From the domestication of livestock in the Neolithic period to the modern phenomenon of pet keeping, animals have played an integral role in human culture, not only economically and emotionally, but also as an apparently limitless fund of images for human symbolic activity (i.e. cultural processes). This course explores that symbolic dimension of animals in human cultures, not from the biological perspective of studying animals in themselves but from the humanistic standpoint of understanding what it means for human beings to be involved with animals of all sorts and in all sorts of ways.