

## ANIM7620 – Concepts in Animal Science

**Assignment:** Analysis of an animal welfare issue

**Task:** Literature Review - 2000 to 2500 words (maximum)

**Task Description:** You need to prepare a literature review on the assessment of animal welfare within a specific context. There is no constraint to the “topic” investigated, some suggestions include:

- Welfare of Sporting Animals, some examples include Greyhound and Horse Racing; Equine sports (Dressage, Campdrafting, Cutting ect), Scent Sports for Dogs (tracking), Other canine sports
- Welfare of Working Animals, some examples include Working Dogs (i.e. herding dogs), Draught Animals (Buffalo, Heavy Horses, Cattle)
- Welfare of Wildlife, topics here can include captive animals, free ranging animals, and pest species.
- Welfare of Production Animals, in the context of animals being bred for a specific purpose that may include as a human food source, some examples include Grazing Beef Cattle, Feedlot Cattle, Pigs, Horses, Poultry and Avians (including meat and eggs), Mink
- Welfare in Companion Animals, some examples include Backyard Chickens, Cages Birds, Guinea Pigs, Dogs, Cats,

The above list has been provided as a guide to spark your imagination into the vast options that could be used as the basis for this assignment. Please feel free to contact the academic Dr Angela Lees([a.lees@uq.edu.au](mailto:a.lees@uq.edu.au)) leading this module to discuss the topic you would like to investigate for this assignment if you feel unsure.

Once you have selected your topic you will need to prepare 2000 to 2500 words (maximum) literature review, please note that this excludes your reference list and any included tables or figures included within your literature review. In your review you will need to i) define/describe the topic you have chosen to focus on, ii) highlight the potential welfare issues that could influence the animals involved, iii) then describe how you would evaluate the welfare status of these animals with reference to biological functioning and natural behaviour, and iv) discuss welfare could be improved in these animals. Given that this is a literature review you will need to do lots of reading, so you are encouraged to choose a topic that is of interest to you.

Please do not get fixated on the word count, we are looking for quality of information over quantity of words.

## **Credibility & References**

Whilst you may not enjoy spending your valuable time in the literature, it is essential that you will read and use peer-reviewed scientific literature from reputable sources. These days in the online world access to scientific literature has never been easier. To help you decide on the topic you wish to investigate, think about what is interesting to you and then take a look in the literature to see if you can find enough evidence to support you in this task.

Many of you will start asking about how many references are expected, there is no set limit, you need as many references as you need to complete the task on the topic you have selected. However, you have about 2500 words to cover, so it would be anticipated that roughly 25-30 references could be used, although this will be associated with the topic being discussed.

## **General Formatting and Communication**

Your literature must be typed, double-spaced, font size 12, in Australian (British) English and neatly presented. Communicating your thoughts in a concise and grammatically correct manner is essential to any written document, here at The University of Queensland or outside this institution. You may find the presentation of data in the form of tables and figures useful. Where tables and figures are used, they must to be labelled and referred to within your review - remember that table headings are to be placed above tables and figure headings below figures.

## **Summary of expectations**

- Words: 2000 -2500 minimum (excluding references and tables/figures).
- Reference Style: Journal of Animal Science
- All pages are to be numbered.
- Spacing and Font size: 1.5 line spacing, 12 size font.
- Tables and Figures need to be discussed and referenced in the text of the report.
- Tables and Figures need to be numbered in sequence and have a title.
- Australian English, that is British English

Please be generous with the use of section headings to improve the appearance and readability of your proposal. *In summary, the key words here are: Organization, Readability, Conciseness.*

## **Criteria & Marking:**

Details regarding marking criteria will be provided on BlackBoard.

**Submission:**

You must submit your Assessment task, in Blackboard, via the Turnitin link by the submission deadline. You should also retain an electronic copy of every piece of assessment you submit. Legal Declaration By submitting your work via this website, you formally declare that (1) it is your own original work, and no part of the work has been copied from any other source or person except where due acknowledgement is made; (2) no part of the work has been previously submitted for assessment in this or any other institution; and (3) you have read the UQ Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy (<http://ppl.app.uq.edu.au/content/3.60.04-student-integrity-and-misconduct>) and understand its implications. Results: students will be advised by email, or via an announcement on the course Blackboard site when results and feedback for this assessment item are available.