



## Instructions & Introduction

- Facial recognition instructional video
- Welcome video
- Pre-Course Self-Test (measures students' base knowledge of animals' needs and responsible pet ownership)

## I. Do Animals Think and Feel?

*This section introduces students to the concept that all species of animals have the ability to reason, and are capable of experiencing complex emotions.*

### Class 1: Animals; Feelings and Emotions

- Intro Video: "Do Animals Think & Feel"
- Non-domesticated animals; complex emotions and reasoning
- Quiz Class 1

## II. Animal Cruelty

*This section examines various behaviors and conduct that can be considered animal cruelty. Section material describes and explains the impact that action (or in some cases, inaction) can have on animals, why certain conduct is considered inhumane, and the potential consequences of engaging in animal cruelty.*

### Class 2: Defining Animal Cruelty

- A. Animal Cruelty: Society's Evolving Views and Attitudes
  - A look at how animals were, and now are, viewed by society and the law.
- B. Overview of Various Forms of Animal Abuse
  - Definitions and examples of the different types of animal cruelty

## II. Animal Cruelty cont'd

### Class 2: Defining Animal Cruelty cont'd

#### C. Intentional Cruelty

- The link between cruelty to animals and other crimes
- What is intentional animal cruelty?
- Appropriate discipline and training vs. animal cruelty
- Potential consequences of engaging in intentional cruelty
- Quiz Class 2

### Class 3: Illegal Animal Fighting

#### A. Dogfighting and Cockfighting

- What is illegal animal fighting?

#### B. Illegal Animal Fighting and the Law

- Why animal fighting is illegal
- Potential legal consequences of participating in illegal animal fighting

#### C. Busting Myths About Animal Fighting

- Common misconceptions about dog- and cockfighting

#### D. The Effects of Illegal Animal Fighting

- The impact animal fighting has on participants, spectators, and the community
- The physical and psychological impact fighting has on the animals
- Dog fighting from a reformed dog fighter's point of view
- Quiz Class 3



## II. Animal Cruelty cont'd

### Class 4: "Passive" Animal Cruelty (Animal Neglect)

- What is Passive Cruelty?
  - How passive cruelty impacts the animal
  - Potential consequences of passive cruelty for the owner

### Class 5: Animal Endangerment

- What is Animal Endangerment?
  - Potential consequences of endangering an animal

### Class 6: Responsibility for an Animal's Care

- Who Can be Held Responsible for an Animal's Care?
  - Quiz Classes 4, 5 & 6

### Class 7: Animals and Vehicles

- Traveling and Transporting Animals Responsibly
  - Potential dangers and consequences of leaving animals unattended in vehicles
  - Animals and hot cars
  - Traveling safely and responsibly with an animal
  - Quiz Class 7

## III. Animals' Basic Needs

*This section discusses animals' basic needs, how those needs should be addressed, and the potential consequences of failing to meet those needs.*

### Class 8: Food and Water

- Basic Nutritional Needs
  - Providing regular and appropriate nutrition and water for animals
  - Specific stage-of-life nutritional needs
  - Feeding multiple pets
  - Inappropriate withholding of food and water

## III. Animals' Basic Needs cont'd

### Class 9: Shelter

- Appropriate Outdoor Living Conditions for Animals
  - Providing proper shelter for your animals
  - Potential consequences of failing to provide shelter
  - Keeping dogs permanently outside; a look at the life of a "backyard dog"
  - Quiz Classes 8 & 9

### Class 10: Veterinary Care

- A. Providing Basic Veterinary Care for Animals
  - An owner's duty to provide basic medical care for his/her animals
- B. Choosing a Veterinarian
  - Finding and developing a relationship with a veterinarian
  - Financial concerns; working with your veterinarian
  - Pet insurance
- C. Vaccinations
  - Discussion of various available vaccinations
- D. Illness and Medication
  - Seeking professional veterinary care vs. "home remedies"
  - Animals and prescribed medications
  - The importance of eye and ear care
  - Quiz Class 10



## III. Animals' Basic Needs cont'd

### Class 11: Grooming

- Animal Grooming: A Necessity, Not a Luxury
  - Introduction to animals' basic grooming needs
  - Bathing and brushing your animal
  - Proper teeth care for animals
  - The importance of nail care for animals
  - Parasites: detection, treatment, and prevention
  - Quiz Class 11

### Class 12: Spay and Neuter

- What is spay/neuter?
  - Examining common myths about spay/neuter
  - The impact spay/neuter has on animals and the community
  - Quiz Class 12

## IV. Responsible Pet Ownership

*This section examines the responsibilities and duty of care animal owners owe to their own animals, and to the community at large.*

### Class 13: Being a Responsible Owner

- A. What It Means to be a Responsible Pet Owner
- Animal-Owner Scenarios Quiz: Students are asked to view various situations from the animals' point of view and decide what the owner could, and/or should, have done differently
- B. Animals, Exercise, and Play
- The importance of exercise and play for all animals
  - The benefits of exercise and mental stimulation
  - Potential consequences of failing to provide animals with appropriate exercise and stimulation

## IV. Responsible Pet Ownership cont'd

### Class 13: Being a Responsible Owner cont'd

- C. Separation Anxiety
- What is separation anxiety?
  - Recognizing the difference between separation anxiety and "bad" behavior
  - Appropriately addressing separation anxiety
  - Quiz
- D. Protecting Your Pet From People
- An owner's duty to protect his/her animal from injury, attack, theft, and other dangers
- E. Protecting Others From Your Pet
- An owner's duty to ensure that his/her animal does not pose a nuisance or danger to people, property, or other animals
  - Potential consequences of failing to control an animal
  - Quiz

### Class 14: Tethering (Chaining) Animals

- The Effects of Long-Term Tethering on Animals
  - The potential dangers presented by tethering animals for long periods of time
  - A look at the reasons owners tether their animals
  - How long-term tethering can be avoided
  - Quiz Class 14



## V. Animal Ownership

*This section emphasizes the long-term commitment that animal ownership presents and explores important factors that should be considered prior to acquiring an animal. (Note: Students are informed that they should not consider acquiring an animal unless and until they are legally permitted to do so.)*

### Class 15: Is Animal Ownership for You?

#### A. Should You Get a Pet?

- Examining the right – and the wrong - reasons to get an animal
- Quiz

#### B. A Good Time to Get a Pet?

- A discussion of life circumstances that may influence a person's ability to care for an animal
- Self-Quiz: Is This a Good Time to Get a Pet?

#### C. Before You Get a Pet

- Factors to consider before bringing an animal home
- A look at the estimated financial costs associated with owning different species of animals
- Quiz

#### D. Multiple Pets

- Practical issues to consider before acquiring additional animals
- Potential consequences of owning more animals than one can properly care for
- Animal Hoarding
  - What is animal hoarding?
  - The impact of animal hoarding on the animals
  - The impact of animal hoarding on humans
  - Potential legal and practical consequences of animal hoarding
- Quiz

## VI. Giving Up An Animal

*Recognizing that some owners may not be able or willing to keep their animals, this section discusses ways to responsibly re-home an animal. Emphasis is placed on an owner's duty to ensure that his/her animal's interests, needs, and safety are taken into account prior to placing the animal into a new home.*

### Class 16: If, When, & How to Relinquish an Animal

#### A. Reasons for Re-Homing an Animal

- A look at some of the common reasons why owners decide to give up their animals
- Possible alternatives to giving up an animal
- Quiz

#### B. Relinquishing an Animal Responsibly

- Ways to responsibly re-home a pet
- Quiz

## Closing & Final Exam

- Closing Video
- Post-Course Self-Test (measures students' knowledge of animals' needs and responsible pet ownership)
- Student evaluation
- Final exam