Instructor: Jean Kazez  
MWF 1:00-1:50, Hyer Hall 201  
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Class blog: arsmu.blogspot.com  
Office hours by appointment (Hyer 210)

COURSE DESCRIPTION. This course explores the nature of animals, their moral status, and the way we treat them. “CFA” courses are interdisciplinary. The course will span philosophy, law, religion, psychology, and current events.

COURSE GOALS. Students will demonstrate the ability to understand complex issues from multiple, interdisciplinary perspectives; develop a basic facility with the concepts and methods of philosophical analysis; and build a foundation for greater reflectiveness about animals and ethics.

REQUIREMENTS. Exam I (20%), Final (35%), Paper (5% + 20%), Quizzes, citizenship, and “extras” (20%),

EXAMS. Exam I and the final are both essay format.

PAPER. Total length: 6-8 pages. You will be turning in the first half (5%) and then, after receiving comments, the whole paper (20%).

QUIZZES, CITIZENSHIP, AND EXTRAS. (1) Quizzes. We will have about 10 reading quizzes. The lowest two will be dropped. No make-ups. You will do well on these quizzes if you spend an hour or two reading each article/chapter from beginning to end. Some quizzes will just involve recognizing the topics in the reading, Others will involve explaining the basic point or the main argument(s).

(2) Citizenship. A grade for citizenship will be averaged in with your quiz grades (equivalent to two quizzes). Plusses are being attentive, bringing texts to class, and participating in class discussion. Negatives are coming late, doing work for other classes, texting, using laptops for non-class purposes (I can tell!), and the like.

(3) Extras. There may be opportunities for activities outside of class. I will explain what you need to do/turn in, as these opportunities arise. Each “extra” will be worth the same as a quiz.

ATTENDANCE. Attendance is required. Try not to miss any classes, as you will do worse on exams, miss quizzes, and contribute nothing to class discussion as a result. You have a budget of 5 absences to use as you please. I do not need to see excuses if you are within your budget. If you exceed 5 absences, we will meet and discuss the situation. If you used up your budget due to chronic illness (be prepared to present documentation at that point) I...
will increase it. Otherwise, each additional absence will be penalized by a one point reduction in your final course grade.

**DOCUMENTATION.** Exams cannot be rescheduled, and due dates cannot be changed, except for reasons of illness, participation in official SMU athletic events, and similar circumstances. Be prepared to document excuses.

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.** “Students participating in an officially sanctioned, scheduled university extracurricular activity should be given the opportunity to make up class assignments or other graded assignments missed as a result of their participation. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the instructor prior to any missed scheduled examination or other missed assignment for making up the work.”

**DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS:** “Students needing academic accommodations for a disability must first be registered with Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies (DASS) to verify the disability and to establish eligibility for accommodations. Students may call 214-768-1470 or visit [http://www.smu.edu/alec/dass.asp](http://www.smu.edu/alec/dass.asp) to begin the process. Once registered, students should then schedule an appointment with the professor to make appropriate arrangements.”

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE.** “Religiously observant students wishing to be absent on holidays that require missing class should notify their professors in writing at the beginning of the semester, and should discuss with them, in advance, acceptable ways of making up any work missed because of the absence.” (University Policy No. 1.9.).

**GRADES**

90-100: Very accurate, very insightful, relatively minor flaws.  80-89: Some very good work, but also some significant gaps.  70-79: You've learned something, but missed many important things as well. 60-69: You've mastered a small amount of the material. 50-59: No mastery. 0-49: Nothing turned in, no effort at all, plagiarism, etc.

**HONOR CODE.** Violation of SMU's honor code will not be tolerated. Every piece of work you turn in must be entirely your own. Writing a paper means both expressing your own thoughts, and expressing them in your own words. You may not copy passages from our texts, from any other texts, or from the internet, even if the passages are brief. No one else may write a paper for you, whether in whole or in part. In a typical case (for example, a student turns in a paper mostly cut-and- pasted from several web sites), the penalty for violating the honor code will be an "F" in the course. On top of this grade penalty, the case may be presented to the honor council, which may decide to take further disciplinary action, such as suspension or dismissal from the university.

**TEXTS**

Armstrong and Botzler, *The Animal Ethics Reader*, 2e (no other edition will do)
Kazez, *Animalkind: What We Owe to Animals*
Additional articles at class blog (arsmu.blogspot.com)

*Please bring texts to class, as needed (sorry A&B is so heavy!).*
ANIMAL MINDS

F Jan 21 – Are animals conscious? - Dennett, AE 113-19

M Jan 24 – Animals are conscious - Dawkins, AE 120-25

W Jan 26 - Do animals feel pain? - Rollin, AE 135-40

F Jan 28 – From cognition to consciousness - Griffin, AE 126-34

M Jan 31 – Animal and human minds - Kazez, Animalkind ch. 4

W Feb 2 – SNOW DAY

F Feb 4 - SNOW DAY

M Feb 7 – Animal and human minds (continued)

ANIMALS AND ETHICS

W Feb 9 - Animal ethics beyond philosophy - Kazez, Animalkind ch. 1

F Feb 11 - Animals in western thought - Kazez, Animalkind ch. 2

M Feb 14 - Animals and equality - Singer, AE 36-46

W Feb 16 – same as above

F Feb 18 - Yes to animal rights - Regan, AE 19-25

M Feb 21 - No to animal rights - Cohen, AE 26-29

W Feb 23 – EXAM 1

ANIMALS AS FOOD

F Feb 25 - Beyond equality and rights - Kazez, Animalkind, 119-128

M Feb 28 – Factory farming - DeGrazia, AE 219-24; Animal Agricultural Alliance, AE 236-42

W Mar 2 - An argument for vegetarianism - Norcross, at blog (all)

F Mar 4 - The death toll of plant farming - Davis , AE 243-7

M Mar 7 - Unfair to women and children? - George, AE 274-80

W Mar 9 - Is “more humane” good enough? - Grandin, AE 225-231; Kazez, Animalkind, 128-35
CREATING ANIMALS
F Mar 11 – Creating pets – Rollin & Rollin, Shepard, AE 546-53
M Mar 21 - Why GE animals are not a problem - Smith, AE 390-97; Rollin, AE 407-14
W Mar 23 – The case against GE animals - Bovenkerk, AE 415-22
F Mar 25 - Engineering away animal pain - Shriver, at blog (all)
M Mar 28 – Same as above – Paper topic due

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTATION
W Mar 30  The good, the bad, and the ugly - Kazez, Animalkind ch. 8
F April 1  Common ground, uncommon ground - DeGrazia, AE 308-16
M April 4  Do humans matter more? - Brody, AE 317-25
W April 6  Are some animals special? - Goodall, AE 175-80 Paper (part I) due
F April 8  More special species - Simmonds, Cavalieri, AE 193-210

WILDLIFE
M April 11 - Individualism and holism - Callicott, AE 439-43
W April 13 - Why people hunt - Kheel, AE 454-63
F April 15 - Is hunting good for wildlife preservation? - Gunn, AE 464-73
M April 18 - Preserving species, preserving cultures - Kazez, Animalkind, ch. 9
W April 20 – To be announced Paper (whole) due
F April 22 - Holiday

LAW, ACTIVISM, AND THE FUTURE
M April 25 - Yes to legal rights for animals - Wise, AE 589-95
W April 27 - No to legal rights for animals - Posner, AE 596-600; Epstein, AE 601-64
F April 29 - Should animals be able to sue? - Sunstein, at blog (all)
M May 2 – Animal Activism - Jamisen, AE 6-9-14; Singer, AE 627-32
T May 3 - What next? - Kazez, Animalkind, ch. 10
T May 10 FINAL (covers Feb 25 onward)