ANIMAL STUDIES: Social Science & Humanities Perspectives

Graduate Specialization -- Recommended Electives
Updated October 2012

Students must select one elective course with the supervision of the specialization director (L Kalof@msu.edu). Below are examples of recommended courses and their descriptions. With approval, other courses may be accepted as electives.

ACR 853 Industrialization of American Agriculture
Description: Impact of industrial agriculture on farms, production systems, rural communities and the environment. Agricultural research to create sustainable agriculture and rural life. Fall of even years.

FW 438 Philosophy of Ecology
Description: Conceptual issues in the science of ecology, including connections between ecology and environmental philosophy. Western and non-western perspectives. Spring of even years.

FW 481 Global Issues in Fisheries and Wildlife
Description: Global issues and their impacts on implications for the management of fisheries and wildlife resources. Spring of every year.

FW 810 Human Dimensions Research in Fisheries and Wildlife
Description: Methods of surveying, educating and involving the public to achieve fish and wildlife management goals. Review of human dimensions research and current case studies. Fall of even years.

FW 847 Global Risks, Conservation and Criminology
Description: Theories, actors, characteristics and legal instruments associated with risk, conservation, and criminology related to globalization. Current case studies in criminological conservation. Fall of every year.

GEO 432 Environmental Ethics
Description: Ethical dimensions of environmental and spatial issues and associated public policies. Fall of every year.

LAW 565B Wildlife Law
Description: Course explores the legal systems impact on wildlife. Fall of every year.
**PHL 442 Ethics and Animals**
Description: Moral standing for non-human animals, basis for human moral obligations to animals, animal's cognitive abilities. Ethics of using animals in specific ways: medical research, for food, in zoos, in the wild and in biotechnology. Fall of odd years.

**ZOL 489 Seminar in Zoo and Aquarium Science**
Description: Scientific writing and oral presentations related to zoo and aquarium studies. Departmental approval required, contact the Department of Zoology. Fall of every year.

**ZOL 897 Ecosystem Ecology**
Description: Structure and function of natural ecosystems. Succession, food web analysis, energy flow, nutrient cycling, and effects of human activities on ecosystems. Global environmental change. Ecosystem management and restoration. Departmental approval required, contact the Department of Zoology. Spring of every year.