

# **POPM\*6950 (Section 04): Summer 2007**

## **Sickness/Pain Behaviour**

Instructor: Dr. Suzanne Millman  
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### Course description:

At the end of this course, students will have an understanding of the fundamental and applied aspects of sickness and pain-related behaviour in animals. We will explore the (1)neurobiological mechanisms of the inflammatory response, (2)species-specific expression of sickness behaviour and pain and (3)how these responses are organized as motivational states. Implications for veterinary medicine, animal production and animal welfare will be discussed.

Students will meet for weekly seminars, with background readings to be completed prior to class. Evaluation will consist of participation in discussions, analysis of peer-reviewed manuscripts and an independent study project involving application of these concepts to animal production and veterinary medicine.

This is an advanced ethology course that assumes basic knowledge of applied ethology, animal welfare science and scientific methodology relevant to these disciplines. Hence, the instructor's signature is required for admission.

### Assignments:

Each student will be responsible for facilitating the discussion for two topics indicated in the course outline. The student will critique an assigned reading and an additional reading of their choosing. One week following the discussion, a written summary of the topic will be provided to the instructor.

### Project:

Students may choose a topic for independent study that relates to sickness behaviour or pain in a domestic species; approval of topics by the instructor will be completed during the first weeks of the semester to allow adequate time for preparation. Students will present their findings in an oral presentation to the class and in a written paper. A review of scientific literature pertaining to the topic is required, together with discussion of how the issue may be addressed in veterinary practice or animal production.

### Evaluation:

Assignment 1:	15 %
Assignment 2:	15 %
Project (oral):	20 %
Project (written):	40 %
Participation:	<u>10 %</u>
Total:	100 %