I. **TITLE:**

Companion Animals in Disaster

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This course is twofold. Module A is intended to increase awareness and preparedness among animal owners and care providers. Module B is intended to guide emergency management officials and animal owners, care providers, and industries in preparing community disaster plans. (Fall and Spring)

III. **PURPOSE:**

A. To heighten awareness of the special issues that emergency managers need to consider when incorporating animal care into their emergency plans.
B. To provide the basic background knowledge needed to develop a coordinated response to a disaster when animals and their owners are affected.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

A. To develop a working knowledge of the fundamentals of emergency planning for companion animals.
B. To provide educational strategies for incorporating animal care and management in emergency plans.
C. To promote disaster planning.
D. To inform students on the four stages of emergency planning.

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**

A. Introduction to awareness and preparedness to animals in disasters
B. The four phases of emergency management
C. Meteorological hazards
D. Geological hazards
E. Technological hazards
F. The care of pets in disasters
G. The care of companion animals in disasters
H. Disaster preparedness through planning and collaboration
I. Analyzing risks affecting animals and their owners
J. Organizing the response to a disaster
K. Recovering from a disaster
L. Developing community support for a disaster preparedness plan involving animals

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:
A. Homework assignments
B. Lectures
C. Self Motivated Reading Assignments
D. Case Studies
E. PowerPoint Presentations

Exams will be given throughout the semester and one large project will be completed prior to the end of the semester.

VII. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:
Individual class members will interview the manager or owner of at least one veterinary clinic or animal breeder for the purpose of learning about their disaster plans.

VIII. RESOURCES:
The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) websites will be used as resources.

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:
A. Written examinations – There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam. Exams will count 100 points each.
B. Assignments - there will be weekly assignments on each of the units. Points will vary based on the assignment.
C. Grades – grades will be assigned using the scale as follows:
   
   100-90 = A  
   80-89 = B  
   70-79 = C  
   60-69 = D  
   Below 60= E

X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Please refer to the most current copy of the Murray State University’s Undergraduate Bulletin.
XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

(Adopted by the MSU Board of Regents)
Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person’s material as one’s own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, term papers, or the presentation on unacknowledged material as if it were the student’s own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current University Undergraduate Bulletin. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:

FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute “Animals in Disaster”, Modules A and B

XIII. PREREQUISITES:

None

XIV. STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).
XV. **MSU SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE CELL PHONE POLICY**

The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones are a familiar and often necessary form of communication for students. It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.

Cell phones must be kept off and out of sight (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).

Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.

Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to have their phone on in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.

This policy also includes pagers and other electronic equipment such as blackberries and/or computers/laptops.