VT-1120: INTRODUCTION TO VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: VT-1120: Introduction to Veterinary Technology

Board of Trustees:
2016-05-26

Academic Term:
2017-08-24

Subject Code
VT - Veterinary Technology

Course Number:
1120

Title:
Introduction to Veterinary Technology

Catalog Description:
Introduction to the profession of veterinary technology. Includes terminology with emphasis on word components, spelling, pronunciation, word analysis, common colloquialisms and abbreviations. Introduction to legal, moral, ethical status of animals in modern society. Discussion of profession, its legal ramifications and career paths open to graduate veterinary technicians. Introduction to common breeds and types of domestic animal species and related medical issues. Introduction to animal euthanasia and veterinary technician's role in that procedure.

Credit Hour(s):
2

Lecture Hour(s):
2

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite
Departmental approval.

I. ACADEMIC CREDIT

Academic Credit According to the Ohio Department of Higher Education, one (1) semester hour of college credit will be awarded for each lecture hour. Students will be expected to work on out-of-class assignments on a regular basis which, over the length of the course, would normally average two hours of out-of-class study for each hour of formal class activity. For laboratory hours, one (1) credit shall be awarded for a minimum of three laboratory hours in a standard week for which little or no out-of-class study is required since three hours will be in the lab (i.e. Laboratory 03 hours). Whereas, one (1) credit shall be awarded for a minimum of two laboratory hours in a standard week, if supplemented by out-of-class assignments which would normally average one hour of out-of-class study preparing for or following up the laboratory experience (i.e. Laboratory 02 hours). Credit is also awarded for other hours such as directed practice, practicum, cooperative work experience, and field experience. The number of hours required to receive credit is listed under Other Hours on the syllabus. The number of credit hours for lecture, lab and other hours are listed at the beginning of the syllabus. Make sure you can prioritize your time accordingly. Proper planning, prioritization and dedication will enhance your success in this course.

The standard expectation for an online course is that you will spend 3 hours per week for each credit hour.

II. ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

If you need any special course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability, please notify your instructor within a reasonable length of time, preferably the first week of the term with formal notice of that need (i.e. an official letter from the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) office). Accommodations will not be made retroactively.

For specific information pertaining to ADA accommodation, please contact your campus SAS office or visit online at http://www.tri-c.edu/accessprograms/). Blackboard accessibility information is available at http://access.blackboard.com.

Eastern (216) 987-2052 - Voice
Metropolitan (216) 987-4344 – Voice. (216) 987-4048 – TTY.
III. ATTENDANCE TRACKING

Regular class attendance is expected. Tri-C is required by law to verify the enrollment of students who participate in federal Title IV student aid programs and/or who receive educational benefits through other funding sources. Eligibility for federal student financial aid is based in part on enrollment status. Students who do not attend classes for the entire term are required to withdraw from the course(s). Additionally, students who withdraw from a course or stop attending class without officially withdrawing may be required to return all or a portion of their financial aid based on the date of last attendance. Students who do not attend the full session are responsible for withdrawing from the course(s).

Tri-C is responsible for identifying students who have not attended a course before financial aid funds can be applied to students’ accounts. Therefore, attendance is recorded in the following ways:

- For in-person and blended-learning courses, students are required to attend the course by the 15th day of the semester (or equivalent for terms shorter than five weeks) to be considered attending. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for in-person and blended courses, as described herein, within the first two weeks or equivalent, will be considered not attending.
- For online courses, students are required to login at least two times per week and submit one assignment per week for the first two weeks of the semester, or equivalent to the 15th day of the term. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for online courses, as described herein, within the first two weeks or equivalent, will be considered not attending.

At the conclusion of the first two weeks of a semester or equivalent, instructors report any registered students who have “Never Attended” a course. Those students will be administratively withdrawn from that course. However, after the time period in the previous paragraphs, if a student stops attending a class or wants or needs to withdraw, for any reason, it is the student’s responsibility to take action to withdraw from the course. Students must complete and submit the appropriate Tri-C form by the established withdrawal deadline.

Tri-C is required to ensure that students receive financial aid only for courses that they attend and complete. Students reported for not attending at least one of their registered courses will have all financial aid funds held until confirmation of attendance in registered courses has been verified. Students who fail to complete at least one course may be required to repay all or a portion of their federal financial aid funds and may be ineligible to receive future federal financial aid awards. Students who withdraw from classes prior to completing more than 60 percent of their enrolled class time may be subject to the required federal refund policy.

If illness or emergency should necessitate a brief absence from class, students should confer with instructors upon their return. Students having problems with coursework due to a prolonged absence should confer with the instructor or a counselor.

IV. LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

Occasionally, in addition to submitting assignments to their instructors for evaluation and a grade, students will also be asked to submit completed assignments, called ‘artifacts,’ for assessment of course and program outcomes and the College’s Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs). The artifacts will be submitted in Blackboard or a similar technology. The level of mastery of the outcome demonstrated by the artifact DOES NOT affect the student’s grade or academic record in any way. However, some instructors require that students submit their artifact before receiving their final grade. Some artifacts will be randomly selected for assessment, which will help determine improvements and support needed to further student success. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with your instructor or contact the Learning Outcomes Assessment office.

V. CONCEALED CARRY STATEMENT

College policy prohibits the possession of weapons on college property by students, faculty and staff, unless specifically approved in advance as a job-related requirement (i.e., Tri-C campus police officers) or, in accordance with Ohio law, secured in a parked vehicle in a designated parking area only by an individual in possession of a valid conceal carry permit.

As a Tri-C student, your behavior on campus must comply with the student code of conduct which is available on page 29 within the Tri-C student handbook, available at http://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/documents/studenthandbook.pdf. You must also comply with the College's Zero Tolerance for Violence on College Property available at http://www.tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures/documents/3354-1-20-10-zero-tolerance-for-violence-policy.pdf

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):
Consider and weigh advantages and disadvantages of a career as a veterinary technician.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the moral, ethical and legal status of animals in current society and how this affects the profession of veterinary technology.
2. Summarize the changes in society that contribute to the current roles of animals.
3. Describe the various influences on decision-making (morals, ethics, laws) and their counterparts in the animal-health profession.
Course Outcome(s):
Consider one’s interest and aptitude for a career as a veterinary technician.

Objective(s):
1. Outline characteristics of professional behavior for veterinary technicians and students.
2. Outline the “nursing” or practice model for veterinary technicians.
3. Explain the basis of the human-animal bond, and its importance in the veterinary medical professions.

Course Outcome(s):
Converse fluently and comfortably with veterinary professionals using medical terminology.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:
Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

Objective(s):
1. List and define the five basic word components used in the construction of medical terms: prefix, suffix, word root, combining form and combining vowel.
2. Define the meaning of commonly used veterinary medical terms by analyzing the component parts of a word.
3. Explain rules for proper veterinary medical word building, pronunciation, and spelling.
4. Identify, define, spell and pronounce prefixes, suffixes, verb and adjective-based word roots and combining forms, word roots and combining forms pertaining to body substances, chemicals and fluids, colors and numbers.
5. Identify, define, spell and pronounce veterinary medical terms pertaining to the body and its structure.
6. Identify, define, spell, and pronounce word roots, combining forms and veterinary medical terms pertaining to the musculoskeletal, integumentary, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, endocrine, nervous and immune systems and the special senses.
7. Relate the unique terminology necessary to communicate effectively with the client or owner of a horse, dog, cat, or other animal patient.

Course Outcome(s):
Make a series of informed decisions that demonstrate consistent professional behavior as a veterinary technician inside and outside of the job environment.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the duties and responsibilities of a graduate veterinary technician under applicable state (OH) and federal laws.

Course Outcome(s):
Successfully complete the credentialing process as a registered veterinary technician (RVT) in Ohio.

Objective(s):
1. Outline the basis, membership and duties of a typical State Veterinary Medical Licensing Board (OH example) and its effects on the veterinary profession.
2. Explain the duties and responsibilities of a graduate veterinary technician under applicable state (OH) and federal laws.
3. Discuss the role of professional organizations in veterinary technology and animal care.

Course Outcome(s):
Select a career path in veterinary technology that is most compatible with the individual student’s interests and strengths.

Objective(s):
1. List multiple career paths available to a credentialed veterinary technician.
2. Discuss the various practice facilities and characteristics for different types of animal-health care.
3. Identify at least three common breeds for each of the following animal species: dogs, cats, horses, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and birds.
4. Explain common breed-related health concerns encountered by veterinary technicians in practice.
5. List at least two permanent and two temporary identification (ID) methods for each common animal species.

Course Outcome(s):
Handle cases involving euthanasia with understanding and empathy.
Objective(s):
1. Define the term animal euthanasia and list reasons for the procedure.
2. List the most commonly encountered acceptable methods of euthanasia for each common species as well as one unacceptable method for each.
3. Explain the veterinary technician's role in euthanasia.
4. Discuss the environment of euthanasia, including its effects on the animal, client, and veterinary staff.
5. Define the term Compassion Fatigue and list at least three healthy coping mechanisms for the veterinary technician.

Course Outcome(s):
Develop a healthy coping mechanism for dealing with euthanasia and its inevitable place in veterinary medicine.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the veterinary technician's role in euthanasia.
2. Discuss the environment of euthanasia, including its effects on the animal, client, and veterinary staff.
3. Define the term Compassion Fatigue and list at least three healthy coping mechanisms for the veterinary technician.

Methods of Evaluation:
1. Quizzes
2. Written exercises as assigned.
3. Unit examinations
4. Final examinations
5. Class participation
6. Self-study modules as assigned
7. Role-playing or other experiential exercises as assigned

Course Content Outline:
1. Introduction to veterinary medical terminology
   a. Use of word elements/components
      i. Prefixes
      ii. Suffixes
      iii. Roots
      iv. Combining forms
      v. Combining vowels
   b. Rules for word analysis and use
      i. Identifying word components
      ii. Combining word components
      iii. Pronunciation
      iv. Formation of plurals
   c. Identification, definition and pronunciation of prefixes
   d. Identification, definition and pronunciation of suffixes
   e. Identification, definition and pronunciation of word roots/combining forms
      i. External anatomy
      ii. Internal anatomy
      iii. Verb-based
      iv. Adjective-based
      v. Colors
      vi. Body substances and chemicals
      vii. Body fluids
   f. Numbers
      i. Identification, definition and pronunciation of terms relating to the body and its structure
         1. Basic structure of the organism
         2. Tissues
         3. Directions and planes
      ii. Identification, definition and pronunciation of terms relating to body systems
         1. Integumentary
         2. Musculoskeletal
         3. Cardiovascular
         4. Lymphatic
5. Respiratory
6. Gastrointestinal
7. Genitourinary
8. Endocrine
9. Nervous
10. Special senses
11. Immune

2. Basis of behavioral decision-making: individual morals; professional ethical codes; laws
3. Legal status of animals in society
   a. History of rights movements in society: women, children, minorities
   b. Cases and opinions
4. Professionalism/ professional behavior
   a. Ethical code: NAVTA
   b. Putting NAVTA into practice as a VT student
   c. Appearance: professionalism and safety considerations
      i. Uniform or dress
      ii. Hands or nails
      iii. Jewelry, hair
   d. Professional behavior in the workplace
   e. Professional behavior outside the workplace
   f. Communications for the professional
   g. Professional organizations and their impact on veterinary technicians
5. Model (OH) Veterinary Medical Licensing Board
   a. Formation and legal basis
   b. Membership
   c. Duties as required by Model (OH) Practice Act
   d. VCPR: Veterinary-Client- Patient- Relationship
   e. Disciplinary functions
6. Credentialed Veterinary Technicians under the law
   a. Requirements for credentialing veterinary technicians
   b. Duties of credentialed veterinary technicians
   c. Restrictions of credentialed veterinary technicians
   d. Animal aides and other defined roles
   e. Disciplinary actions
7. Other laws affecting veterinary technicians
   a. Drugs: DEA and State (OH) Pharmacy Board
   b. Occupational Health: OSHA
   c. Practice-area specific laws: Animal Welfare Act, State Racing Commissions etc.
8. “Nursing” or Practice Model for Veterinary Technicians: Steps and restrictions
9. Veterinary Technician Career Paths and typical facilities
   a. Companion animal/ referral/ emergency
   b. Equine hospital/ ambulatory unit
   c. Food animal hospital/ ambulatory unit
   d. Animal shelter/ population control facility
   e. Laboratory animal facility
   f. Zoological park/ wildlife facility
10. Common domestic-animal breeds and their associated medical issues
    a. Dogs
    b. Cats
    c. Horses
    d. Cattle- dairy and beef
    e. Pigs
    f. Sheep and goats
    g. Poultry and pet birds
11. Identification (ID) methods for domestic animals
    a. Permanent
    b. Temporary
12. Euthanasia
a. Definition
b. Reasons
c. Approved, recommended methods for various species and animal uses
d. Non-approved methods
e. Veterinary technician's role in euthanasia
f. Grief and effects on clients, veterinary staff
g. Compassion fatigue and coping strategies

Resources


Resources Other
Proceedings and newsletters of American Veterinary Law Association (AVMLA); avmla.org; 1995-present
US and OH Revised Codes and Rules; multiple chapters.