



Canadian University Adds Pet Nutrition Course

The University of Alberta now offers a course in companion animal nutrition.

By The SmallAnimalChannel News Division

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Sixteen third- and fourth-year undergraduate students recently enrolled in a new companion animal nutrition course at the University of Alberta in Canada.

The course, offered by the faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences this fall, is one of the components of the college's new Bachelor of Science program in animal health.

"This course builds on what students and teachers already know about livestock nutrition, and allows students to extend their knowledge by making anatomical and physiological comparisons with companion animals," said Ruurd Zijlstra, Ph.D., professor of agricultural, food and nutritional science, who created the course with post-doctoral researcher Barbara Metzler-Zebeli, Ph.D.

The course is designed to teach students about what dogs and cats require nutritionally, how they use the nutrients, and the current issues in pet food nutrition and manufacturing. Hamsters, fish and reptiles will also be covered briefly, among other small animals.

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