

Course title	Introduction to scientific study of animal behaviour
Type of course unit: Obligatory/Optional	This module is an optional module for students taking part in the Companion Animal Behaviour and Welfare Program being either the postgraduate course leading to the role of Clinical Animal Behaviourist (CAB) or Animal Behaviour Technician (ABT) but is also open for other students.
Prerequisites and co-requisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student should have a bachelor diploma.
Level of course unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postgraduate level 6/7
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course materials: English Formative assignment: English Summative assignment: English
Year of study – date course unit is delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic year 2023-2024
Number of ECTS credits allocated to the unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 credits = 75 study hours
Summary of key learning outcomes of the unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will have a critical attitude, consisting of precision, reflection, curiosity regarding scientific enquiry and the practical application. Develop the essential skills for academic writing.
Specific learning outcomes of the course unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search for and select scientific literature appropriate to their goal. Judge the relevance to the objective and credibility of the literature. Communicate written information in a format appropriate for academic communication to professional and non-professional audiences in writing.
Course contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The criteria of writing a good assignment. Searching for relevant scientific literature. Understanding the structure of scientific articles. Critical reading and assessing the quality of scientific literature and other available sources. The principles of academic integrity.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The criteria of scientific writing: the format, content and structure.
Planned learning activities and teaching methods	<p>Distance learning consisting of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online PowerPoint lectures and guided literature study.
Assessment methods and criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individually composed formative assignment. Individually composed summative assignment. <p>Grading: To pass the module the student has to score 50% on a total of 20 points (formative + summative).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The formative assignment is scored 'pass' or 'fail'. A 'pass' scores 1/1; a 'fail' scores 0/1. Students who do not submit the assignment at the required deadline score 0/1 on this part. The summative assignment is scored on 19 points in the first chance. <p>If a student fails the module:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students failing the module can take a second chance in the next exam period. In the second chance the student only submits the summative assignment. The formative assignment cannot be retaken. The summative assignment second chance is scored on 20 points. <p>A tolerance cannot be applied to this module (see the 'Education and examination regulations')</p>
Essential study materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course materials provided by the lecturers.
Recommended or required reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See reading list provided in the course syllabus.
Unit coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adinda Sannen (adinda.sannen@odisee.be) and Jolanda Pluijmakers (jolanda@davalon.nl)
Lecturer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adinda Sannen
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