Unit 22: Human Animal Interactions

Unit code: L/503/1741
QCF level: 5
Credit value: 15

● Aim
The aim of this unit is to develop learner understanding of the historic and modern roles of animals in human societies and the range of socio-economic and cultural factors that have underpinned these changes. The unit is designed to encourage learners to research factors that influence human attitudes towards animals and the roles animals play in different human cultures.

● Unit abstract
Understanding the role of animals for different human cultures can be vital to those working in the animal management industry. The significance and nature of the interactions between animals and human societies, both now and in the past, is considered in this unit alongside the global, societal and individual factors responsible for these relationships.

In addition, this unit will develop understanding of human psychology and require application of key concepts (e.g., social dominance theory) to the critical evaluation of individual and cultural attitudes to animals and their welfare.

It will cover companion, commercial, research and wild animals and learners will be equipped to produce considered responses to a range of husbandry and management challenges based on established research and moral and ethical considerations.

Learners will explore the moral, political, socio-economic and welfare issues brought about by the integration of animals into human societies are also considered together with the changing roles of animals in human cultures and the reasons for these changes. They will cover the roles of influential groups such as animal welfare organisations and governments.

● Learning outcomes
On successful completion of this unit a learner will:
1. Understand a range of factors related to individual and cultural attitudes to animals and their welfare
2. Understand a broad range of historic and modern animal roles in human society
3. Understand the significance of the human-animal bond
4. Understand issues arising from the integration of animals into human society.
Unit content

1 Understand a range of factors related to individual and cultural attitudes to animals and their welfare

*Historical and modern perspectives:* historic perspectives eg through accounts, paintings, documentaries, philosophical accounts and events synchronising with law formation; modern perspectives eg through surveys, documentaries, research, organisational statements; personal perspectives as a function of individual psychology (Belief in Animal Mind, Social Dominance)

*Influential factors:* tradition; religion and animal worship; mythology; socio-economic including trade and consumerism; science and technology; human rights; education; literature, film, television and the modern media; legislation

*Global cultures and societies:* the value and use of animals hunter-gatherer societies, tribal, nomadic, more economically developed societies; less economically developed countries; differing religious cultures

2 Understand a broad range of historic and modern roles of animals in human society

*History of integration:* early historical accounts of animals in society; the premise for integration in prehistoric and ancient societies and cultures; domestication

*Historic roles:* classification of roles and examples of the use of animals within these categories, including working roles eg entertainment and sport, agricultural products and food, companionship and status, roles in science, roles in therapy and assistance; roles in combat

*Animals in today’s human society:* examples of the scope and scale of animal use/integration in developed countries eg North America, Europe, Australia and developing countries eg Africa, South East Asia, South America; consideration of the organisations and bodies involved, governmental and non-governmental eg World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Rare Breeds Survival Trust (RBST), DEFRA

*Different cultures and societies:* differences and similarities in the use of animals in hunter-gatherer societies; tribal societies; nomadic cultures; developed societies; developing countries; differing religious cultures

*Socio-economic considerations:* Trade tariffs and barriers; the role of WTO; consumerism and the conscientious consumer
3 Understand the significance of the human-animal bond

The psychological nature of relationship: social dominance orientation; belief in animal mind; models of attachment theory

Anomalous behaviours: hoarding; neglect and abuse; the ‘link theory’

Benefits to humans: physical eg lower blood pressure, stress-reduction; psychological eg child development, role in educational settings, alleviating loneliness and social isolation,

Grieving in humans and animals: Evidence for analogous grieving processes; significance in a management context eg bereavement counselling for owners and appropriate husbandry for animals

4 Understand issues arising from the integration of animals into human society

Moral and ethical issues: animal status and entitlement to animal rights; the utilitarian value of interests with respect to animal use; modern moral philosophy in relation to animal rights and utilitarianism eg Narveson, Singer, Regan, Brophy, Linzey, Goodall, Barash and Midgley; human rights

Welfare issues: establish and illustrate a variety of welfare issues for each category of animal use; mutualististic or exploitative nature of HAI; species specific inconsistencies in welfare outcomes; views and mission statements of Government bodies, NGOs animal welfare organisations; views of organisations representing categories of use; public perception; collation of press articles and reports

Legal and political issues: overview of legislation relating to animals; legal rights; recent lobbies; causation of amendments; political agendas; impact of European Directives and international conventions; trade restrictions and requirements
# Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

## Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this unit a learner will:

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<th>Learning outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment criteria for pass</th>
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| **LO1** Understand a range of factors related to individual and cultural attitudes to animals and their welfare | **The learner can:**  
1.1 evaluate historical and modern perceptions of animals within society  
1.2 assess psychological, socio-economic and religious factors that influence human perceptions and attitudes towards animals on an individual and societal level  
1.3 examine differing human attitudes to animals on a global basis |
| **LO2** Understand a broad range of historic and modern animal roles in human society |  
2.1 discuss the history of the integration of animals with human society in the developed world  
2.2 examine historic and modern roles of animals in the developed world  
2.3 assess the roles of animals in different developing and developed societies |
| **LO3** Understand the significance of the human-animal bond |  
3.1 assess the psychological factors that determine an individual's response to animals  
3.2 discuss the development of anomalous behaviours and the validity of the link theory  
3.3 evaluate the range of beneficial outcomes to man as a result of human animal interactions  
3.4 analyse the significance of the grieving response in both animals and man |
| **LO4** Understand issues arising from the integration of animals into human society |  
4.1 analyse key moral and ethical issues associated with the integration of animals into human society  
4.2 evaluate animal welfare issues arising from the integration of animals with human society  
4.3 analyse the legal and political issues arising from the integration of animals in human society  
4.4 assess the impact of Government and Non-Governmental organisations on animal welfare in human society |
Guidance

Links

This unit complements Unit 13: Animal Law and Ethics and provides the background knowledge for each of the specific animal husbandry/management units.

Essential requirements

To carry out research, learners will need access to a well-stocked library and access to the internet. The use of audio-visual materials, such as documentaries, debates and slides must be used. Learning would also be enhanced through accessing historical records and artwork, many of which are freely available online.

Employer engagement and vocational contexts

Learners would benefit from visits to local animal sanctuaries, RSPCA centres and organisations such as Rare Breed Trusts, and from relevant work experience placements to support the issues considered in this unit. Guest speakers would also enhance and contextualise the learning experience and introduce learners to a broad range of career opportunities available in this area. Analysing real life issues arising from integrating of animals with human society will give learners a more balanced and objective view of current practices in animal management.