



HRVATSKO  
KATOLICKO  
SVEUČILIŠTE  
ZAGREB  
UNIVERSITAS  
STUDIORUM  
CATHOLICA  
CROATICA  
ZAGREBIA

# Detailed Course Syllabus

**Academic year:**

2025/2026

**Semester:**

Winter semester

**Study programme:**

Psihologija (R) (elective)

**Year of study:**

1

## I. BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

**Name:** Psychology of Human-Animal Bond

**Abbreviation:** IZBD240

**ECTS:** 4

**Code:** 249422

**Prerequisites:** No

*Total Course Workload*

**Teaching Mode**

**Total Hours**

Lecture

30

Seminar

15

**Class Time and Place:** HKS - according to the published schedule

## II. TEACHING STAFF

*Course Holder*

**Name and Surname:** Brkljačić Tihana

**Academic Degree:**

**Professional Title:** naslovni redoviti profesor

**Contact E-mail:**

[tihana.brkljajac@unicath.hr](mailto:tihana.brkljajac@unicath.hr)

**Telephone:**

**Office Hours:** According to the published schedule

*Course Assistant*

## III. DETAILED COURSE INFORMATION

**Teaching Language:** Hrvatski

**Course Description**

*Textbooks and Materials*

**Required**

**Supplementary**

*Examination and Grading*

**To Be Passed DA**

**Exclusively Continuous Assessment NE**

**Included in Average Grade DA**

**Prerequisites to Obtain  
Signature and Take Final  
Exam**

**Examination Manner**

**Grading Manner**

**Detailed Overview of Grading within ECTS**

## **IV. WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE**

*[Predavanja]*

<b>#</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	History of Human Animal Bond
2	Psychology Behind Keeping Pets
3	Human attachment to a pet, human-animal bond, Anthropomorphism of a pet
4	Psychological and Physical Well-being of pet owners
5	Value of pets through human lifespan (childhood, adolescence, adulthood and parenthood, old/er age)
6	Importance of a pet in personal and global crises
7	Providing psychological training and support for professionals (e.g. pet trainers, veterinarians, police officers)
8	Animal welfare: pet abuse, neglect, the ethics of human relationships with (companion) animals
9	Animal cognition
10	Animal Emotions

*[Seminari]*

<b>#</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Acquiring a pet (making decision, choosing a pet, adapting to a life with a pet)
2	Aging, illness and death of a pet (dealing with pet's illness and pet's death)
3	Work and therapeutic animals (care for an animal and her owner)
4	Training a pet, disorders in pet's behavior, prevention, recognition and dealing with abnormal pet behavior
5	Communication with pet's owners (aimed to psychologists, veterinarians)