

VS 102
Animal Behavior & Handling

3 Credits

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VS 102 Version: 5



Animal Behavior & Handling

Calendar Description

This lecture/lab course covers small and large animal restraint and physical examinations, animal behavior, and introductory nursing care.

Rationale

This is a required course for first year Animal Health Technology students. This course instructs the student in the basic handling and restraint of small animals, cattle, sheep and horses, and allows them the theory and hands on experience in physical examinations and injection techniques. As well, the students study the behavior of cats, dogs, and horses which influences the way that they handle the animals, and gives the students an introduction to behavioral problems and behavioral therapies. Basic nursing care is also covered.

Prerequisites

None

Co-Requisites

None

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to

1. demonstrate and explain correct methods of restraint in the dog, cat, cattle, sheep and horse.
2. explain and recognize normal behavioral patterns in the dog and cat.
3. explain normal behavior patterns in the horse and bovine.
4. discuss the common behavioral problems seen in a veterinary setting in dogs and cats and horses.
5. explain the theory of behavioral modification therapies.
6. discuss the steps of a physical examination on any species.
7. perform a complete physical examination on a variety of species.
8. perform intramuscular and subcutaneous injections on cadavers or models/simulators.

9. explain the importance of pet selection as it pertains to the prevention of behavioral issues in small animal medicine.
10. explain the canine breed classifications and recognize common dog and cat breeds.
11. explain how flight zones and safety zones are used to move and handle large animals.

Resource Materials

Required Text:

None

Reference Texts:

McCurnin, D. (2014). *Clinical textbook for Veterinary Technicians* (8th ed.). Saunders.

Holtgrew-Bohling, K. (2016). *Large animal clinical procedures for Veterinary Technicians*. (3rd ed.). Elsevier.

Sheldon, C. (2017). *Animal Restraint for Veterinary Professionals* (2nd ed.). Elsevier.

Conduct of Course

This is a lecture and lab course. Students are divided into smaller groups for lab sessions.

Presence in the labs is essential for hands on experience and learning. An unexcused absence in any lab results in a grade of "0" for the entire lab portion. Notify your instructor *ahead of time*, of any unavoidable absences. A lab coat or scrub top must be worn for all in clinic labs, coveralls, and steel toed washable boots must be worn for cattle, sheep and horse labs. Students are required to purchase a stethoscope at the beginning of the course, which will be used through the two years of the Animal health Technology program.

Evaluation Procedures

The final grade is an aggregate of the following components:

Laboratory Assignments/Quizzes	35%
Clinical Competencies	Pass/Fail
Midterm	20%
Quizzes/Assignments	20%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Clinical competencies are evaluated at the end of the semester on a pass/fail basis. Successful completion of the competencies is required to pass the course.

Grade Equivalents and Course Pass Requirements

Letter	F	D	D+	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
Percent Range	0-49	50-52	53-56	57-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90-94	95-100
Points	0.00	1.00	1.30	1.70	2.00	2.30	2.70	3.00	3.30	3.70	4.00	4.00

Students must successfully pass or complete the lecture portion of the course with a 60% (C), and the lab portion with a 70% (B-). A mark in the lecture portion of 50-59% is recorded as a 'D'. A mark of 50-69% in the lab portion is recorded as a 'D'.

A grade of C (60%) is required in the lecture portion and a B- (70%) in the lab portion of this course to progress to VS107 Animal Care and Nursing II and VS201 Animal Care and Nursing III.

The instructor reserves the ability to hold pop quizzes throughout the semester with no prior notification.

Attendance

Classroom and laboratory attendance is considered vital to the learning process and as significant to the students' evaluation as examinations and reports, therefore absenteeism is recorded.

- a. Students having a combination of excused and/or unexcused absence of 20 percent or higher for the scheduled course hours can be required to withdraw and would then automatically receive a "RW" (required withdrawal) for the course, regardless of any other evaluation results. (RW is a failing grade).
- b. An excused absence is one that is verified with your instructor. Verification should be prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence. Verification of the absence may take the form of a note from your doctor/College nurse regarding illness, or a note from another instructor regarding a field trip or other activity, or authorization by your instructor following an in-person meeting. Be sure to contact your instructor and ask what they will require from you as verification for each absence. An unexcused absence is anything NOT verified by the instructor prior to the absence or the next class day following the absence.

NOTE: Any exceptions to the above attendance policy (e.g. timetable conflicts, work-related issues) must be approved in writing by the Department Chair prior to the beginning of the course.

It is the students' responsibility to know their own absentee record.

Normal hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with potential for evening courses, exams or extended field trips. Students are expected to be available for classes during these times.

Course Units/Topics

1. Pet selection counselling, recognition of common canine and feline breeds, and behavior wellness programs as a preventative to small animal behavioral issues
2. Restraint of small animals and horses cattle and sheep
3. Recognizing body language of small animals, horses and cattle
4. Normal behavioral development of small animals and horses
5. Common behavioral problems of small animals and horses
6. Behavior modification
7. Physical examination of small and large animals
8. Intramuscular, and subcutaneous injection techniques



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