VT-2700: AVIAN AND EXOTIC ANIMAL MEDICINE

Cuyahoga Community College
Viewing: VT-2700: Avian and Exotic Animal Medicine
Board of Trustees:
2016-05-26

Academic Term:
2017-08-24

Subject Code
VT - Veterinary Technology

Course Number:
2700

Title:
Avian and Exotic Animal Medicine

Catalog Description:
Introduction to avian and exotic animal husbandry, physical examination, clinical procedures and common clinical conditions. Field trips may be included.

Credit Hour(s):
2

Lecture Hour(s):
2

Lab Hour(s):
0

Other Hour(s):
0

Requisites
Prerequisite and Corequisite
VT-2610 Veterinary Anesthesia, Analgesia, and Dental Techniques, and VT-2412 Veterinary Pathology IV.

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
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, in part, based on your 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 the 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 will be recorded in the following ways:

For in-person courses, students are required to attend the course by the 15th day of the semester, or equivalent for terms shorter than 5-weeks, to be considered attending. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for an in-person course, as described herein, within the first two weeks of the semester, or equivalent, will be considered not attending and will be reported for non-attendance and dropped from the course.

For blended-learning courses, students are required to attend the course by the 15th day of the semester, or equivalent for terms shorter than 5-weeks, or submit an assignment, to be considered attending. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for a blended-learning course, as described herein, within the first two weeks of the semester, or equivalent, will be considered not attending and will be reported for non-attendance and dropped from the course.

For online courses, students are required to login in at least two (2) times per week and submit one (1) assignment per week for the first two (2) weeks of the semester, or equivalent to the 15th day of the term. Students who have not met all attendance requirements for an online course, as described herein, within the first two weeks of the semester, or equivalent, will be considered not attending and will be reported for non-attendance and dropped from the course.

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, 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 class work because of a prolonged absence should confer with the instructor or a counselor.

IV. 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 athttp://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/documents/studethandbook.pdfYou must also comply with the College’s Zero Tolerance for Violence on College Property available athttp://www.tri-c.edu/policies-and-procedures/documents/3354-1-20-10-zero-tolerance-for-violence-policy.pdf

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):
Provide safe, effective and humane treatment for domestic or wild bird species in a clinical practice or animal-care facility.

Objective(s):
1. Describe the basic husbandry and physical characteristics of the commonly encountered psittacine, passerine, anseriform, galliform, and falconiform birds a technician might encounter in an avian practice.
2. Explain clinically significant avian and reptilian anatomy and physiology.
3. Explain the common methods for safe restraint of commonly encountered birds and reptiles.
4. Describe the signs of common avian and reptilian clinical problems and assist the veterinarian with appropriate diagnostic procedures and treatments.
Course Outcome(s):
Provide safe, effective and humane treatment for domestic or wild reptilian species in a clinical practice or animal-care facility.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the common methods for safe restraint of commonly encountered birds and reptiles.
2. Describe the signs of common avian and reptilian clinical problems and assist the veterinarian with appropriate diagnostic procedures and treatments.

Course Outcome(s):
Provide safe, effective and humane treatment for domestic or wild amphibians and fish in a clinical practice or animal-care facility.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the common methods for safe restraint commonly encountered amphibians and fish.
2. Describe the signs of common clinical problems and assist the veterinarian with appropriate diagnostic procedures and treatments for amphibian and fish species.

Course Outcome(s):
Instruct a client on the correct care for pets such as birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish.

Objective(s):
1. Discuss routine husbandry procedures for commonly-encountered exotic animal species of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds and fish including housing ventilation, heat/humidy, feed sanitation, water and special requirements.
2. Obtain a good medical history for an avian or reptile over the phone and advise an owner properly as to how to transport their animal to the veterinary office.
3. Explain the common methods for safe restraint of commonly encountered birds and reptiles.

Course Outcome(s):
Advise clients on legalities of obtaining and owning wild animals (native or exotic) as pets.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the potential zoonotic disease issues that may arise with owning or handling exotic species.
2. Discuss legal ramifications of adopting wild animals (exotic or native) as pets.
3. Discuss federal and state laws dealing with orphaned wildlife and their care and rehabilitation.

Course Outcome(s):
Explain to a client the advantages and disadvantages, of owning wild animals as pets.

Objective(s):
1. Explain proper care and husbandry to a client considering ownership of birds, reptiles, amphibians or fish.
2. Discuss federal and state laws dealing with orphaned wildlife and their care and rehabilitation.

Course Outcome(s):
Instruct a client who finds an apparently orphaned wild animal with legal and humane means of dealing with the animal.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the common methods for safe restraint of commonly encountered birds and reptiles.
2. Discuss federal and state laws dealing with orphaned wildlife and their care and rehabilitation.

Course Outcome(s):
Explain to a client the potential zoonotic diseases and safety issues that may arise with keeping exotic animals as pets.

Objective(s):
1. Explain the potential zoonotic disease issues that may arise with owning or handling exotic species.
2. Describe the common zoonotic diseases of avians, reptiles, amphibians, and fish.
Methods of Evaluation:
1. Quizzes
2. Unit lecture examinations
3. Comprehensive final examination
4. Written assignments

Course Content Outline:
1. Introduction to different types of birds
   a. Psittaformes (parrots, budgerigars, cockatiels, etc.)
   b. Passerines (finches, mynas, common songbirds)
   c. Anseriformes (ducks, geese, most waterfowl)
   d. Columbiformes (doves, pigeons)
   e. Galliformes (chickens, pheasants, peafowl)
   f. Falconiformes (raptors, hawks, falcons)
   g. Struthioformes (ostrich, emu, rhea)
2. Avian anatomy and physiology
3. Telephone techniques for avian inquiries
4. Obtaining a good avian history
5. Safe restraint of avians
6. Basic avian nutrition and housing requirements
7. Avian examination
   a. Visual
   b. Auscultation
   c. Palpation
8. Avian husbandry procedures
   a. Nail trims
   b. Wing clips
   c. Sex determination
   d. Beak trims
   e. Broken blood feathers
9. Avian diagnostic tests
   a. Fecal examination
   b. Cloacal swabs
   c. Crop wash/cytologic examination
   d. Bloodwork
   e. Radiographic techniques and
   f. Oral and parenteral medication administration
10. Common avian problems
    a. Problems associated with errors in husbandry and nutrition
    b. Trauma
    c. Toxicity
       i. oil soaked birds
       ii. organophosphate poisoning
       iii. lead poisoning
       iv. plants
    d. Egg binding
    e. Chlamydiosis
    f. Beak problems and oral lesions
    g. Feather picking and behavioral problems
    h. Beak and feather syndrome
       i. Knemidokoptes mites, feather mites, lice
    j. Bumblefoot
    k. Avian pox
    l. Giardiasis and coccidiosis
    m. Visceral velotrophic Newcastle disease
11. Lizard anatomy, husbandry, restraint, and common medical problems
    a. Iguanas
    b. Clinically significant anatomy
c. Husbandry and caging
d. Restraint techniques
e. Common medical problems

12. Snake anatomy, husbandry, restraint, and common medical problems
   a. Common types of pet snakes
   b. Clinically significant anatomy
   c. Recognition of venomous reptiles
   d. Husbandry and caging
   e. Restraint techniques
   f. Common medical problems

13. Turtle and tortoise anatomy, husbandry, restraint, and common medical problems
   a. Aquatic (turtles) versus terrestrial (tortoises)
   b. Clinically significant anatomy
   c. Captive husbandry
   d. Restraint techniques
   e. Common medical problems

14. Amphibians and fish
   a. Important species
   b. Clinically significant anatomy
   c. Husbandry and caging
   d. Restraint techniques
   e. Common medical procedures
   f. Zoonotic diseases

15. Non-human primates (NHP’s) and other species
   a. Important species
   b. Clinically significant anatomy
   c. Husbandry and caging
   d. Restraint techniques
   e. Common medical procedures
   f. Zoonotic diseases

16. Ethical and legal issues in wildlife management and rehabilitation
   a. Veterinary technician’s role in wildlife rehabilitation and release
   b. Legal and ethical issues involving private ownership of exotic animals

Resources


