



“Real World” Projects

Using in-class communication, literacy, and skill development to bolster career preparedness

“Real World” Projects = Low Stakes Real World Problems

- Teach critical thinking and promote equity and inclusion by allowing students to evaluate information based on the currency, reliability, validity, and generalizability of material
- Group work or peer review can allow for development of leadership, communication and teamwork
- Scaffolding the use of tech tools can help student leverage technologies and professional skills

Types of Assignments

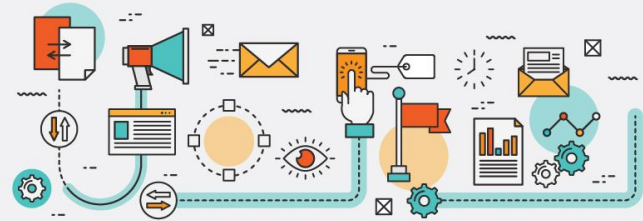
Examples!

Infographic

- Why this assignment?
 - Creative – Additional professional skill
 - Requires critical evaluation of material
 - Easily digestible (helpful for instructor, peers, general public)
 - Professional development – can be shared online

WHY WE ALL LOVE THEM AND THEIR BENEFITS

INFOGRAPHICS



POLLY WANT A PARROT?

a guide for beginner parrot people.

FIRST THINGS FIRST some parrot facts:

- parrots can live a very long time
- parrots are social creatures
- parrots need a lot of attention
- parrots require a lot of space
- parrots are very loud

different parrot species require different care and consideration.

LOW RISK MED RISK HIGH RISK EXTINCT

HERE ARE SOME COMMON SPECIES THAT CAN BE GOOD AS COMPANION ANIMALS

Species	Size	Life Span	Wingspan	Diet	Cost	Health
BUDGERIGERS	Small	5-10 years	12in	Pellets, Seeds & Fresh Fruits and Veggies	\$100 - \$35	Psittacine (Beak & Feather Disease, Gonorrhea, Liver Disease)
AFRICAN GRAY	Medium	40-60 years	18-20in	Pellets, Seeds & Fresh Fruits and Veggies	\$1000 - \$1500	Psittacine (Beak & Feather Disease, Respiratory Infection)
MACAWS	Large	50 years	48in	Pellets, Seeds & Fresh Fruits and Veggies	\$700 - \$5000	Calcium deficiency, Psittacosis (Parrot Fever), Beak Alignment Disorder

COMMON BEHAVIORS

VOCALIZATIONS
Normal: chattering, contact calling, talking and whistling, casual screaming
Problem: hissing, screaming, aggressive screaming

BITING & AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR
Normal: defensive biting, molting, aggression, territorial counteractive biting
Problem: fear bite, blood biting, territorial biting

PREENING VS PLUCKING & STEREOPTYPING
Normal: preening or cleaning and organizing feathers
Problem: plucking or pulling feathers out, lice, or skin disease

SOLUTIONS
Quick fix - cover the birds cage with a blanket or a sheet long enough to provide enough ventilation, enrichment

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

FORAGING
Provide hidden food items, treat toys, puzzle feeders, foraging toys

SOCIAL
Interact with other birds - wing practice, pair up to best interact with humans both inside and outside of the cage

PHYSICAL
Change habitats, access of the environment - create a more varied environment to explore

STILL INTERESTED? KEEP ALL THESE THINGS IN MIND, AND YOU ARE READY TO GET A PARROT!

Fear Periods In dogs

dogp what to do so that fears do not become lasting phobias

when handling dogs, always support them to make sure they never associate the handler with pain

It is normal for dogs of all ages to develop phobias, more often than 1 year of age. Create a distraction, comfort, reassure, and reassure - do not get your dog past this scary time!

Fear Period 1: 7-14 weeks
The puppy does not seem to be afraid of anything. Critical Period of Socialization and Bonding (Environment)

Fear Period 2: 3-6 months
The puppy is afraid of anything that is not familiar. Critical Period of Socialization and Bonding (Environment)

Fear Period 3: 6-18 months
The puppy is afraid of anything that is not familiar. Regression stages, and other phobias.

Getting a puppy through fear periods:
All puppies undergo some version of fear during puppyhood. If handled appropriately, your puppy will be confident in his instincts, but if you expose him to fear too early or too often, he will develop a phobia.

Happy, healthy, home
Behavior significantly impacts lifespan in dogs. Behavioral problems are the leading cause of death in pet dogs due to euthanasia.

4% of puppies are brought home during the critical period.

Ooops
Loud Noises
Sound Phobia
Separation Anxiety
Situational Phobia
Different Flooring
Tactile Phobia

Tips
Stay calm
Behavior Modification
Stay calm

SOURCES

1. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) - www.avma.org

2. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) - www.aspca.org

3. American Society of Animal Behavior (ASAB) - www.asab.org

4. American Veterinary College (AVC) - www.avc.edu

5. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) - www.avma.org

6. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) - www.aspca.org

7. American Society of Animal Behavior (ASAB) - www.asab.org

8. American Veterinary College (AVC) - www.avc.edu

9. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) - www.avma.org

10. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) - www.aspca.org

Don't Judge a Book by its Cover

The effectiveness of breed labeling and the importance of evaluating dogs on their individual merits.

What's in a breed?

Single most important reason pet owners choose a breed is the dog's appearance.

Research shows a significant decrease in health of dogs when breed labels are removed.

Effects of Breed Labeling

Production length of stay for pit bull-type breeds has been shorter when breed labels are removed.

Research shows a significant decrease in health of dogs when breed labels are removed.

Misidentification of Dog Breeds

A study by the Animal Farm Foundation found that misidentification of dog breeds is common and occurs in at least 75% of the time when labeling and identifying dogs.

Research shows a significant decrease in health of dogs when breed labels are removed.

Dogs as Individuals

Research shows a significant decrease in health of dogs when breed labels are removed.

Research shows a significant decrease in health of dogs when breed labels are removed.

REFERENCES

1. Packer, C. (2017). The Dog Breed Labeling Debate. *Animal Welfare Magazine*.

2. Packer, C. (2017). The Dog Breed Labeling Debate. *Animal Welfare Magazine*.

3. Packer, C. (2017). The Dog Breed Labeling Debate. *Animal Welfare Magazine*.

4. Packer, C. (2017). The Dog Breed Labeling Debate. *Animal Welfare Magazine*.

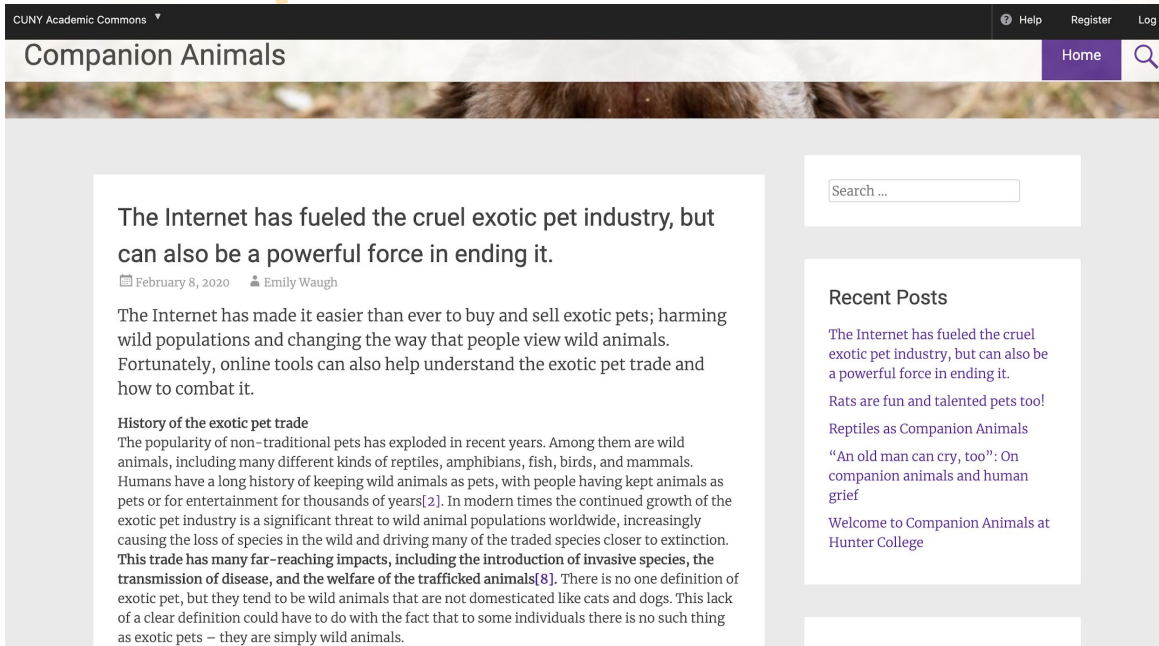
5. Packer, C. (2017). The Dog Breed Labeling Debate. *Animal Welfare Magazine*.

Blog Post

- Why this assignment?
 - Creative expression – Can take some risks
 - Learn about online presence – Confidence boosting
 - Must be concise (great for instructor grading)
 - Improves communication skills
 - Professional development



Blog Post



CUNY Academic Commons

Help Register Log In

Companion Animals

Home

The Internet has fueled the cruel exotic pet industry, but can also be a powerful force in ending it.

February 8, 2020 Emily Waugh

The Internet has made it easier than ever to buy and sell exotic pets; harming wild populations and changing the way that people view wild animals. Fortunately, online tools can also help understand the exotic pet trade and how to combat it.

History of the exotic pet trade

The popularity of non-traditional pets has exploded in recent years. Among them are wild animals, including many different kinds of reptiles, amphibians, fish, birds, and mammals. Humans have a long history of keeping wild animals as pets, with people having kept animals as pets or for entertainment for thousands of years[2]. In modern times the continued growth of the exotic pet industry is a significant threat to wild animal populations worldwide, increasingly causing the loss of species in the wild and driving many of the traded species closer to extinction. **This trade has many far-reaching impacts, including the introduction of invasive species, the transmission of disease, and the welfare of the trafficked animals[8].** There is no one definition of exotic pet, but they tend to be wild animals that are not domesticated like cats and dogs. This lack of a clear definition could have to do with the fact that to some individuals there is no such thing as exotic pets – they are simply wild animals.

Search...

Recent Posts

- [The Internet has fueled the cruel exotic pet industry, but can also be a powerful force in ending it.](#)
- [Rats are fun and talented pets too!](#)
- [Reptiles as Companion Animals](#)
- ["An old man can cry, too": On companion animals and human grief](#)
- [Welcome to Companion Animals at Hunter College](#)

- Make their assignments professionally relevant!
- Real world benefits and implications
- Invokes additional care in creation of their work

Twitter

- Why this assignment?
 - Learn about online presence – Networking, peer support, opportunity seeking
 - Improves communication skills
 - Professional development



Twitter

Twitter for Academic Purposes: How to Guide Students

November 19, 2020

Sarah-Elizabeth Byosiere, Hunter College, CUNY

This article presents a semester-long, low-stakes, scaffolded assignment I developed for a master's-level course titled Companion Animals in Society at CUNY Hunter College (Fall 2019). The ultimate goal of the assignment was to provide students with a comprehensive guide to developing skills and understanding in science communication, as well as furthering their professional development online, specifically by using Twitter.

- Guidance and development in creating a career ready profile
- Real world benefits and implications
- Allows for networking and opportunity searching
- Twitter for Academic Purposes: [Link!](#)

Flexible & Non-Traditional Short Form Writing

- Why this assignment?
 - Emphasize diversity and inclusion in and outside of the classroom
 - Allows flexibility in tools used, can bring in skills taught in other classrooms.
 - Effective in teaching clear and concise communication

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SCIENCE INCLUSIVE DIGEST

Monthly Email Newsletter curated by our top Editor: NAME

PAST DISPARITIES WITHIN THE FIELD

- People of color weren't allowed access to laboratories and research libraries
- Universities weren't hiring them
- HBCUs that allowed scientists to use their research laboratories weren't properly funded (1)

It's sad to hear that within the field of Animal behavior transforming theories created by people of color were not credited to them because of racism and discrimination towards them. I am not surprised to hear about the disparities they've faced however, it is upsetting that institutions continuously allowed this to happen and had rules that enforced this. It was not shocking to hear that they weren't properly credited because at the time racism, segregation and discrimination was still infested in the minds of people who followed the institution's rules. In certain institutions these issues are still prevalent today where researchers aren't being credited to the work they contribute. This newsletter sheds light to the researchers who made an impact to the field of animal behavior past and present.



CHARLES H. TURNER

*Spider spinning webs (2)
Charles H. Turner found out that spider webs changed based on their environment. His research on the spider webs showed convergent evolution in spiders who live in different environments this helps spiders increase their level of fitness. His work should've been mentioned in the evolution lecture.*

(1) Lee, D. N. (2020). Diversity and inclusion activities in animal behaviour and the ABS: A historical view from the CICA. *Animal Behaviour*, 161, 273–283. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2020.05.019>

(2) Gayageye, Datta, N. S. & Chhaba, L. (2020). October 2020. Charles H. Turner: pioneer in animal cognition. *ResearchGate*. Retrieved October 24, 2021. from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/358510614_Charles_H_Turner_pioneer_in_animal_cognition.



ZULEYMA TANG-MARTINEZ

*Animals can recognize kin through odors/ smell (3)
Tang-Martinez's contribution to animal behavior helped explain major histocompatibility complex (MHC) where animals are able to smell which MHC levels are similar to theirs and which ones are foreign. Her name wasn't mentioned in class and findings would've great in the sexual selection (mating behaviors) lecture.*

(3) St. Louis Public Health by Gloria S. Rivas. (2018, April 30). Zuleyma Tang-Martinez devotes life to studying animal behavior. *CTPR*. Retrieved October 26, 2021. from <https://www.stlouispublishing.org/health-science-newsroom/2018-12-05/zuleyma-tang-martinez-devotes-life-to-studying-animal-behavior>.

ANDY SIH

*Animals adapting to new environments (4)
Sih's research contributed to animal behavior by showing evidence that animals work well in new environments if it emulates that of their old one. When an animal is in a completely new environment they don't respond well and their fitness declines. We didn't learn about him in class however, his findings should've been mentioned in our evolution lecture to show how convergent evolution can change phenotypic behavior.*



(4) Sih, A. (2013, January 3). Behavioral responses to NRECC. *Sih Lab*. Retrieved October 26, 2021. from <https://sihlab.wordpress.com/2013/>

PROMOTING INCLUSION

Even though writing this newsletter wouldn't reverse the injustices researchers had to face in the past, we can continue to promote inclusion and diversity. We can do this within the field, classroom and animal behavior research by rightfully citing people's research when their work is used.



Flexible & Non-Traditional Short Form Writing

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Although I am not surprised about the discrimination & bias in animal behavioral studies, I am shocked at the lengths people will go to, to be explicitly biased. Learning about women & POC's experience in this field has been a tough subject to read.

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
A large amount of knowledge that we have today in animal behavioral science is from research done by women and POC. To name a few, Jane Goodall, Dian Fossey, and Jeanne Altmann created new methodologies that changed animal behavioral studies for the better.

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
In my evolution & behavior class, I am currently taking Altmann's work could be highlighted when we discussed mating behavior or parental care because her work highlighted not only looking at dramatic animal behaviors but subtle behaviors as well.

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Similarly, Fossey and Goodall's work with developing a deeper connection with the animals they were studying can be highlighted in every topic we have discussed. If we connect with what we are studying then we can get a better idea of why they behave a certain way.

Anonymous @misogynrules · Jun 1
Okay, but women and men are equal now. Black people and other minorities have the same rights as every one else. Move on from the past already!

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Actually, anonymous, these issues are still relevant to women in any STEM field to this day. The three feminist theories in the Research Perspective for Understand Women's Education journal article by M.D. Usha Devi explains how schools perpetuate dominant patriarchal (1/2)

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Ideologies that hinder access to quality education for girls & women. In this journal article, we see the research that was done to explain how women still receive unequal education which limits their access to "proper" methodologies. Goodall & Fossey are examples of this (2/2)

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Also, minority researchers and students do not have the same access to educational benefits, such as mentors, as the more privileged do. We have seen numerous counts of research done by minorities being ignored because of their race, such as Charles Henry Turner's work! (1/2)

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Turner had no access to laboratories, research libraries, and had no stable job because he was black (Lee, 274). Turner's research revealed new information about insects that was never accepted before. He did all of his studies without the resources his white colleagues had.

Anonymous @misogynrules · Jun 1
I see your point, but I'm sure everyone's work was cited, so they got credit. It is not that big of a deal.

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Much of the time, research from women and POC was not recognized or was not cited. Citations matter in order to give credit where credit is due and to not steal anyone's hard work. Women and POC are more likely to be taken advantage of by not being credited for their research.

Anonymous @misogynrules · Jun 1
Oh I see your point... If this is all true how can we more diverse and inclusive so this does not happen in the future?

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
We can promote diversity and inclusion by listen to marginalized groups of people. We can listen to their concerns and work towards solutions for a more inclusive learning environment. Most importantly, we can credit their work and allow equal opportunities in work and research.

Anonymous @misogynrules · Jun 1
Thank you for educating me. Your research, sources, and explanations has helped me change my perspective. Would you mind citing your sources?

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Lee, Danielle N. "Diversity and Inclusion Activisms in Animal Behaviour and the ABS: a Historical View from the U.S.A." *Animal Behaviour*, vol. 164, 2020, pp. 273-280, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2020.03.019>.

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
M. D. Usha Devi. "Research Perspective for Understanding Women's Education." *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 27, no. 24/25, *Economic and Political Weekly*, 1992, pp. 1279-82, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4398516>.

Jillian @psych160student · Jun 1
Tang-Martínez, Zuleyma. "The History and Impact of Women in Animal Behaviour and the ABS: a North American Perspective." *Animal Behaviour*, vol. 164, 2020, pp. 261-260, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anbehav.2019.12.011>.

Flexible & Non-Traditional Short Form Writing

Revolutionary Act

Never cited, never seen
Silenced and hidden

To believe studying science for a woman was the equivalent of the American dream

Not part of the conversation, dare she speak a single word

The ol hierarchy was built by men and that didn't include her

Threatened by the thoughts that oppose them

because a woman could never understand

The complexities that come from fields like

Psychology, Biology, Zoology, and Anthropology (Tang-Martinez, 2019) to name a few

Yet she sheds a new perspective on research, writing and behaviors

Evolving science from what they think they knew, to endless possibilities.

Never cited, never seen

Silenced and hidden

Yet they speak, inspiring through knowledge and passion

Margaret Floy Washburn, first American female to receive a Ph.D in Psychology in 1894

Ethel Tobach, 1921 behavioral ontogeny

Lee Ehrman, 1935 behavior genetics (Tang-Martinez, 2019)

Can you believe they tried to stop Margret Harlow from achieving her dreams?

They are the pioneers, the reason we have the opportunity for a higher education in the field

If I never utter another word, let me stop and say, thank you

I wouldn't be where I am today without you.

Never cited, never seen

Silenced and hidden

Women today still struggle to be heard, to be recognized, to be published (Reiber, 2015)

Every thought is shoving a "feminist" agenda down the throats of the people that oppress us

So we scream, loud and proud against the noise that holds gender roles as guides (Stout, Grunberg & Ito, 2016)

Can we try a different perspective?

Because I'm getting tired of the narrative

That women bring nothing more to the table

But babies and breakfast

Why don't you read about how sexual selection, mating behaviors and kinship affect you

Thank you, Cathleen R. Cox, Like Sarah Hrdy and Gail Michener too (Tang-Martinez, 2019)

Can we get this talked about in units 4, 6 and 9?

Classrooms should be filled with role-reversals, diversity, and teachings of erasure

It's our revolutionary act

To take a stand, for the women who were silenced

By the foot of a man

To pave the way

We must join hands

Because if you even saw a glimpse of what women in science have to offer

You'd be shaking their hand

The most revolutionary act is elevating her.

Questions!

