

# NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** Small Animal Veterinary Technology Laboratory    **Course #:** VET\* 151L

**Course Description:** 1 semester hours (3 hours laboratory)

This course will introduce the student to small animal nursing procedures including laboratory animals. Topics include restraint, physical examination, medical and surgical nursing techniques, and emergency care.

**Pre-requisite:** VET \*100 and VET \*101. Also CHE \*111, MAT \*137, BIO \*121, CSA \*105

**Co-requisite:** VET \*151 Lecture

**Pre-exposure rabies vaccinations are required!**

**Goals:** This course will demonstrate nursing procedures used in small animal and laboratory care facilities. The basic theory will be presented in lecture, followed by its application in the laboratory

**Outcomes:** Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Demonstrate methods of restraint used for small animals
  - Properly restrain cats and dogs in sternal and lateral recumbancy for procedures including cephalic, jugular, and saphenous venipuncture
  - Properly control the head and feet of the patient so as to prevent bite and scratch injuries
  - Properly demonstrate the use of a towel, cat bag, muzzle, and leather gloves to restrain and secure a cat
  - Demonstrate the ability to safely remove and return an animal to its cage
  - Safely apply a dog muzzle, restraint pole, and slip lead
- Perform physical examinations on small animals
  - Take vital signs including obtaining a rectal temperature and palpation of a peripheral pulse rate
  - Accurately calculate respiratory rate via auscultation and observation
  - Demonstrate the ability to auscultate heart and lung sounds and recognize abnormal sounds
  - Recognize and record common congenital defects
- Vaccination skills:
  - Choose the correct vaccine as specified by the veterinarian and properly reconstitute as needed
  - Give the vaccine via the route specified on the label
  - Demonstrate the correct vaccination sites in canine and feline patients
- Record and maintain medical records for patients and perform client education
  - Demonstrate competency in medical record documentation using SOAP format
  - Accurately record drug and vaccine administration in the patients record
  - Perform invoicing and print vaccine certificates

- Create accurate written discharge instructions for the client that include information for medication handling, possible vaccine and medication side effects, and the reasons why the medication or vaccine was given
  - Describe and demonstrate to the client how to safely administer oral or topical medications to a cat or dog
- Demonstrate nursing and clinical procedures
  - Perform therapeutic bathing, basic grooming and nail trimming of cats and dogs
  - Express anal glands
  - Properly prepare specimens for examination for ear mites and/ or otitis externa
  - Clean and medicate ears of cats and dogs
  - Properly prepare sites for subcutaneous injection, intramuscular injection, or venipuncture
  - Perform cephalic and saphenous venipuncture on cats and dogs
  - Properly administer subcutaneous injections
  - Demonstrate the ability to deliver oral medications to dogs and cats including tablets and liquids
  - Properly perform ophthalmic procedures including application of medication, Schirmer tear testing, fluorescein staining, and tonometry
- Properly calculate and administer subcutaneous fluid therapy
  - Correct preparation of the patient and administration site
  - Select the proper needles size and administration set
  - Aseptically attach administration set to fluid bag and demonstrate ability to use the roller clamp
  - Deliver the correct volume of fluid
  - Demonstrate knowledge of fluid delivery systems including the burette and fluid pump
- Demonstrate emergency care and CPR procedures
  - Describe the drugs and supplies needed to stock a crash cart
  - Demonstrate the ABC's of CPR including simulation of ventilation at the proper rate and pressure, chest compressions, and abdominal compressions
  - Demonstrate the use of an ambu-bag with room air and oxygen
- Demonstrate recording of ECGs with recognition of common arrhythmias
  - Properly connect ECG leads to patient
  - Properly record paper speed and amplitudes
- Demonstrate patient and personnel safety techniques and dispose of medical waste properly
- Discuss wound healing and demonstrate bandaging techniques
  - Apply emergency splints and bandages
  - Apply paw and Robert Jones bandages
  - Discuss with client appropriate at-home care of patients with bandages, splints, or casts
- Perform and supervise basic care procedures of dogs and cats including administration of medications
  - Proper cleaning of patient's cage or run
  - Proper cleaning of lab area adjacent to animal's enclosure
- For a complete list of skills to be completed in this course, please refer to your skills check-off list, which will be handed out in lab.