal Studies (HAST) is a rapidly growing interdisciplinary field devoted to examining and critically evaluating the relationships between humans and nonhuman animals: historical or contemporary, factual or fictional, real or symbolic, beneficial or detrimental. In exploring these relationships, we acquire a greater understanding of the ways in which animals figure in our lives and we in theirs. As our understanding of ecology and the fundamental inter-connectedness of all living beings continues to grow, the importance of studying human-animal interactions becomes ever more evident.

All students with an interest in the interactions between humans and animals are encouraged to consider a Human-Animal Studies minor. This minor will have an especially practical use for students pursuing careers related to wild or domesticated animals in zoos, shelters, refuges, wildlife rehabilitation centers, laboratory science, veterinary medicine, conservation programs, or other settings.

ADVISING
Students pursuing the minor must select a minor advisor as early as possible, and no later than when they declare the minor, to help them plan a coherent and balanced course of study. The minor advisor may be a member of the HAST Faculty Advisory Committee or any faculty member teaching a course in the HAST minor curriculum. Students should meet with the minor advisor at least once each semester, and the student and advisor should maintain regular contact with the HAST Advisory Committee to ensure a rich interdisciplinary experience. Since many of the courses in the minor have prerequisites, early planning is important.

THE MINOR
The minor in HAST consists of six (3 or 4 credit) courses: two foundation courses, three electives, and a practicum.

FOUNDATION COURSES: 2 courses/ 8 credits

One of the following courses:
−− PHIL 212 Humans and Other Animals (4)
−− PHIL 213 Animal Ethics and Policy (4)
−− PHIL 211 Environmental Ethics (4)

AND

One of the following courses:
−− BIOL 331 Ecology (4)

−− BIOL 340 Conservation Biology (3–4)
−− EVST 230 Biodiversity (4)
−− EVST 305 Ecology for Environmental Scientists (4)
−− BIOL 352 Animal Behavior (4)
−− PSYC 350 Evolutionary Psychology (4)

ELECTIVE COURSES (3 courses): 3 courses/ 10–12 credits

The three electives may be selected from the following courses, with the requirements that (a) at least one course must be selected from the sciences and one from the humanities, (b) at least three disciplinary areas must be represented in the minor, and (c) no elective may duplicate a foundational course. One elective may be satisfied through a directed study in a HAST-related topic, subject to approval by the HAST Advisory Committee. No more than two courses in the minor may count toward the biology, environmental studies, or philosophy major.

ELECTIVE SCIENCE COURSES
−− BIOL 103 Genetic Engineering: Issues and Techniques (3–4)
−− BIOL 109 Contemporary Issues in Ecology (3–4)
−− BIOL 331 Ecology^ (4) or BIOL 340 Conservation^ (3–4) or EVST 230 Biodiversity^ (4) or EVST 305 Ecology for Environmental Scientists^ (4)
−− EVST 240 Global Environment (4)*
−− EVST 242 Food and Nature (4)
−− EVST 245 Marine Environmental Studies (4)
−− EVST 255 Ornithology (4)
−− EVST 275 Conservation in Practice (4)
−− EVST 300 Environmental World Views* (4)
−− PSYC 350 Evolutionary Psychology^ (4) or BIOL 352 Animal Behavior^ (4)

ELECTIVE HUMANITIES COURSES
−− ENGL 161 (Studies in Literature) Art and Animal (3–4)
−− EVST 215 American Environmental Literature (4)
−− EVST 315 Environmental Non-Fiction (4)
−− PHIL 110 Contemporary Moral Issues* (4)
−− PHIL 160 Introductory Topics in Philosophy* (3–4)
−− PHIL 260 (Topics in Philosophy) Animals and Science (4)
−− PHIL 211 Environmental Ethics (4)

* Assuming HAST-related topics
^ If one in this cluster is taken as a foundational course, none of the other(s) may count as an elective.

THE PRACTICUM
1 course/ 3–4 credits

Students must complete a practicum (3–4 credits), ideally undertaken after the completion of other HAST coursework in the spirit of a capstone. The practicum may take the form of any experiential project involving animals that is overseen by Redlands faculty and approved by the Advisory Committee.

Thus, for example, one may fulfill the practicum through completion of:
−− PHIL 121 Animal Ethics and Service (3)
−− Any course with Redlands faculty that involves experiential learning involving animals
−− Community Service Learning activities conjoined with HAST faculty oversight in the form of a directed study
−− Fieldwork via Environmental Study Abroad programs conjoined with HAST faculty oversight
−− An internship in a HAST-related organization with HAST faculty oversight in the form of a directed study.

Completion of a critical written reflection on the practicum (10–15 pages) integrating insights from three disciplinary areas within the minor is required for completion of the practicum requirement. The instructor overseeing the practicum will supervise completion of the reflection, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, with the aim of ensuring application and integration of learning from at least three disciplinary areas.

NEGOTIABLE COURSES
Appropriate additional courses and directed studies from a variety of departments may be counted toward the HAST minor. To be eligible, a course must include significant attention to Human-Animal relationships and offer the opportunity to focus a research paper or project on related issues.

Students should discuss the potential of a course counting toward the minor with the instructor as early as possible (ideally, before the course has begun) and negotiate special assignments or projects in consultation with the instructor and the HAST Advisory Committee early in the semester. Negotiable courses must be approved by the Advisory Committee for credit toward the minor.