

LAW10487

Animal Law

Unit Information Guide

Session 3 2010



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Southern Cross University
Military Road
East Lismore NSW 2480

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Welcome

Welcome to LAW10487 Animal Law.

Teaching staff

Unit assessor

Jackson Walkden-Brown

Location: TBA

Phone: TBA

Email: lawrecep@scu.edu.au

Contacting your unit assessor

Your contact regarding this unit should be with the unit assessor. If unable to contact your unit assessor then the resident tutor (email: lawtutor@scu.edu.au) may be able to help you.

The unit assessor is available for student consultation two hours per week. Times are advised on MySCU <<http://study.scu.edu.au/>> in the Student Law Centre. Students are advised that staff may not be available to respond to student queries, access voice mail or email messages outside these consultation times.

If there is something you wish to contact us about, please first consider if it relates to an **administrative issue** (such as problems with receipt of study materials issued by the University, enrolment variations, library borrowing rights, receipt and return of assignments, examination or workshop venues and times) or an **academic issue** (ie something related specifically to the content or teaching of the unit you are studying or your assessment in it, such as questions about material in the Study Guide or prescribed texts, queries about assessment task requirements, applications for extensions or other forms of special consideration in relation to assessment tasks etc).

Administrative issues are dealt with by administrative staff within the School or the University. In the Law School, contact the student support team regarding administrative matters in relation to dispatch of study materials, receipt and return of assignments, enrolments and study plans.

Where to get help

School enquiries

Post: School of Law and Justice
Southern Cross University
PO Box 157 (Military Road)
Lismore NSW 2480
Australia

Phone: +61 2 6620 3109

Email: lawrecep@scu.edu.au

Website: <<http://www.scu.edu.au/schools/lawj>>

DX address: DX 7651 Lismore NSW

Student support team

Phone: +61 2 6620 3109

Fax: +61 2 6622 4167

Email: lawrecep@scu.edu.au

IT&TS helpdesk

Phone: +61 2 6620 3698

Email: helpdesk@scu.edu.au

Website: <<http://www.scu.edu.au/admin/it/>>

Coffs Harbour

Phone: +61 2 6659 3080

Email: chec.helpdesk@scu.edu.au

Gold Coast and Tweed Heads

Phone: +61 7 5506 9210

Email: tweedhelp@scu.edu.au

Academic Skills Development Unit

Phone: +61 2 6620 3386

Email: academicskills@scu.edu.au

Website: <<http://www.scu.edu.au/academicskills>>

Coffs Harbour

Phone: +61 2 6659 3323

Email: academicskills-coffs@scu.edu.au

Gold Coast and Tweed Heads

Phone: +61 7 5506 9313

Email: academicskills-tgc@scu.edu.au

Student Services

Phone: +61 2 6620 3452

Email: stuadmin@scu.edu.au

Website: <<http://www.scu.edu.au/services/studentsservices/>>

Coffs Harbour

Phone: +61 2 6659 3777

Email: sservice@scu.edu.au

Gold Coast and Tweed Heads

Phone: +61 7 5506 9200

Email: tgcc@scu.edu.au

Library

Phone: 1800 659 460 (Freecall)

Website: <<http://www.scu.edu.au/library>>

About this unit

Managing your study

This unit will be delivered to students in an external mode. A comprehensive on-line Blackboard learning site for the unit will be available on MySCU. The design and delivery of this unit is informed by a belief that high quality learning can take place outside of a traditional classroom. It has been developed both to facilitate learning and to meet the social and practical needs of students.

With a view to the creation of a community of learners and to facilitate student learning, students are encouraged to work collaboratively and to actively participate in online discussion forums. The role of teaching staff is to guide, encourage and facilitate such collaboration. Effective online learning and the development of an online learning community requires participants to demonstrate a willingness to support and assist the learning of others in the community. With this in mind, online resources and online discussion forums have been developed to engage, guide and motivate students, and to provide a safe and conducive environment for learning and communication exchange to occur.

Finally, students must be prepared to 'speak up' if problems arise. If you are experiencing difficulty on any level – with the technology, the course content or with any other issues which may affect your progress in the unit – you must communicate this to the unit assessor, so that he or she can provide you with the necessary support.

How much work

To be able to successfully complete this unit and to achieve its learning objectives, students are expected to complete the prescribed reading (Study Guide, textbook and readings), to participate in online discussions, submit items of assessment as they fall due and sit for the final examination.

Resources

A printed Study Guide for this unit will be provided to all students. The Study Guide, together with the *Voiceless Animal Law Toolkit* (2009), readings on CD-rom and a well-developed MySCU site containing digital learning resources and web links will be available to ensure that students have equitable access to learning material. In addition, there will be a moderated Discussion Board. Students are also expected to purchase, or have access to, the prescribed textbook: Peter Sankoff & Steven White, *Animal Law in Australasia* (2009) Federation Press.

Rules concerning all assignments

1. **Read your assignment carefully** to make sure you are answering the question that is set. Many students are disappointed with their results because they go off on tangents and do not answer the question satisfactorily because they have not read it carefully.
2. One of the overall objectives of this educational course is to deliver graduates who **can present written material free of grammatical, punctuation and spelling mistakes**. Accordingly, your work will be marked with this objective in mind and you may lose marks if your work does not meet the required standards in these areas.
3. Your written material must also be presented in accordance with the most recent School of Law and Justice Style Guide. You can download a copy of the Style Guide by accessing MySCU > Law Student Centre > Law Resources button and then clicking on the link to the *Style Guide*.
4. For further information on referencing students may also refer to the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation (AGLC)*. The latest edition of this guide can be downloaded from <http://mulr.law.unimelb.edu.au/files/aglcdl.pdf>. It is available in Read-Only Adobe so cannot be copied or printed. It can be purchased in hardcopy from Melbourne University Law Review, Law School, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, 3010.

Where there is an inconsistency between the Style Guide and the AGLC students should follow the School of Law and Justice Style Guide.

Students who commenced their courses prior to 2006 may adopt the *Australian Guide to Legal Citation* or continue following the style set out in A Stuhmcke, *Legal Referencing* (3rd ed, 2005) Butterworths, Sydney.

5. Footnotes (not endnotes or in-text referencing) should be used. Revise them carefully for grammar and spelling errors.
6. Industry and the professions assume that university graduates are computer literate. For this reason, assignments should be prepared using any software package and demonstrating the following format: double-line spacing, 4 cm margin on left-hand side, A4 paper, single side only, pages numbered. While your assignment is not in itself a typing test, as the author of an assessment item, it is your responsibility to check for typos and spelling mistakes. If you do not have access to word-processing facilities, your assignments should be typewritten if possible.

Please do not place assignments into plastic folders. All that is required is an Assignment Cover Sheet, stapled to the assignment at the top left corner.

7. Do not allow someone else to do your assignments – do them yourself. You are the one enrolled in the award, not your mentor, husband/wife/partner/best friend.
8. **Severe penalties are imposed for all forms of plagiarism**. For further details consult the University policy on plagiarism set out in the current University *Student Handbook*. Do not be tempted to use someone else's work and pass it off as your own – such action constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is very easy to detect for people whose job it is to distinguish between styles of writing.

Plagiarism is committed when a person takes ideas from the literature or from another student and presents them as his/her own. In other words, even though you may not present someone else's work word-for-word, you still need to acknowledge the author as the original source if you in any way take an idea from someone else's work and then rehash, embellish or simply change it around.

If you quote the actual words of the author, then merely to provide a footnote indicating the source of the idea is insufficient. You must also provide quotation marks, or indent in the case of a lengthy quotation. There must also be a footnote indicating the exact source of the quotation. To use most of the author's words and change a few here and there is also unacceptable.

The habit of writing notes verbatim from a source as you read is a dangerous and poor one. It is easy later to forget that the notes are verbatim and to write them into an essay.

Plagiarism is avoided by always acknowledging the source of your ideas, statements, etc, if they come from another person's work. You do this by using the correct referencing practices.

To ensure you understand the seriousness of plagiarism, **you are required to sign the cover sheet for each assignment declaring the work is your own OR, in the case of electronic submission only where no cover sheet is required, include the following statement in the 'Comments' section when uploading your assignment via MySCU:**

I have read and understand the Rules relating to Awards (Rule 3.17) as contained in the University Handbook. I understand the penalties which apply for plagiarism and agree to be bound by these rules. The work I am submitting electronically is entirely my own work.

It is also extremely foolish to allow a fellow student (no matter how desperate that student is) to borrow your assignment or your working papers. You are strongly advised to keep your assignment in a secure place and to take particular care of computer disks. Under no circumstances leave your assignment on an unattended hard disk on someone else's computer.

9. **Do not use language which is discriminatory.** Preventing discrimination on the basis of a person's gender, marital status, race, culture, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual preference or age is university policy.
10. **Always keep a copy of your assignment** in case it gets lost. Although care is taken by the School with assignments submitted in the prescribed manner, the responsibility remains with you to produce a copy of any submitted assignment in the event that it cannot be located within the School.
11. **Late submission:** Late assignments will be penalised according to the schedule set out below. The circumstances under which you may apply for an extension are set out in the Assessment Rules in the University *Student Handbook*.

Late assignments, for which special consideration has not been obtained, will be penalised as follows:

Up to 3 days late	5% of the maximum possible mark awarded for the assignment
From 4–7 days late	10% of the maximum possible mark awarded for the assignment
From 8–14 days late	25% of the maximum possible mark awarded for the assignment
More than 14 days late	Not marked.

Learning support

Library

The Library promotes student learning and ensures easy access to information resources, providing a full range of library and audiovisual services, and trained professional staff to assist students to become independent learners.

The main Library is located at the Lismore campus. Libraries are also located at the Coffs Harbour campus and the Gold Coast Beachside campus. You will find contact information for the Library in the ‘Where to get help’ section of this guide.

Academic Skills Development Unit

The Academic Skills Development Unit at Southern Cross University provides educational support to students, staff and the University as a whole. Its members provide a range of study assistance materials and one-on-one advice to assist you to complete your studies. You will find contact information for the Academic Skills Development Unit in the ‘Where to get help’ section of this guide.

MySCU

Your unit assessor may have requested an online component to be set up on MySCU to support this unit for the duration of the study period.

To check if this unit has an online component you should check the following location in your browser:

<<http://study.scu.edu.au>>

This opens the **MySCU student intranet** page. The names of units in which you are currently enrolled that have an online presence will be listed here under ‘Learning Sites’.

If your unit is not listed under ‘Learning Sites’ and you have been instructed by your lecturer to access the online site, please check your enrolment status through MyEnrolment. If you do not appear to be enrolled in that unit, either enrol in that unit or email a variation request to Student Services:

enrol@scu.edu.au

If you are enrolled in that unit but cannot access the online site send an email to:

helpdesk@scu.edu.au

Illuminate Live!

Your unit assessor may choose to use Illuminate Live! in this unit. Illuminate Live! is web-based audio-conferencing software for real-time collaboration; a mix of a teletutorial and virtual classroom with additional features. You can find out more by clicking the ‘Illuminate Live! Help’ button within your MySCU unit, or go to:

<<http://www.scu.edu.au/illuminate>>

Internet access

Students enrolled in a unit offered by the School of Law and Justice are expected to have internet access and units will be offered on that assumption. Students without internet access will be disadvantaged in their learning experience.

You will find important information posted on MySCU for the unit you are studying and we would also like to encourage students to access the Law Student Centre which is available to all students enrolled at the School of Law and Justice. You will find a folder called Useful Resources some of which are Contact Times for Unit Assessors, External Assignment Cover Sheet, Disability Guidelines, Law School Style Guide and the Online Guide.

Etiquette (netiquette) in MySCU Discussion Forums

To engage in constructive and useful dialogue with the teaching staff, and with your fellow students, click on the Discussion Boards link.

While universities encourage freedom of speech, and the frank exchange of differing ideas and opinions, certain limits are set on the format of discussion.

By ensuring that debate remains civil and courteous in tone, these limits serve the purposes of:

1. encouraging students to carefully weigh and consider opposing viewpoints, rather than simply ‘flaming’ or abusing people with different views
2. focusing debate on the content of what is said, rather than the way in which it’s said, and
3. encouraging members of traditionally disadvantaged groups to participate fully in the discussion.

You should pay careful attention to context, especially keeping in mind that (1) people reading your postings don’t know you personally, (2) they can’t see or hear your nuances of voice tone or body language, and (3) they may interpret what you write in a sense that is grammatically plausible but not what you yourself had in mind.

Here are some tips:

- No pornography is to be downloaded, as per the University rules. Any infringement could result in suspension from the unit.
- Don’t type messages in CAPITAL LETTERS. NOT ONLY IS IT MORE DIFFICULT TO READ ON SCREEN, BUT IN AN ENVIRONMENT DEVOID OF BODY LANGUAGE, CAPITAL LETTERS REPRESENT SHOUTING!
- Consult the list archives, if available, before posting a question.
- If your post doesn’t add value, don’t send it.
- Be courteous to other list members and respect other people’s opinions. If you disagree with them, fine, just don’t resort to personal insults. While healthy discussion about ideas and issues is to be encouraged, avoid personal attacks or attacks on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, religious or political beliefs. Always be careful to separate the person from the idea or argument which they are expressing.

Past exam papers

Copies of past examination papers may be available on the Library website at:

<<http://www.scu.edu.au/library/index.php/54/>>

To access the papers search the unit code or the unit title. You will need to use your MySCU student intranet password to view the past exam papers.

Note: Although past exam papers provide a useful guide to the types and general standards of questions which may be used in examinations, they should not be relied upon as accurate indicators of exam duration, exam format or topics covered. These last three elements may change from year-to-year depending on individual lecturers' preferences and such things as topics covered in assignments that year.

Unit statement

Southern Cross University

School of Law and Justice

Description

Unit title:	Animal Law
Unit code:	LAW10487
Undergraduate, postgraduate:	Undergraduate
Prerequisites:	Enrolment in a law degree OR any eight (8) units at tertiary level
Corequisites:	Nil
Antirequisites:	Nil
Other enrolment conditions & requirements:	Students are required to have access to the internet.
Student Services enrolment category:	External
Graded/ungraded:	Graded
Field of education:	090999 Law not elsewhere classified
Credit points:	12

Aims

As a significant growth area of law, the central aim of this unit is to enable students to identify and evaluate the legal frameworks which regulate various types of human-animal interaction and to consider the ways in which these frameworks impact upon the interests of animals. In addition, the unit provides an opportunity for students to identify and critique the ways in which animals are conceptualised in law, including the philosophical, scientific and economic assumptions which inform the law relating to animals. Finally, the unit will enable students to reflect upon the adequacy of laws relating to animals and to consider the ways in which lawyers and others concerned with animal protection may advocate on behalf of animals and contribute to law reform.

Objectives

On completion of this unit, students should be able to:

1. identify and critically analyse the major theoretical approaches to the protection of non-human animals
2. explain the legal status of animals, including the historical antecedents of this status
3. identify and explain the operation of the law in NSW with respect to different types of human-animal interactions
4. apply relevant legal principles to a range of issues and contexts involving human-animal interactions
5. evaluate the role of law in both the protection and exploitation of animals
6. identify areas in which the law affecting animals is in need of reform and identify strategies to achieve such reform.

Graduate attributes

As a graduate of Southern Cross University, you are more than just a sum of the knowledge you have acquired through your units. During your studies you will have developed other skills, values and attitudes that are essential for gaining employment and advancing life-long learning. The University refers to these skills, values and attitudes as the graduate attributes.

The following School of Law and Justice graduate attributes are embedded within the teaching and learning process of the unit, and are evident in the assessment scheme.

Students who complete this unit:

1. are gender, culturally, socially, politically, environmentally and ethically aware
2. are able to express themselves clearly and concisely
3. are capable of critical, creative and reflective thinking
4. are lifelong learners, astute to the phenomena of change, and
5. achieve excellence in their field.

Handbook entry

Animal law is one of the fastest growing areas of law in Australia. Law has a significant role in influencing the ways in which humans relate to, and interact with, non-human animals. This unit considers the legal and philosophical assumptions relating to human-animal interactions, the history and present status of animals as property, and the legal regulatory frameworks governing a variety of human-animal interactions in NSW. As humans increasingly accept that the protection of animals from cruelty and other forms of exploitation is important, an understanding of the application of legal frameworks relating to animals is crucial. Predicated on the view that current protections relating to animals are inadequate, there is a strong emphasis on law reform and activism and upon practical ways in which concerned animal advocates may advance the interests of, and legal protections provided to, animals.

Syllabus

- Topic 1** Legal and philosophical frameworks of animal law
- Topic 2** Criminal and cruelty offences
- Topic 3** Companion animals
- Topic 4** Animals in entertainment and sport
- Topic 5** Animals in agriculture and live animal export
- Topic 6** Animal experimentation and research
- Topic 7** Wild animals and animals in the wild
- Topic 8** Animal advocacy and law reform

Prescribed texts and materials

LAW10487 *Study Guide* issued by the School of Law and Justice.

Textbook: Peter Sankoff and Steven White, *Animal Law in Australasia: A New Dialogue* (2009) The Federation Press, Australia.

Readings on CD-rom issued by the School of Law and Justice.

Voiceless, *Animal Law Toolkit*, December 2009. Kindly donated by Voiceless, the Toolkit will be distributed to students with their study materials.

Recommended reference materials

You do not have to purchase these materials – they are recommended to assist you in your research. Note that not all these reference materials will be available from the SCU Library.

Books: Animals and law

Brooman, Simon and Legge, Debbie, *Law Relating to Animals* (1997) Cavendish Publishing, London.

Bryant, Taimie L, Hiss, Rebecca J and Cassuto, David N (eds) *Animal Law and the Courts: A Reader* (2008) Thomson.

Caulfield, M, *Handbook of Australian Animal Cruelty Law* (2008).

Cao, Deborah, Sharman, Katrina and White, Steven, *Animal Law in Australia and New Zealand* (2010) LawBook Co.

Favre, David S, *Animal Law: Welfare, Interests and Rights* (2008) Wolters Kluwer.

Francione, Gary, *Animals, Property and the Law* (1995) Temple University Press.

Radford, Mike, *Animal Welfare Law in Britain: Regulation and Responsibility* (2001) Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.

Sunstein, Cass R and Nussbaum, Martha C (eds), *Animal Rights: Current Debates and New Directions* (2004) Oxford University Press.

Voiceless, the animal protection institute, *The Animal Law Toolkit* (2009) Paddington, NSW, December.

Waisman, Sonia, Wagman, Bruce and Frasc, Pamela, *Animal Law* (4th ed, 2009) Durham, North Carolina.

Wise, Steven M, *Rattling the Cage: Toward Legal Rights for Animals* (2001) Perseus.

Books: Animals and ethics

- Armstrong, Susan J and Botzler, Richard G (eds), *The Animal Ethics Reader* (2003) Routledge.
- Francione, Gary, *Introduction to Animal Rights: Your Child or Your Dog* (2000) Temple University Press, Philadelphia.
- Francione, Gary L and Steiner, Gary (eds), *Critical Perspectives on Animals* (2010) Columbia University Press.
- Garner, Robert, *Animal Ethics* (2005) Polity.
- Hursthouse, Rosalind (ed), *Ethics, Humans and Other Animals* (2000) Routledge.
- Pollan, Michael, *The Omnivore's Dilemma* (2006) Bloomsbury.
- Singer, Peter and Mason, J, *The Ethics of What We Eat* (2006) Text Publishing, Melbourne.
- Sorabji, Richard, *Animal Minds and Human Morals: The Origins of the Western Debate* (1993) Cornell University Press.
- MacIntyre, Alasdair, *Dependent Rational Animals: Why Human beings Need the Virtues* (1999) Duckworth, London.

Books: Animals and philosophy

- Agamben, G, *The Open: Man and Animal* (trans K Attell) (2004) Stanford University Press, Stanford.
- Atterton, Peter and Calarco, Matthew (eds), *Animal Philosophy: Ethics and Identity* (2004) Continuum, London and New York.
- Calarco, Matthew, *Zoographies: The Question of the Animal from Heidegger to Derrida* (2008) Columbia University Press.
- Cavaliere, Paola, Calarco, Matthew JM, Coetzee, Miller, Harlan B and Wolfe, Cary, *The Death of the Animal: A Dialogue* (2008) Columbia University Press.
- Cavell, Stanley, Diamond, Cora, McDowell, John, Hacking, Ian and Wolfe, Cary, *Philosophy and Animal Life* (2008) Columbia University Press.
- Coetzee, J M, *The Lives of Animals* (1999) Princeton University Press, Princeton.
- Derrida, Jacques, *The Animal That Therefore I Am* (Marie-Louise Mallet (ed), trans David Wills) (2008) Fordham University Press, New York.
- Ham, J and Senior, M (eds), *Animal Acts: Reconfiguring the Human in Western History* (1997) Routledge, London.
- Lacapra, Dominick, *History and its Limits: Human, Animal, Violence* (2009) Cornell University Press.
- Lemm, Vanessa, *Nietzsche's Animal Philosophy: Culture, Politics and the Animality of the Human Being* (2009) Fordham University Press.
- Lippit, A M, *Electric Animal: Toward A Rhetoric of Wildlife* (2000) University of Minnesota Press, London & Minneapolis.
- Mitchell, R W, Thompson, N and Miles, H L (eds), *Anthropomorphism, Anecdotes and Animals* (1997) State University of New York Press, Albany.
- Pollock, Mary Saunders and Rainwater, Catherine (eds), *Figuring Animals: Essays on Animal Images in Art, Literature, Philosophy and Popular Culture* (2005) Palgrave MacMillan.
- Regan, Tom, *The Case for Animal Rights* (1985) University of California.
- Regan, Tom and Singer, Peter (eds), *Animal Rights and Human Obligations* (1989) Prentice Hall, New Jersey, USA.
- Ryder, R, *Animal Revolution: Changing Attitudes Towards Speciesism* (1989) Blackwell, Oxford.

- Santer, Eric, *On Creaturely Life: Rilke, Benjamin, Sebald* (2006) University of Chicago Press.
- Singer, Peter, *Animal Liberation* (2nd ed, 1995) Pimlico, London, UK.
- Shukin, Nicole, *Animal Capital: Rendering Life in Biopolitical Times* (2009) University of Minnesota Press.
- Wolfe, Cary, *Animal Rites: American Culture, the Discourse of Species, and Posthumanist Theory* (2003) University of Chicago Press.
- Twine, Richard, *Animals as Biotechnology: Ethics, Sustainability and Critical Animal Studies*, (2010) Earthscan Ltd.
- Tyler, Tom and Rossini, Manuela (eds), *Animal Encounters* (2009) Human-Animal Studies Series, Leiden and Boston: Koninklijke Brill.
- Wolfe, Cary (ed), *Zoontologies: The Question of the Animal* (2003) University of Minnesota Press.

Journals

- The Australian Animal Protection Law Journal* (2008) – published by Legal Service Bulletin
- Journal of Animal Law* (2005) Michigan University College of Law – <http://www.animallaw.info/policy/pojournalanimallawindex.htm>
- Journal of Animal Law and Ethics* (2005) University of Pennsylvania Law School – <http://www.journalofanimallawandethics.com/>
- Animal Law Review* (1994) Lewis & Clark Law School, Portland Oregon – <http://www.lclark.edu/org/cals/>
- Stanford Journal of Animal Law and Policy* (2007) Stanford University California – <http://sjalp.stanford.edu/issues.html>
- Journal for Critical Animal Studies* (2007) Institute for Critical Animal Studies (ICAS) Syracuse, New York – <http://www.criticalanimalstudies.org/journal> -for-critical-animal-studies/archives/

Web addresses

Please note that a comprehensive list of links to these sites together with links to many additional sites will be available in CEUnit Documents-Weblinks, on the MySCU Blackboard site for this unit.

- Animals Australia
<http://www.animalsaustralia.org>
- Animal Legal & Historical Center, Michigan State University College of Law
<http://www.animallaw.info>
- Animal Liberation New South Wales
<http://www.animal-lib.org.au>
- Animal Liberation Queensland
<http://www.animalliberationqld.org.au>
- Animal Welfare League
<http://www.animalwelfareleague.com.au>
- Animal Welfare Science Centre
<http://www.animalwelfare.net.au/>
- Anthrozoology: Research in Human-Animal Interaction
<http://www.anthrozoology.org>

- Australian and New Zealand Council for the Care of Animals in Research and Teaching
<<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ANZCCART/>>
- Australian Government, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Animal Welfare
<<http://www.daff.gov.au/animal>>-plant-health/welfare>
- Center for Animal Law Studies, Lewis and Clark Law School, Portland, Oregon
<http://www.lclark.edu/law/centers/animal_law_studies>
- Centre for Companion Animals in the Community
<<http://www.ccac.net.au/>>
- Companion Animals home page. NSW Division of Local Govt, Dept, of Premier and Cabinet
<http://www.dlg.nsw.gov.au/dlg/dlghome/dlg_InformationIndex.asp?areaindex=CA&index=301&mi=9>
- Farmonline
<<http://www.farmonline.com.au>>
- Humane Society International (Australia)
<<http://www.hsi.org.au>>
- Institute for Critical Animal Studies (ICAS) Website
<<http://www.criticalanimalstudies.org>>
- International Fund for Animal Welfare
<www.ifaw.org>
- Lawyers for Animals
<<http://lawyersforanimals.org.au>>
- People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)
<<http://www.peta.org/>>
- Primary Industries Report Series, Access to ‘Model Codes of Practice’ for animal welfare
<<http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/22/sid/11.htm>>
- Queensland Government, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Animal Welfare and Ethics
<<http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/animalwelfare>>
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)
<<http://www.rspca.org.au>>
- Voiceless, the animal protection institute
<<http://www.voiceless.org.au/>>
- World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) (Australia and New Zealand)
<<http://www.wspa.org.au>>

Student assessment requirements

Task	Unit objectives assessed	Graduate attributes assessed	Weighting %	Week due
1. Assignment: Research essay	1–6	1–5	50%	Week 13
2. Take-home examination	1–6	1–5	30%	See assessment details
3. Online discussion forum participation	1–6	1–5	20%	Weeks 1–14

Students must keep copies of work submitted.

This is a graded unit and grades shall be awarded as detailed in Rule 3.8 of the University's Rules Relating to Awards. To pass the unit, all assessment tasks must be completed and an overall mark of 50% or more must be obtained. The criteria upon which performance in assessment tasks is judged are set out in this Unit Information Guide.

Mode of delivery

This unit will be offered on an external basis. The unit will have a fully-developed MySCU site providing a wide range of learning resources relating to your learning in this unit. In addition, there will be a moderated Discussion Board to facilitate the development of a community of learners in the unit. Students are encouraged to become actively involved in the online community of learners on the Discussion Board. Additional resources such as print-based study materials and video podcasts will also be provided to ensure equitable access to all learning materials.

Student academic integrity

It is a University requirement that a student's work complies with the Academic Policy, Chapter 4.20 on Student Academic Integrity. It is a student's responsibility to be familiar with the Policy. Failure to comply with the Policy can have severe consequences in the form of University sanctions. For information on this Policy please refer to Chapter 4.20 on Student Academic Integrity at the following website:

<http://www.scu.edu.au/governance/academicboard/policy/>
under 'Student Values and Rights'.

As part of a University initiative to support the development of academic integrity, assessments may be checked for plagiarism, including through an electronic system, either internally or by a plagiarism checking service, and be held for future checking and matching purposes.

Student feedback

Students are encouraged to complete the online student feedback on learning and teaching survey. This is offered for all units in every study period.

Assessment details

To pass this unit:

- (a) A student must attempt the following assessment items:
 - a Research Paper
 - a final take-home examination
 - participate in assessable an online Discussion Board
- (b) a student must receive a mark of 50% or higher overall.

1. Assignment: Research essay

Due:	Monday 24 January 2011 (Week 13)
Length:	2,500–3,000 words
Weighting:	50%
Submission method:	electronic copy only

This item of assessment relates to all unit objectives 1–6.

Assignment objectives

The purpose of this research paper is to enable students to identify an area of human–animal interaction which is of interest to them and to consider the ways in which legal regulatory frameworks impact upon the identified area, including any limitations of these frameworks. Students will be provided with:

- a list of subject areas related to human–animal interaction
- specific issues and questions which they should address in the conduct of their investigation.

These questions will ask you to:

- consider the assumptions which underlie and inform the legal regulatory framework of the area you have identified
- explain and evaluate applicable law and relevant legal principles and consider how this impacts upon affected animals in the area you have identified
- evaluate the adequacy of legal responses relating to affected animals in the area you have identified
- identify ways in which the law may require reform in the area you have identified and strategies to achieve such reform.

Instructions

Detailed assignment instructions for your research essay are located in the ‘Assignments’ folder of the MySCU site for this unit.

Assessment criteria for research essay

The mark you receive in your research paper will be a reflection of your demonstrated ability to recognise and analyse issues, the adequacy of your research and your use of source material. The way you have structured your response, the accuracy and adequacy of your referencing, and the quality of your presentation is also taken into account. The following criteria will be used when assessing your assignment:

Generic criteria

1. Identification of research question

Provides a concise statement of the research question and/or problem

2. Context and rationale

- a. Describes the context of research
- b. Identifies the rationale for the research

3. Evaluation and interpretation

- a. Develops a concise and convincing argument through to a conclusion
- b. Comprehension and inclusion of relevant matters
- c. Integrates and evaluates relevant knowledge from the material covered in the unit
- d. Evidence of critical analysis and reflection

4. Organisation and structure

Fluent, clear and concise writing (including accurate expression, grammar and spelling)

5. Sources, citation and bibliography

- a. Identification of literature (primary and secondary sources) relevant to the context of the research essay
- b. Effective use, acknowledgement and citation of sources.

Specific criteria

1. Identification of the assumptions which underlie and inform the legal regulatory framework of identified area
2. Identification and evaluation of applicable law and relevant legal principles
3. Identification of the ways in which applicable law impacts upon affected animals in identified area
4. Evaluation of the adequacy of legal responses relating to affected animals in the in identified area
5. Identification of ways in which the law may be deficient and of strategies to achieve reform.

Your research essay should be submitted electronically using the assignment function in MySCU. Detailed instructions relating to electronic submission are available in the 'Assignments' link on MySCU.

Locating the Assignment function: From your MySCU homepage click on the relevant unit. Select Assignments from the options on the left of the screen and follow the instructions to upload your assignment.

Assignment submission

All students are required to upload an electronic copy of their assignments only. **DO NOT send a hardcopy of your assignment.**

Assignments must be uploaded on or before the due date, using the assignment function in MySCU. Unless otherwise indicated by the unit assessor, assignments are due by 5.00 pm on the due date.

For instructions on how to submit an assignment electronically please click on the Assignments tab in the MySCU learning site for this particular unit. If an electronic cover sheet is required, it will be available in the Assignments tab together with the instructions.

Return of assignment

For only those assignments submitted on or before the due date, every effort will be made to mark and return these assignments to students within two weeks of the due date.

The unit assessor reserves the right to set an alternative assessment task where for any reason an assignment has not been handed in within two weeks after the due date.

2. Final take-home examination

Due: 7–11 February 2011

Length: 1,500–2,000 words

Weighting: 30%

This item of assessment relates to all unit objectives 1–6.

The take-home examination is scheduled for the examination week: 7–11 February 2011. The take-home examination problem will be available to download in the ‘Assignments’ function of MySCU at 9.00 am on 7 February. Your completed examination should be returned electronically on MySCU by 5.00 pm on 11 February 2011. Detailed instructions relating to electronic submission are available in the ‘Assignments’ link on MySCU.

Note: This is an open book examination.

The examination will consist of **one** compulsory problem question worth 30% of your final mark for the unit.

Assessment criteria for examination

Your answers to the problem question in the exam will be marked according to the following criteria. Normally the marker will be ascertaining whether the student has:

- identified and clearly stated the relevant issues
- stated the law/s or general legal principles related to those issues and their sources (case and/or statute)
- applied the case or statute law to the facts given in the problem
- argued whether any relevant precedents apply or may be distinguished, based on the facts provided

- developed and sustained a concise and convincing legal argument through to a logical conclusion
- responded to the specific question(s) asked in a clear and concise manner, and demonstrated academic integrity in the work submitted.

3. Assessment instructions for online participation

Due: 1 November 2010 – 4 February 2011 (Weeks 1–14)

Length: approximately 350 words per post

Weighting: 20%

This item of assessment relates to all the unit objectives 1–6.

Instructions

An online discussion forum has been established for each of the 8 topics in the unit.

A question or comment for discussion will be posted in each discussion forum. Students are required to post **one** assessable post in each discussion forum. Brevity and conciseness in your post is encouraged. Each post should not exceed 350 words.

The assessment and criteria for your online participation is set out below.

You are advised to enter your assessable post for each topic during the recommended period during which that discussion forum is most active. Please refer to the following table for the weeks in which your posts should be entered in relation to each topic. Please do not leave all your posts for each topic to the final weeks of the study period. This is unfair on other students as it defeats the purpose of collaborative learning. It also frustrates the ability of the unit assessor to provide collective and individual feedback on the posts for each topic.

Discussion forum dates

The dates upon which the discussion forums will be ‘active’ for you to enter your posts appear in the following table.

Topic	Discussion forum posts
Topic 1 Legal and philosophical frameworks of animal law	1 November – 19 November
Topic 2 Criminal and cruelty offences	15 November – 3 December
Topic 3 Companion animals	22 November – 17 December
Topic 4 Animals in entertainment and sport	6 December – 24 December
Topic 5 Agricultural animals and live animal export	4 January – 14 January
Topic 6 Animal experimentation and research	10 January – 28 January
Topic 7 Wild animals and animals in the wild	17 January – 4 February
Topic 8 Animal advocacy and law reform	17 January – 4 February

Assessment criteria

Your online posts will be assessed according to the following criteria:

1. Online participants will demonstrate an observable understanding of the topics being discussed. The understanding will be at a level of critical thinking and synthesis.
2. Online participants will demonstrate an ability to engage other participants in a discussion that is relevant to the topics and related concepts. This can be done in a variety of ways including but not limited to:
 - posing engaging questions
 - eliciting responses
 - engaging other participants in an activity or task
 providing relevant links or other resources to fellow participants.
3. Online participants will demonstrate an ability to cooperate, enter into constructive dialogue and be supportive of other participants.
4. Online participants will demonstrate the ability to effectively organise the discussion. This includes:
 - keeping the discussion focused on the topic
 - providing structure (beginning arguments, closing arguments, wrap-up or synthesis).
5. Online participants will demonstrate an ability to effectively respond to questions and comments from the unit assessor and/or other participants.

PLEASE NOTE: A detailed assessment criteria template for online assessment may be located in the ‘Assignments’ folder of the MySCU site for this unit.

Census dates

From 2009, census dates at Southern Cross University have changed. The census date is the day upon which your enrolment for the study period becomes fixed. You cannot enrol or withdraw from units after census date without significant academic and/or financial penalties. If you are using the FEE-Help or HECS-Help Government loan schemes, your debt for the study period is deferred on census date.

You will need to go to My Enrolment at <<http://www.scu.edu.au/myenrolment>> to check your census dates. Select ‘Current Enrolment’ from the menu item called ‘My Study Plans’. Each unit in which you are enrolled will be displayed with its census date clearly identified.

Grades

Students who complete a unit will receive one of the following grades:

Less than 50%	Fail
50–64%	Pass
65–74%	Credit
75–84%	Distinction
85%+	High Distinction.

Student grades are determined by applying the following grading standards in combination with specific marking criteria for each assessment item.

Note: Marks may be subject to moderating adjustments.

Grading standards

Fail: The student's performance fails to satisfy the learning requirements specified.

Absent Fail: The student fails to submit all assessment items and is deemed to have abandoned studies.

Pass: The student's performance satisfies all of the basic learning requirements specified and provides a sound basis for proceeding to higher-level studies in the subject area. The student's performance could be described as satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the learning requirements specified.

Credit: The student's performance, in addition to satisfying all of the basic learning requirements specified, demonstrates insight and ability in researching, analysing and applying relevant skills and concepts. The student's performance could be described as better than satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the learning requirements specified.

Distinction: The student's performance, in addition to satisfying all of the basic learning requirements, demonstrates distinctive insight and ability in researching, analysing and applying relevant skills and concepts, and shows a well-developed ability to synthesise, integrate and evaluate knowledge. The student's performance could be described as distinguished in relation to the learning requirements specified.

High Distinction: The student's performance, in addition to satisfying all of the basic learning requirements, demonstrates distinctive insight and ability in researching, analysing and applying relevant skills and concepts, and shows exceptional ability to synthesise, integrate and evaluate knowledge. The student's performance could be described as outstanding in relation to the learning requirements specified.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as reproduction and presentation of the work of others without acknowledgment and includes copying (in whole or in part) the work or data of other persons, or presenting substantial extracts from books, articles, theses, computer software, lecture notes, assignments or tapes, without due acknowledgment.

All forms of plagiarism and unauthorised collusion are regarded as a serious offence by Southern Cross University and could result in penalties, including fail grades and possible disciplinary action. For further details see General Rules: 3.17 in the University *Student Handbook* at:

<<http://www.scu.edu.au/docs/handbook>>

If in doubt, please consult with the unit assessor for further information.

All students are advised against making assessable material (eg assignments) available to other students, as they could then be a party to plagiarism and may be penalised as if they themselves had committed an act of plagiarism.

Suggested study timetable

Week/ commencing	Topic no.	Topic	Notes
1 1 November	1	Legal and philosophical frameworks of animal law	
2 8 November	1	Legal and philosophical frameworks of animal law	
3 15 November	2	Criminal and cruelty offences	
4 22 November	3	Companion animals	
5 29 November	4	Animals in entertainment and sport	
6 6 December	4	Animals in entertainment and sport	
7 13 December	5	Agricultural animals and live animal export	
8 20 December			Study Week
9 27 December			Recess
10 3 January	5	Agricultural animals and live animal export	
11 10 January	6	Animal experimentation and research	
12 17 January	7	Wild animals and animals in the wild	
13 24 January	7	Wild animals and animals in the wild	Research essay due 24 January 2011
14 31 January	8	Animal advocacy and law reform	