

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES OF
UKRAINE**

**Department of Animal and Food Hygiene
named after prof. A.K. Skorokhodko**

APPROVED
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
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CURRICULUM OF ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

ANIMAL WELFARE, ETHOLOGY AND PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Area of knowledge 21 – «Veterinary medicine»
Specialty 211 – «Veterinary Medicine»
Academic programme «Veterinary Medicine»
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
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Description of the discipline «ANIMAL WELFARE, ETHOLOGY AND PROFESSIONAL ETHICS»

The academic discipline provides an understanding that the health status of animals and the quality and safety of products of animal origin reflect the conditions in which animals are kept. It provides a basic understanding of local, national, regional and international legislation on animal welfare. Animal welfare involves maintaining and protecting animal health by creating comfortable and safe housing conditions, balanced and complete feeding, and minimizing suffering caused by the negative effects of the environment. This approach covers all aspects of an animal's life, including appropriate indoor conditions, management, feeding, disease prevention and treatment, responsible humane handling, humane slaughter or, when necessary, euthanasia.

Ethology studies the behavior of productive and companion animals and promotes understanding of the fundamental principles of their natural behavior and healthy psycho-emotional state through the creation of proper conditions that correspond to species, sex, age and technological groups of animals.

The study of professional ethics enables students to assess and improve their oral and written communication skills, including communication with clients, colleagues, management and subordinates; conflict resolution; acquisition of skills for educational outreach and public speaking. It also provides an understanding of the code of professional conduct and veterinary ethics, as well as local and national legislation and regulations governing veterinary activity.

Area of knowledge, specialty, academic programme, academic degree		
Academic degree	Master's	
Specialty	211 «Veterinary Medicine»	
Academic programme	«Veterinary Medicine»	
Characteristics of the discipline		
Type	basic	
Total number of hours	120	
Number of ECTS credits	4	
Number of modules	3	
Form of assessment	credit	
Indicators of the discipline for full-time and part-time forms of university study		
	University study	
	Full-time	Part-time
Year of study	3	
Term	VI	
Lectures	30 hours	
Practical classes and seminars	30 hours	

Laboratory classes		
Self-study	60 hours	
Number of hours per week for full-time students	4 hours	

1. AIM, COMPETENCES AND EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE DISCIPLINE

The aim of the discipline is for higher education students to acquire knowledge, skills and abilities in matters related to animal welfare, the creation of comfortable and safe conditions for keeping and feeding animals, natural behavior, and the elimination of suffering caused by pain, fear and stress. Students should gain a broad understanding of the fundamental principles and issues of animal welfare and behavior, as well as a basic understanding of local, national, regional and international legislation on animal welfare. The course covers the formation and implementation of policy at local, national, regional and international levels through legislation, regulation and operational strategy, including relevant state policy on animal welfare. Emphasis is placed on legislation and organizational structures specific to the country, as well as on international structures such as the Codex Alimentarius and the European Commission.

The discipline also provides practice in assessing and improving oral and written communication skills, communication with clients and colleagues regarding treatment and diagnosis, critical reading and comprehension of veterinary medicine issues, and preparation of public presentations. It includes understanding of the code of professional conduct and veterinary medical ethics, as well as local and national legislation and regulations governing the activity of the veterinarian.

Prerequisite Academic Disciplines:

Veterinary Ecology;
 Animal Feeding;
 Animal Hygiene;
 Animal Physiology;
 Fundamentals of Animal Breeding.

Acquisition of competences:

Integral Competence (IC): Ability to solve complex tasks and problems in the field of veterinary medicine, involving research and/or innovation and characterized by uncertainty of conditions and requirements.

General Competencies (GC):

GC 2. Ability to apply knowledge in practical situations.
 GC 3. Knowledge and understanding of the subject area and profession.
 GC 9. Ability to make informed decisions.
 GC 13. Ability to make decisions and act in accordance with the principle of inadmissibility of corruption and any other manifestations of dishonesty.

Professional (Special) Competencies (PC):

PC 4. Ability to conduct clinical examinations in order to formulate conclusions regarding the condition of animals or establish a diagnosis.
 PC 10. Ability to develop strategies for safe, sanitary animal keeping.

PC 11. Ability to apply knowledge of biosafety, bioethics and animal welfare in professional activity.

PC 19. Ability to conduct educational outreach among industry workers and the population.

PC 20. Ability to organize, carry out and control document flow during professional activity.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLO):

PLO 7. Formulate conclusions regarding the effectiveness of selected methods and means of keeping, feeding and treating animals, preventing infectious and non-infectious diseases, as well as production and technological processes at enterprises for keeping, breeding or using animals of different classes and species.

PLO 17. Know the rules and requirements of biosafety, bioethics and animal welfare.

PLO 18. Maintain accounting and reporting documentation during professional activity.

PLO 19. Carry out educational outreach among industry workers and the population.

Day One Competencies:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the ethical and legal framework within which a veterinarian must work, including professional aspects, aspects related to animal welfare, animal owners, public health, and social and environmental aspects related to professional activity.

3. Demonstrate basic knowledge of organization, management and legislation related to veterinary practice. Understand the economic and emotional context in which the veterinarian works.

5. Communicate effectively with animal owners, the public, professional colleagues and relevant authorities using language appropriate to the audience and respecting the principles of confidentiality and privacy.

6. Implement principles of effective interpersonal interaction, including communication, leadership, management, teamwork, mutual respect and other soft skills.

8. Work effectively as part of a multidisciplinary team when providing veterinary services and recognize the contribution of all team members.

12. Use professional abilities to promote the development of veterinary knowledge and the implementation of the One Health concept in order to promote the health, safety and welfare of animals, humans and the environment, as well as to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

13. Demonstrate the ability to recognize personal and professional capabilities and know how to seek professional advice, help and support when necessary.

17. Handle animal patients safely and with respect for each animal, and train other colleagues to assist the veterinarian in performing these techniques.

21. Assess the physical condition, welfare and feeding status of an animal or group of animals and advise the animal owner on the principles of keeping, feeding, reproduction, productive traits, welfare, individual health, herd health and public health.

26. Access relevant sources of information and legislation concerning animal care and welfare, animal movement, notifications regarding animal care and welfare, animal movement, notifiable diseases, and the use of medicines, including responsible use of antimicrobials.

33. Determine the appropriateness of euthanasia and perform it with respect for the animal and its owners, using an appropriate method that is safe for those present during the procedure; provide advice on ethical and legal aspects of carcass disposal.

35. Conduct ante-mortem inspection of animals used for food purposes, paying attention to welfare aspects, record observations, collect tissue samples after slaughter, and store and transport them for testing.

2. PROGRAMME AND STRUCTURE OF THE DISCIPLINE

Modules and topics	Number of hours						
	Full-time						
	We ek	Tot al	including				
			lec	pr	lab	ind	ind. w
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Module 1. PROFESSIONAL ETHICS							
Topic 1. Introduction. Subject, methods and tasks of the discipline. Relation to other disciplines.	1	6	2	2			2
Topic 2. Professional traditions and ethics of the veterinarian.	2	6	2	2			2
Topic 3. Communication. Official communication of the veterinarian.	3	6	2	2			2
Topic 4. Personality of the veterinarian.	4	6	2	2			2
Topic 5. Professional errors of the veterinarian.	5	6	2	2			2
Total for module 1		30	10	10			10
Module 2. ANIMAL ETHOLOGY							
Topic 6. Animal ethology. Subject, methods and tasks of the discipline.	6	9	2	2			5
Topic 7. Forms of animal behavior. Social behavior.	7	9	2	2			5
Topic 8. Reproductive behavior of animals. Mating and family relationships. Care for offspring.	8	9	2	2			5
Topic 9. Aggressive behavior of animals and its significance.	9	9	2	2			5
Topic 10. Sexual dimorphism. Biological rhythms and photoperiodism. Their influence on animal behavior.	10	9	2	2			5

Modules and topics	Number of hours						
	Full-time						
	We ek	Tot al	including				
			lec	pr	lab	ind	ind. w
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total for module 2		45	10	10			25
Module 3. ANIMAL WELFARE							
Topic 11. Animal welfare. Humane education. Legislative acts. European conventions.	11	9	2	2			5
Topic 12. Welfare of pigs.	12	9	2	2			5
Topic 13. Welfare of cattle.	13	9	2	2			5
Topic 14. Welfare of poultry.	14	9	2	2			5
Topic 15. Criteria for assessing animal welfare.	15	9	2	2			5
Total for module 3		45	10	10			25
Total hours		120	30	30			60

3. TOPICS OF LECTURES

No.	Topic	Hours
1	Introduction. Subject, methods and tasks of the discipline. Relation to other disciplines.	2
2	Professional traditions and ethics of the veterinarian.	2
3	Communication. Official communication of the veterinarian.	2
4	Personality of the veterinarian.	2
5	Professional errors of the veterinarian.	2
6	Animal ethology. Subject, methods and tasks of the discipline.	2
7	Forms of animal behavior. Social behavior.	2
8	Reproductive behavior of animals. Mating and family relationships. Care for offspring.	2
9	Aggressive behavior of animals and its significance.	2
10	Sexual dimorphism. Biological rhythms and photoperiodism. Their influence on animal behavior.	2
11	Animal welfare. Humane education. Legislative acts. European conventions.	2
12	Welfare of pigs.	2
13	Welfare of cattle.	2
14	Welfare of poultry.	2
15	Criteria for assessing animal welfare.	2

4. TOPIC OF PRACTICAL CLASSES

No.	Topic	Hours
1	Code of Professional Ethics of the Veterinarian of Ukraine. Introduction to the discipline; safety rules during practical classes. Terminology and methodology.	2
2	Workplace of the veterinarian.	2
3	Ethical and legal aspects of the veterinarian's activity. Law of Ukraine "On Protection of Animals from Cruel Treatment" of February 21, 2006 No. 3447-IV.	2
4	Official communication of the veterinarian.	2
5	Ways to prevent professional errors of the veterinarian. Colloquium 1.	2
6	Forms of behavioral reactions of animals.	2
7	Express diagnostics of active defensive reactions in dogs.	2
8	Behavioral reactions of animals in groups.	2
9	Study of the behavior of stray dog populations in a metropolis.	2
10	Species-specific behavior of different animals. Colloquium 2.	2
11	Comprehensive assessment of animal welfare.	2
12	Requirements for animal welfare during slaughter and killing.	2
13	Methods of stunning productive animals before slaughter.	2
14	Welfare of farm animals.	2
15	Welfare of poultry. Colloquium 3.	2

5. TOPICS OF SELF-STUDY

No.	Topic	Hours
1	Professional ethics of human and veterinary medicine physicians: common and distinctive features.	4
2	Conflict situations in the work of a veterinarian and their prevention.	4
3	Biological risks in the work of a veterinarian.	4
4	Administration in veterinary clinics. Duties and rights of personnel.	4
5	Medical consultation and its purpose.	4
6	Animal training.	4
7	Control of stray animal populations.	4
8	Work with animals affected by natural disasters and war.	4
9	Testing animals for suitability for service use.	4
10	Adaptation of companion animals to new climate conditions.	4
11	Breeding animals devoid of the aggression gene.	4
12	Biological sabotage and ways to prevent it.	4
13	Use of animals in scientific experiments.	4
14	The One Health concept and animal welfare aspects.	4
15	Concepts of comfort and discomfort and their provision for animals.	4

6. METHODS OF ASSESSING EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- credit;
- module tests;
- report and presentation of work materials.

7. TEACHING METHODS:

- verbal method (lecture, discussion, interview, etc.);
- practical method (practical classes);
- visual method (method of illustrations, method of demonstrations);
- work with educational and methodical literature (note-taking, thesis, annotation, reviewing, writing an abstract);
- video method (remote, multimedia, web-based, etc.);
- independent work (completion of tasks);
- individual research work of higher education students.

8. RESULTS ASSESSMENT.

The student's knowledge is assessed by means of a 100-point scale converted into the national grades according to the "Exam and Credit Regulations at NULES of Ukraine" in force.

8.1. Distribution of points by types of educational activities

Educational activity	Results	Assessment
Module 1. PROFESSIONAL ETHICS		
Practical work 1.	Propose and use appropriate innovative methods and approaches to solving problem situations of professional origin. Know the rules and requirements of biosafety, bioethics and animal welfare.	12
Practical work 2.		12
Practical work 3.		12
Practical work 4.		12
Practical work 5.		12
Self-study 1.		10
Module control work 1.		30
Total for module 1		100
Module 2. ANIMAL ETHOLOGY		
Practical work 6.	Formulate conclusions about the effectiveness of selected methods and means of keeping, feeding and treating animals, prevention of contagious and non-contagious diseases, as well as production and technological processes at enterprises for keeping, breeding or exploiting animals of different classes and species. Propose and use appropriate innovative methods and approaches to solving problem situations of professional origin. Know the rules and requirements of biosafety, bioethics and animal welfare.	12
Practical work 7.		12
Practical work 8.		12
Practical work 9.		12
Practical work 10.		12
Self-study 2.		10

Module control work 2.		30
Total for module 2		100
Module 3. ANIMAL WELFARE		
Practical work 11.	Formulate conclusions about the effectiveness of the selected methods and means of keeping, feeding and treating animals, prevention of contagious and non-contagious diseases, as well as production and technological processes at enterprises for the maintenance, breeding or operation of animals of various classes and species. Propose and use appropriate innovative methods and approaches to solving problem situations of professional origin. Know the rules and requirements of biosafety, bioethics and animal welfare.	12
Practical work 12.		12
Practical work 13.		12
Practical work 14.		12
Practical work 15.		12
Self-study 3.		10
Module control work 3.		30
Total for module 3		100
Class work	$(M1 + M2 + M3)/3 * 0,7 \leq 70$	
Credit	30	
Total for year	$(\text{Class work} + \text{credit}) \leq 100$	

8.2. Scale for assessing student's knowledge

Student's rating, points	National grading (exam/credits)
90-100	excellent
74-89	good
60-73	satisfactory
0-59	unsatisfactory

8.3. Assessment policy

<i>Deadlines and exam retaking rules</i>	Works that are submitted late without valid reasons will be assessed with a lower grade. Module tests may be retaken with the permission of the lecturer if there are valid reasons (e.g. a sick leave).
<i>Academic integrity rules</i>	Cheating during tests and exams is prohibited (including using mobile devices). Term papers and essays must have correct references to the literature used.
<i>Attendance rules</i>	Attendance is compulsory. For good reasons (e.g. illness, international internship), training can take place individually (online by the faculty dean's consent).

9. TEACHING AND LEARNING AIDS:

- e-learning course of the discipline (on the educational portal of NULES of Ukraine eLearn - <https://elearn.nubip.edu.ua/course/view.php?id=3362>);
- lecture notes and presentations (in electronic form);

- textbooks, manuals, workshops, including «Ethology and Animal Welfare». Textbook / Zakharenko M.O., Polyakovsky V.M., Mykhalska V.M., Shevchenko L.V. Kyiv: NULES of Ukraine, 2021. 625 p.;
- methodical materials for studying the discipline for full-time higher education students.

10. RECOMMENDED SOURCES OF INFORMATION

1. Ethology and animal welfare. Textbook / Zakharenko M.O., Polyakovsky V.M., Mykhalska V.M., Shevchenko L.V. Kyiv: NUBiP of Ukraine, 2021. 625 p.
2. Law of Ukraine “On the Protection of Animals from Cruelty” of 21. 02. 2006 № 3447-IV Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. 2006. № 27. P. 230.
3. Order of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine of 29.07.2024 No. 2266 On Approval of the Requirements for Ensuring the Welfare of Working Animals Belonging to the Equidae Family <https://iplex360.com.ua/npa.php?doc=1239.2596.0>.
4. Order of the Ministry for Development of Economy, Trade and Agriculture of Ukraine of 08.02.2021 No. 224 On Approval of the Requirements for the Welfare of Farm Animals during their Keeping <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0206-21#Text>.
5. Order of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine of 29.08.2022 No. 628 On Approval of the Requirements for Animal Welfare during Slaughter and Euthanasia <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z1244-22#Text>.
6. European Convention for the Protection of Domestic Animals. The Convention was ratified by Law No. 578-VII (578-18) of September 18, 2013.
7. Singer P. Animal Liberation. Kyiv: Pabulum, 2019. 456 p.
8. Veterinary deontology. Methodological recommendations. Mykolaiv. 2020. <https://dspace.mnau.edu.ua/jspui/bitstream/123456789/7899/1/Veterynarna%20deontologia.pdf>.
9. Wild Planet Trust Wellbeing Audit Guidance Document <https://www.eaza.net/assets/Uploads/Areas-of-Activity/Animal-welfare/Docs/Ukrainian.pdf>.
10. Resolution № 262 of March 17, 2016 On approval of the Rules for keeping and handling animals in Lviv.
11. Aleksandrenko VV The concept and methods of cruel treatment of animals / VV Aleksandrenko // Juridical science. - 2015. - № 6. - P. 116-120.
12. Bondarenko NS Attitude of the population to the problem of prevention of cruelty to animals (according to the results of sociological research) / NS Bondarenko // Law and Society. - 2015. - № 3 (3). - P. 123-126.