

NORTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Small Animal Veterinary Technology Lecture

Course #: VET 151

Course Description: 3 semester hours (3 hours lecture)

This course will introduce the student to small animal nursing procedures including laboratory animals and avian species. Included topics are restraint, physical examinations, medical and surgical nursing techniques and emergency care. The importance of client education and the role of the veterinary technician in the clinical setting will be stressed.

Instructor: Meg Butler, BS, LVT

Goals: The student will describe basic nursing procedures used in small animal and laboratory care facilities. The basic theory will be presented in lecture.

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

- describe methods of restraint used for small animals
- explain SQ, IM, and IV injection techniques including appropriate selection of syringe and needle and verifying needle placement
- Describe common ophthalmic and otic examination and treatment techniques performed in small animal practice.
- describe basic animal care procedures including therapeutic bathing, nail trimming, and anal gland expression
- estimate hydration status of animals based upon physical examination
- calculate the volume of fluid needed to correct dehydration, provide maintenance fluid requirements, and address ongoing fluid losses, given the patient's weight and hydration status
- calculate IV fluid drip rates given type of administration set and volume to be administered over the specified period of time
- Calculate medications to be administered (tablets and liquids)
- Describe and be able to teach proper client communication during a discharge of a patient regarding vaccine reactions, bandage care, and administration of medications
- describe the proper care of patients with IV catheters and catheter maintenance
- describe the principles of blood transfusion including selection and screening of an appropriate donor, the types and uses of blood products, and cross-matching procedures
- identify common congenital or birth defects, describe appropriate care and feeding of orphan neonates, and describe stimulation techniques used with newborns
- describe proper placement and use of orogastric tubes
- properly describe how enemas are administered including choice of equipment and technique
- discuss the use of prescription diets in the clinical setting
 - demonstrate understanding of the role nutrition plays in treating and preventing metabolic and endocrine disease

- show knowledge of nutritional supplements, vitamins, and minerals
- determine caloric needs and dietary requirements for:
 - pediatrics
 - pregnancy and nursing
 - geriatrics
 - obesity
- demonstrate understanding of emergency care and procedures
 - recognize the drugs and supplies needed to stock a crash cart
 - describe the ABC's of CPR and the ABCDE's of patient triage
- interpret ECGs with recognition of common arrhythmias
- recognize and describe the use of various patient monitoring devices including blood pressure, CVP, pulse oximetry, and capnography
- discuss patient and personnel safety techniques and describe proper disposal of medical waste
- discuss wound healing and abscesses
- describe bandaging techniques and demonstrate ability to communicate proper care of bandages, splints, and casts to clients
- explain the proper care of a recumbent or debilitated patient
- perform and supervise basic care procedures of dogs and cats: including administration of medications