B.S. ANIMAL-ASSISTED THERAPY

The study of human-animal interactions is an exciting and growing field focusing on human relationships with animals, animal welfare, and the psychological and physiological benefits of the human-animal relationship. This unique online program combines the study of animal behavior, animal welfare, psychology and animal-assisted therapy, to provide students with comprehensive experience that prepares them for careers that integrate animals into mental and physical healthcare practices.

Program Outcomes:

- Describe the biological and psychological factors that influence animal behavior, cognition, and human interactions.
- Explain the physiological, psychological, and ethical considerations for optimal care and welfare of domesticated animals.
- Follow best practices for written and oral professional communication.
- Demonstrate knowledge of fundamental psychological principles underlying the care and welfare of domesticated animals.
- Analyze the physiological and mental health benefits of the human-animal bond.
- Interpret the legal, ethical, and beneficial aspects of animal-assisted therapies.
- Describe the biological and psychological factors that influence animal behavior, cognition, and human interactions.
- Evaluate psychological information using quantitative and qualitative reasoning skills.
- Apply animal-assisted therapy, wellness, and welfare standards of best practice.

Notice: As a student enrolled in Husson University's online animal-focused program/course, you may engage in activities that involve live animals. Such activities are not required by the course and are done on a voluntary basis. Participation in such activities has inherent risks. Neither Husson University nor its faculty and staff are responsible for any injuries, damages, or other harm to self or property that may occur to you and/or the animals with which you engage.

General Education Requirements		
EH 105	College Writing	3
HE 114	Husson Experience & Building Professional Skills	3
MS 132	Probability and Statistics	3
PY 111	General Psychology	3
PY 141	Human Growth and Development	3
Fine Arts Elective		3
Foreign Culture or Conversation Elective		3
Humanities Elective		3
Lab Science Elective (BY 191/BL 191 recommended)		3-4
Literature Elective		3
Math I Elective		3-4
Perspectives Electives		6
Philosophical Elective		3
Major Requirements		
AB 101	Foundations of Animal Studies	3
AB 110	The Human-Animal Bond: Animal Behavior, Evolution and Therapeutic Applications	3
AB 201	Animal Behavior	3
AB 210	Emotional Support and Service Animals	3
AB 211	Animal Cognition	3
AB 224	Research Design for Animal Studies	3
AB 301	Animal-Human Interactions	3
AB 310	Animal-Assisted Therapy: Understanding Techniques, Regulations and Risks	3
AB 410	Canine- and Feline-Assisted Interventions	3
or AB 411	Equine-Assisted Interventions	
AB 441	Animal Welfare	3
AB 491	Animal Care and Behavior Capstone	3
PY 232	Abnormal Psychology	3
PY 431	Behavior Modification/Seminar in Learning	3
Animal Behavior Elective		9
Open Electives		30
Total Hours		**120-122**