JEFFERSON COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

VAT103

ANIMAL CARE

5 Credit Hours

Prepared by
Charlie Roberts, RVT
Revised Date: 08/12
VAT103 Animal Care

I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

A. Prerequisite: Reading Proficiency
   Co requisite: VAT102 The Veterinary Profession

B. 5 Semester Hours Credit

C. Animal Care introduces the student to techniques in basic handling and restraint needed to assist the veterinarian and/or veterinary technician in various clinical situations. The student is instructed in recognition of vital signs of animals and infectious diseases that cause deviation of these signs. Also included are tasks specific to veterinary assistant that include bathing and grooming, wound care, prescription filling, and basic nutrition. A laboratory session provides hands-on animal experience and practice of various techniques relevant to the profession of veterinary assistant. (F)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT MEASURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students will be able to safely and effectively enable examination and treatment of animals without injury to personnel or patient</th>
<th>In-class exercises, homework assignments, quizzes, laboratory activities, and final exam</th>
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<tr>
<td>Students will learn to maintain or produce a healthy hair coat on animals; safely trim animal’s nails; clean diseased ears and maintain healthy ears; express anal glands; brush teeth properly</td>
<td>In-class exercises, homework assignment, quizzes, exam, final exam, and instructor observation in laboratory sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will recognize normal vital signs of dogs and cats; be able to take and record those vital signs; recognize abnormal variations that point to disease</td>
<td>In-class exercises, quizzes, instructor observation in laboratory sessions, observation hours, and final exam</td>
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<td>Students will be able to correctly identify common breeds of dogs and cats and be familiar with their individual common characteristics</td>
<td>In-class exercises, laboratory sessions with instructor observation, observation hours, exam, and final exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will be familiar with causative agents and recognize signs of infectious disease in dogs and cats. Know how to control the spread of disease in a hospital setting</td>
<td>In-class exercises, homework assignments, laboratory sessions with instructor observation, exam, observation hours, and final exam</td>
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III. OUTLINE OF TOPICS

A. Handling and Restraint
   1. Removing/replacing animals to cage
   2. Restraining animals on table/floor
   3. Difficult and fractious animals
4. Species variations
5. Heavy lifting

B. Bathing and Grooming
1. General bathing
2. Clipping matted animals
3. Ear cleaning
4. Nails
5. Anal Glands
6. Enemas
7. Tooth brushing
8. Feline general grooming

C. Vital Signs
1. Body temperature evaluation
2. Heart rate/pulse
3. Respiratory rate
4. Mucous membranes
5. Weight

D. Small Animal Breeds
1. Canine
2. Feline
3. Various species identification

E. Infectious diseases
1. Internal parasites
2. External parasites
3. Heartworm disease
4. Canine diseases
5. Feline diseases
6. Quarantine techniques and infection prevention

IV. METHOD(S) OF INSTRUCTION

A. Lecture

B. Laboratory sessions

C. Textbooks
D. PowerPoint presentations
E. Live animal models for laboratory instruction
F. Handouts provided by the instructor
G. Volunteer/Observation hours

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)
C. Holle, Julie and Tate, Deborah. *Animal Care Assistant Manual*. University of Missouri Columbia. (Current Edition)

VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS
A. Textbooks, Audio-Visual Aids
B. Instructional Materials prepared by Instructor

VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES
A. Materials for research projects are available in Jefferson College Library and within the Veterinary Technology Department. Journals within the department are kept for student use

VIII. METHOD(S) OF EVALUATION
A. Distribution of Final Grade

There are written examinations, homework assignments, observation/volunteer hours, attendance, participation, and a comprehensive final examination, which will comprise the final grade. Attendance and class participation are expected of ALL students. The instructor reserves the right to award or detract percentage points based on student class performance and professionalism

Students are required to perform the 30 hours of observation in order to pass this course. The student will receive an F if this requirement is not met
regardless of the student’s academic standing. Students are required to secure an animal care facility or veterinary hospital/clinic to obtain required observation hours. The instructor will verify student placement and inform the facility of required and recommended information/skills to be included in the observation hours.

Students are expected to complete the course with at least a grade of C or better. Students who make a grade below C will be dropped from the program and invited to re-enroll and thus repeat the course the following year. Any student found in noncompliance with the Jefferson College Academic Honesty Policy as delineated in the Jefferson College and Veterinary Assistant Student Handbooks will receive a grade of F regardless of concurrent academic standing.

B. Assignment of Final Letter Grades

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = below 60

C. Attendance Policy

Student attendance is mandatory. There are no excused absences. Two lecture classes can be missed with no penalty. Eight or more lecture absences or two or more lab absences result in a grade of an F for the course. Lab Sessions cannot be made up, regardless of the reason for absence.

Students are permitted to miss one exam date with no penalty (this will still count as an unexcused absence). Make up exams are taken in the Testing Center within 3 days of the original exam. For each subsequent exam missed, the student is penalized 10% of the total value of that exam (one letter grade)

Failure in assigned animal care duties or failure in ANY assigned clinical duties results in the loss of one lab grade. (this is any duties involving the care of the animals)

The instructor may make exceptions to this policy in certain cases, i.e., illness requiring hospitalization, death in the family, etc.
IX. ADA AA STATEMENT

Any student requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library phone 636-797-3169).

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

All students are responsible for complying with campus policies as stated in the Student Handbook (see College website http://www.jeffco.edu).

XI. ATTENDANCE STATEMENT

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students. Any one of these four options may result in the student being removed from the class and an administrative withdrawal being processed: (1) Student fails to begin class; (2) Student ceases participation for at least two consecutive weeks; (3) Student misses 15 percent or more of the coursework; and/or (4) Student misses 15 percent or more of the course as defined by the instructor. Students earn their financial aid by regularly attending and actively participating in their coursework. If a student does not actively participate, he/she may have to return financial aid funds. Consult the College Catalog or a Student Financial Services representative for more details..

XII. OUTSIDE OF CLASS ACADEMICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES

The U.S. Department of Education mandates that students be made aware of expectations regarding coursework to be completed outside the classroom. Students are expected to spend substantial time outside of class meetings engaging in academically related activities such as reading, studying, and completing assignments. Specifically, time spent on academically related activities outside of class combined with time spent in class meetings is expected to be a minimum of 37.5 hours over the duration of the term for each credit hour.