Veterinary Science
Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant
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Objectives

- Discuss the evolution of man’s relationship with dogs and cats
- Describe the characteristics shared by members of the Canidae family
- Describe the classification system for dogs
- List the uses for different breeds of dogs
- Identify and describe the different breeds of dogs
- Describe the characteristics shared by members of the family Felidae
- Describe the classification system for cats
- Identify and describe the different cat breeds
History of Dogs

- In family Canidae
- Direct descendants of the wolf
  - Wolf’s scientific name – *Canis lupus*
  - Dog’s scientific name – *Canis familiaris*
- Domestication a few 1,000 years
  - Greece
    - Herding dogs
    - Guarding dogs
    - Hunting dogs
  - Egypt
    - Dogs used in war
Bred based on purpose
  - Climate
  - Environment
  - Master’s preference – herding, guarding, hunting

72 million dogs live in U.S.
  - One dog per household in half American family homes

More than 228 pure breeds
More than 100 mixed breeds
Stimulate income of dog industries

- $11 billion annual sales of dog food
- Accessory manufacturers
- Veterinarians
- Pharmaceutical industry
- Breeders
- Racers
- Trainers
- Herders
- Hunters
Serve humans
- Protection
- Sight
- Hearing
- Security
- Companionship
Characteristics of Dogs

- **Size**
  - Height 6 inches to 40 inches at the shoulder
  - Life expectancy 9 to 15 years, some 20 years
    - Small dogs live longer than large dogs

- **Common traits**
  - Shed hair once a year
  - Non-retractable claws
  - 42 adult teeth
  - Pointed canine teeth
  - Sweating
    - Sweat glands on nose and feet
  - Panting
- **Hearing**
  - 2 times better than humans
  - Higher frequencies

- **Smell**
  - Tracking, hunting
THE DOG'S BODY

- Hip
- Loin
- Back
- Withers
- Ear
- Stop
- Nose
- Cheek
- Lip
- Muzzle
- Thigh
- Brisket
- Stifle (knee)
- Hock (ankle)
- Carpus (wrist)
- Hind Foot
- Shoulder
- Forearm
- Pastern
- Forefoot
Breeds of Dogs

Two classifications
- Natural system
- Dog show system

Organizations
- American Kennel Club (AKC)
- United Kennel Club (UKC)
Natural standard classification
- Breed (morphology, form structure)
- Variety (breed subdivisions)
  - Hair length and color
  - Body size and type
  - Instinct traits

Show standard classification
- Group (7)
  - Breeds and varieties
# Classification of Dogs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Examples of Breeds</th>
<th>Original Uses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrier</td>
<td>Airedale Terrier, Bedlington Terrier, Bull Terrier, Calrn Terrier, Irish Terrier, Fox Terrier, Jack Russell Terrier</td>
<td>Originally used in catching prey such as foxes, badgers, and rabbits</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working</td>
<td>Collie, Boxer, Alaskan Malamute, German Shepherd, and St. Bernard</td>
<td>Guards, guides, and herders such as muscular, even-tempered, and obedient</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sporting</td>
<td>Pointers, Retrievers, Setters, and Spaniels</td>
<td>Sective dogs - hunt by air scent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hound</td>
<td>Beagles, Foxhounds, and Bloodhounds</td>
<td>Track their prey by ground scent</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greyhound type such as Whippets, Borzois, and Salukis</td>
<td>Hunt mainly by sight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herding</td>
<td>Collie, Australian Shepherd, Corgi</td>
<td>Drive livestock and keep farm animals from straying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toy</td>
<td>Pekinese, Pomeranian, and Pug</td>
<td>Pets and companions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-sporting</td>
<td>Boston Terrier, Bulldog, Chow, Dalmatian, and Poodle</td>
<td>Bred principally as pets and companions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Sporting Dogs

Weimaraner  Pointer  English Spaniel

Labrador Retriever  Irish Setter  German Shorthaired Pointer
Terriers

Airedale Terrier  Schnauzer  Scottish Terrier
Bedlington Terrier  Norfolk Terrier  Bull Terrier
Non-sporting Dogs

- Dalmatian
- Chow
- Bulldog
- Keeshond
- Poodle
- Lhasa Apso
- Boston Terrier
Working Dogs

Bullmastiff  Siberian Husky  Rottweiler  Great Pyrenees
Saint Bernard  Bernese Mountain Dog  Newfoundland  Komondor
Herding Dogs

- Australian Shepherd
- Australian Cattle Dog (Blue Heeler, Red Heeler)
- Collie
- Border Collie
- Bouvier des Flandres
- Cardigan Welsh Corgi
- Belgian Tarvuren
- German Shepherd
Toys

Miniature Pinscher    Silky Terrier    Shih Tzu    Chihuahua
Chinese Crested    Pug    Pomeranian    Japanese Chin
Hounds

Afghan Hound    Greyhound    Basset Hound    English Foxhound

Irish Wolfhound    Bloodhound    Borzoi    Basenji
History of Cats

- In family Felidae
- Domestication a few 1,000 years
  - Egypt
    - Worshiped and mummified cats
  - Eastern world
    - Eat certain cats
- Frequently become feral (wild)
82 million cats live in U.S.
  - Outnumber dogs by 10 million
    - Require less space and less personal attention
More than 3 dozens pure breeds (8% population)
Mostly mixed breeds
Beneficial to people
  - Mouser, ratter
  - Companions
  - Aid disabled people
    - Alert people with hearing disability
Stimulate income of cat industries
  - Cat food companies
  - Accessory manufacturers
  - Veterinarians
  - Pharmaceutical industry
  - Breeders
Characteristics of Cats

- **Size**
  - Weight 4 to 18 pounds
    - Readily puts on weight
- **Life expectancy** 10 to 15 years, some 22 years
- **Common traits**
  - Retractable claws
  - 30 adult teeth
  - Pointed canine teeth
  - Whiskers – vibrissae (antennae)
    - Catch sound reflections
    - Organ of touch
Vision
- Excellent night vision
- Vision up to 120 feet distance

Hearing
- Can hear 1 ½ times better than dogs
- Semi-circular canals in ear help maintain balance
  - Aids in cat’s ability to land on feet in a fall

Smell
- 14 times better than humans
Breeds of Cats

- Two classifications
  - Natural system
  - Cat show system

- Organization
  - Cat Fanciers Association (CFA)
Natural standard classification

- Breed (morphology, form structure)
- Variety (breed subdivisions)
  - Hair length and color
    - Long-haired, short-haired, hairless
  - Body size and type
    - Medium, long-limbed, short-limbed

Show standard classification

- Group (3)
  - Breeds and varieties
Longhaired Cats

Balinese  Somali  American Curl  Maine Coon

Scottish Fold  Persian/Himalayan  Birman
Shorthaired Cats

Siamese  Burmese  Abyssinian  Color Point
Havanah Brown  Exotic Shorthair  American Shorthair  Bengal (Hybrid)
Rex

Cornish Rex

Devon Rex

Sphynx (Hairless)