A. Course Overview:

Welcome to Senior Seminar: Animal Law! This is a diverse, relatively new area of the law that is rapidly expanding. Basically it covers any cases, statutes or regulations related to animals: wild or domesticated; pets as well as animals used in farms, in research, in sports or for entertainment. The law involving animals spills into almost every other legal field including: criminal law, property law, trusts and estates, torts, contracts, environmental law, intellectual property, administrative law, agricultural law, the UCC, constitutional law, and even family law.

Although we will examine some established statutes and case law, because there is not much black letter law on the subject, much of our emphasis will be on public policy—what the law should be, and what place animals should have in it. Accordingly, I encourage lively in-class debate and a free flow of ideas on these issues.

Topics covered this semester may vary depending on what each of you wishes to research and write about, but will likely include: the use of animals as food, for entertainment, and as companions; animal ownership (including animal custody disputes); the treatment of animals as property; pet trusts; veterinary malpractice; damages for harm to and from pets; anti-cruelty laws; the treatment of agricultural animals; animal use in research; access to courts/standing; the Federal Animal Welfare Act; as well as constitutional issues involving commerce, free speech and even discrimination; and also some history of the humane movement.

Because this is a seminar class, we will also be spending a significant portion of our class time and most of our conference time, reviewing, learning more about and practicing effective techniques in legal research and writing. We will read journal articles, not for the content alone but also to examine their structure and form.

B. Scholarly publication:

Your main goal for this course is to research an animal law topic and write a 23 to 30 page scholarly article suitable for publication. The course is structured so that in the first few weeks you are introduced to a wide variety of animal law topics, so as to help you choose a topic of interest. Next it is designed to help you with your research and your writing. As a part of this it is critical that you meet all of the writing deadlines.

**Note: A late assignment will get 0 points.
C. Course Materials:

Our text is Animal Law: Welfare, Interests, and Rights by David Favre (2nd ed. 2011. Aspen Publishers). This is not a typical casebook (as you may have noticed from its’ cover). I chose it for its readability and its relevance. While it does cover key cases and statutory law, it also includes non-legal materials such as news clippings, real-life stories and thought provoking questions.

Another recommended, but not required, book for the course is: Eugene Volokh’s Academic Legal Writing: Law Review Articles, Student Notes, Seminar Papers, and Getting on Law Review (Foundation Press: 4th ed. 2010). Several copies of this book are on Reserve.

D. Class Structure:

Most Mondays we’ll focus on law, policy, and the materials from our text. Please read the assigned chapter before class each Monday and be prepared to discuss the issues. Sometimes our topics may spill over into Wednesday’s class times, but normally Wednesday’s focus will be on legal research and writing. Most Wednesdays there will be a short assignment for you to hand in. (And many Saturdays [with a few Fridays] there will be a submission to hand in on TWEN). We’ll go over the assignment and concentrate on a different aspect of research or writing each week. Some of our class-time Wednesdays can be used to work on your papers as well as to conference with me.

E. Audio-visual Materials.

By nature, animal law is a very visual topic. There are some issues that cannot be understood without actually seeing some animals hurt. This is a prime example of how a picture ‘says more than a thousand words.’ The first movie we will view is quite disturbing, but I feel that it is important to see— it is the seminal work on how humans often treat the other non-human animals on our planet. Other than this film, I will not bombard you with gory pictures or excessive violence, but some of you may still be uncomfortable with things that we may see or talk about in class. If you feel that you need to avert your eyes or leave the room during a particular video or discussion that is perfectly fine. However, as our author notes in the introduction to the teacher’s manual, “Some exposure to animals in negative situations is essential for many students to begin to understand the nature of the issues. There is a moral and emotional component to this topic which should be recognized and dealt with directly.”

F. Attendance.

Absences will be enforced in accordance with the School of Law Rules for AY 2014-15 [Rules III. 5(f)–(g)]. Most of the learning in this course will come via our discussions--your presence is required so you can learn from others and so others can learn from you. Also you cannot earn participation points if you aren’t in class to participate. (-1 participation point for each absence). However, you must be in class the days we do Class Presentations: Wed. 3/1, Mon. 3/6 and Wed. 3/8. If you will be absent one of these days you must get prior approval from me or have a doctor’s note.
G. **Grading:** (250 Points Possible)

Because of our small class size, the class median for grades can be a 3.4 with no mandatory grade distribution required.

1. **Your SEMINAR PAPER + interim assignments constitute 80% of your grade** (200/250 points). Your goal is to produce a high-quality, original work of legal scholarship, of publishable quality. The topic must be related in some way to the subject of this seminar: animals and the law.

   a. **Final Paper Specifics:**

      1. *Length and typeface.* The body of the paper (independent of the cover page) must be at least 23 pages and no longer than 30. It must be in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced (with footnotes single-spaced), and with margins no larger than 1 inch on the top, bottom and sides.

      2. *Citation format.* You may use either ALWD or Blue Book citation format. However, you should choose one and be consistent throughout the paper. I am not a real stickler for this, but your citations must be able to lead the reader to the source.

   b. **Submissions:** All Paper submissions must be made electronically through the assignment drop box on the TWEN page, by 5:00 p.m. on the date due. Here are the due dates and points awarded for each:

      (1) **Submit Topic (or Topics) of Interest** (2 points) **Due on Sat. 1/21**

         Include why you are interested in each topic, and what angle you might want to take with each. (I will approve your topic in class on 1/25.

      (2) **Citations and Summaries of 5 sources** (for chosen Topic) (5 points) **Due on Sat. 1/28.** Should include one or two cases, several journal articles or other secondary sources, and related statutes (if any).

      (3) **Carefully crafted Thesis Statement** (3 points) **Due on Sat. 2/4.** By this point you must have decided what your paper will cover or show or prove—this should be summed up in a thesis statement.

      (4) **Bare Bones Outline** (5 points) **Due on Sat. 2/11** Submit a basic 1-2 page outline. First write out a basic introduction which includes your thesis, and what you plan to discuss in the paper. Next list 3-5 major divisions/headings in your paper, and end with a brief conclusion. (Under each major section or heading explain the research you plan to do or what you are hoping to find out about that heading.)
(5) **Detailed Outline (10 points). Due on Sat. 2/18**  The outline should be at least 5 pages, contain a developed thesis statement, and add a sentence or two explaining to the reader how you intend to prove/demonstrate your thesis. Have content under each major heading and subheading, including an introductory paragraph for each of the major headings. You must cite at least ten (10) sources.

(6) **Rough Draft (15 points). Due by Friday 3/10** (Details on TWEN). This must be readable & persuasive, have headings and subheadings filled in (or say I’m going to do more research in this section). You must either cite (or write “cite” if you do not have the full citation available)—any idea that is not your own, and use “” for any words you take from another.

(7) **First submission (40 points). Due by Sat 4/1 this** is not a draft. It should be an essentially complete paper: at least 20 pages long, all footnotes in place, ready for a thorough critique. (One must be submitted on TWEN, the other must be emailed to your partner who is critiquing it.) A rubric for the first submission (and final submission) will be posted on TWEN.

(8) **Peer Review (20 pts). Due Sat 4/8** (to your peer & on TWEN) you will be assigned to do a review of one of your classmates’ first submissions. I will provide more details about this assignment later. The peer review gives fresh and objective feedback to each student on his or her work; it also helps the student who is evaluating the other paper to see how points will be awarded under the grading criteria. You must read the paper, make comments and recommendations for improvement and fill out the grading checklist.

(9) **Final submission (100 points). Due Friday 4/28.** 23-30 pages. *SEE ABOVE.

1. **The other 20% of your grade (50 points) comes from the following:**

   a. **Class participation (10 points).** Everyone starts out with 10 points. You lose 1 point if you are absent or un-prepared (i.e. if it is apparent that you haven’t read).

   b. **Reflection Paper on the film “Earthlings” (10 points).** This will be your first assignment in the class: 2-3 pages, details on TWEN under Assignment Drop Box. **Due on Sat. 1/21**

   c. **Midterm Presentation (30 points).** Before Spring Break each of you will deliver an 8-10 minute presentation to the class on your research topic. You will teach us this topic and are encouraged to use power-point, white
or blackboard, video clips, handouts, lead a discussion, and each of you may have an additional 5 minutes to answer questions at the end.

H. **Computer Use:**

Please bring your computers to each class. We won’t be using computers very much during lectures/discussions, but we will use them for research and writing purposes. Using them for any other reason in class will result in a loss of participation points for that day. During some exercises, you will need to use them and for others you must put them away.

I. **Plagiarism:**

**YOU CANNOT CUT AND PASTE OTHER PEOPLE’S WORDS WITHOUT QUOTING AND CITING THEM!!!** Not ever. Not even in an outline. Plagiarism is forbidden for all written work in this class, including outlines, drafts, reflection papers, homework, and any paper submissions. A violation of this rule will be treated severely, with an “F” for the course and referral for academic misconduct.

Plagiarism is a violation of the SIUC Student Code of Conduct (see University web page at http://www.siuc.edu/~policies/policies/conduct.html). If you are unsure what plagiarism is see http://www.siu.edu/departments/cac/plagiarism.htm. One common example of plagiarism is when one uses a direct quote from a source without using quotation marks or block indentation and without citing the source. You also may not take an idea from someone else without citing the source. If you have any questions about this subject, please see me.

J. **Students with Disabilities:**

The law school’s policies and procedures regarding students with disabilities may be found on line at http://www.law.siu.edu; Students with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations should contact the Registrar’s office or the Associate Dean.

K. **Emergency Procedures:**

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on the BERT’s website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Public Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. **It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.** The BERT will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

L. **Tentative Schedule—**
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| 1  | Mon. 1/16  | (Martin Luther King Day—no class)  
Watch the film: “Earthlings”                                          | Write a Critique as per instructions (see TWEN Course Materials). Submit paper on TWEN under Assignments by Sat. 1/21 by 5:00 pm |
→ List of Topic(s) of Interest is also due on TWEN Sat 1/21 by 5pm |
| 2  | Mon. 1/23  | Class Intro & WHAT IS ANIMAL LAW                                        | Prepare a 2-min. PPT self/pets intro; Read Preface & Ch.1                   |
|    | Wed. 1/25  | Getting the big picture with Research; Research Time, Consultations    | For class Find 5 sources on chosen topic—1 or 2 cases, several statutes & articles  
→ Citation+Summary of each Due Sat 1/28 by 5 |
|    | Mon. 1/30  | ANIMAL OWNERSHIP/ Are they “property”?                                 | For class read text: Ch. 2                                                 |
|    | Wed. 2/1   | Topics and Thesis Statements; Present theses to class, Craft theses + Research Time, Consultations | For class Identify/Write down theses of 3 Articles & your tentative thesis to hand in  
→ Your well-crafted Thesis Statement Due Sat 2/4 by 5 |
| 3  | Mon. 2/6   | VET. MALPRACTICE/HARM TO PETS                                           | Read Text: Ch. 3 & 4                                                      |
|    | Wed. 2/8   | How to Outline+ Research & Writing Time, Consultations                  | For class Read 3 articles and do a basic outline of EACH to hand in  
→ Your Bare Bones Outline Due Sat 2/11 |
| 5  | Mon. 2/13  | STATE REGULATION                                                        | Read Text: Ch. 5                                                          |
|    | Wed. 2/15  | What’s Expected in the Detailed Outline, Interpreting & Drafting Statutes; | For class submit a detailed outline of one article, find & bring a statute related to your topic  
→ Detailed Outline Due Sat 2/18 |
| 6  | Mon. 2/20  | ANIMAL CRUELTY- Intentional Acts                                        | Read Text: Ch. 6                                                          |
|    | Wed. 2/22  | Expectations for Presentations & Rough Draft                           | Work on Topic Presentation  
(See Rubric under Course Materials on TWEN) |
| 7  | Mon. 2/27  | ANIMAL CRUELTY- Duty of Care                                            | Read Text: Ch. 7                                                          |
|    | Wed. 3/1   | 4 Topic Presentations                                                  | Work on Rough Draft                                                       |
|    | Mon. 3/6   | 4 Topic Presentations                                                  | Work on Rough Draft                                                       |
|    | Wed. 3/8   | 4 Topic Presentations                                                  | Work on Rough Draft                                                       |
| 8. | Sat. 3/11—Sunday 3/19 | SPRING BREAK                                  | Rough Draft Due Friday 3/10 by 5 pm                                      |
| 9  | Mon. 3/20  | Watch “Food Inc.” Discuss in Class                                     | Work on First Submission                                                   |
|    | Wed. 3/22  | General Remarks on Rough Drafts, What’s Expected in First Submission     | Rough Drafts Returned with Comments; Make corrections/work in suggestions into First Submission |
| 10 | Mon. 3/27  | In Class Research & Writing Time, Consultations                         | Work on First Submission                                                   |
|    | Wed. 3/29  | How to Do A Good Peer Review; Q&A on First Submissions; In Class Research & Writing Time | 1st Submission Due on TWEN and to your partner Sat 4/1 by 5 |
| 11 | Mon. 4/3   | In class work on peer’s paper review + work on own paper                | Work on peer’s paper review + work on own paper                           |
|    | Wed. 4/5   | Conferences with your peer about his/her paper, work on changes suggested by peer;  
***Sign up for Teacher Conferences***                                   | Continue working on changes suggested by peer;  
→ Submit Peer Review on TWEN and to your partner Sat. 4/8 by 5 |
| 12 | Mon. 4/10  | In Class Writing Time +3 Teacher Conferences                           | Revising, Writing                                                         |
|    | Wed. 4/12  | In Class Writing Time +3 Teacher Conferences                           | Revising, Writing                                                         |
| 13 | Mon. 4/17  | In Class Writing Time + 3 Teacher Conferences                          | Revising, Writing                                                         |
|    | Wed. 4/19  | In Class Writing Time + 3 Teacher Conferences                          | Revising, Writing                                                         |
| 14 | Mon. 4/24  | In Class Writing Time + Consultations Sign up for Pot Luck              | Revising, Writing                                                         |
|    | Wed 4/26   | VEGETARIAN POT LUCK/ Q&A on paper                                       | FINAL Submission Due Friday 4/28 by 5 pm                                  |