VETT 100 – Introduction to the Profession of Veterinary Medicine
CRN 81149
Course Syllabus: Fall 2025
Web Based Course

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Ms. Kristi Geckler, MS, LVT
Office: Veterinary Biomedical Technology – 100A
Office Number: 903-886-5203
Office Hours: By appointment via email
University Email: Kristi.Geckler@etamu.edu
Communication Response Time: 24-48 hours

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Textbooks:

- **McCurnin's Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians and Nurses, 10th ed.**
  - o Author: Joanna Bassert, Angela Beal, Oreta M. Samples
  - o ISBN: 9780323722001
- **McCurnin's Clinical Workbook for Veterinary Technicians and Nurses, 10th ed.**
  - o Author: Joanna Bassert, Angela Beal, Oreta M. Samples
  - o ISBN: 9780323765107

Recommended Materials:

- **Principles and Practices of Veterinary Technology, 4th ed.**
  - o Author: Margi Sirois
  - o ISBN: 9780323354837
- **Small Animal Care and Management, 4th ed.**
  - o Author: Dean M. Warren
  - o ISBN: 9781285425528
- **Front Office Management for the Veterinary Team, 3rd ed.**
  - o Author: Heather Prendergast BS AS RVT CVPM
  - o ISBN: 9780323570404

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Software Required: Any Internet vehicle including Google Chrome, Firefox, etc. that follows that below supported browsers. Also, lecture materials, supplemental worksheets, videos, and slides will be available which will need to be opened using Adobe PDF, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Power Point.

Optional Texts and/or Materials: There will be links to images, videos, and other supplemental materials.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to give students an overview of veterinary medicine from its origin to the present time. The course will include, but not be limited to, the following: professionalism in veterinary medicine, legal and ethical aspects of veterinary practice, regulatory and government bodies, safety, sanitation and waste-disposal protocols, the human-animal bond, animal welfare, animal abuse, breeds of companion animals, professional associations, credentialing, roles of the veterinary team members, careers in veterinary medicine.
Note: This course is required for entrance into the veterinary nursing program.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Understand how the Texas Veterinary Practice Act governs what procedures may be legally performed by each role of the veterinary healthcare team.
2. Discuss veterinary science careers, responsibilities, and professionalism.
3. Understand the legal and ethical context of practice and the Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship.
4. Work as a team member to deliver service in an ethical, compassionate, high-quality manner, using the knowledge of the human animal bond and animal welfare.
5. Identify and describe common workplace hazards, including zoonotic diseases in order to comply with occupational health and safety guidelines in veterinary medicine.
6. Identify common breeds of companion animals and asses the general characteristics of dog and cat breeds to help/guide/recommend owners distinguish/choose what breeds are best to fit their lifestyle.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed
Using the learning management system, using Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, using presentation and graphics programs, etc.

Student Responsibilities and Tips for Success in the Course
Examples include:

- Regularly logging into the course website, approximately 2 hours of weekly study and 2 hours of participation time expected. These anticipated times are an estimation and may require more or less.
- The student will be held responsible for being familiar with all material presented in lectures, reading, and classmates' presentations.

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- The student is expected to participate in all course activities and complete all examinations and course assignments on time.
- Any changes in the course schedule, such as examination dates, deadlines, etc., will be announced ahead of time via *email* and on the ***D2L website***.
  - It is the student's responsibility to be informed of these changes. It is the student's responsibility to be informed about deadlines concerning registration (e.g., last day for withdrawal, etc.).
- Communication: The instructor will communicate with students through email and the Top Hat website.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This course will be using the D2L learning platform. D2L is how lecture content, assignments, discussions, quizzes, and tests will be delivered.

This is how the course will remain interactive and engaging while still being completely online!!

GRADING

1. **Participation**
   - You are expected to "come to class". This is a web based only class, that means you need to be logging in and participating weekly. I highly recommend logging in daily to ensure you do not miss any due dates, quizzes or assignments.
   - You will need to log in 2-3 times a week to be successful.
   - Your logins are closely monitored on a daily basis.

2. **Assignments/Worksheets**
   - There will be a variety of worksheets/assignments/homework, etc.
   - **Late Work:** Work will be due at a specific date and time which is clearly indicated. **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

3. **Journal Club and Rounds aka Discussion Posts:**
   - **Entries are due on: Fridays at 11:59 pm.**
   - As is common practice in veterinary medicine, we will have discussions aka "Rounds".
   - You will be expected to comment on at **LEAST** 2 other classmates discussion posts. A good back and forth with comments, thoughts, and additional questions are what makes "Rounds" a useful tool for learning even more from each other.
     i. Responses to discussion posts are due on **Sundays at 11:59 pm.**
   - These posts need to be well thought out and exhibit critical thinking and meet all points listed within the initial discussion prompt to receive full credit. All posts and replies to posts need to be professional.
   - This is often done in an online format on the Veterinary Support Personnel Network (VSPN) and Veterinary Information Network (VIN) and in a face-to-face

format in veterinary tech school, veterinary school, internships, and residency programs. It is a crucial learning tool in veterinary medicine.

4. **Future Goals Essay**
   - You will write a 3 to 5 page essay on the direction you want to take in your career in veterinary medicine.
   - Please include what you want your role to be (Veterinarian, Credentialed Veterinary Technician, Practice Manager, etc.) and how you plan on getting there.
       i. What schools will you pursue? What additional certifications do you want to get? How long will this take?
       ii. If you have decided that veterinary medicine is not right for you, discuss why this is and how you came to this decision.
   - As a veterinary medical professional:
       i. What area of medicine do you want to practice in?
       ii. Is there a particular specialty you are interested in pursuing?
       iii. What draws you to these areas of medicine?
       iv. What will be difficult about working outside your comfort zone to get to the places you want to be?

5. **Final Exam:**
   - The final exam will be comprehensive/cumulative and will be available online.
       i. There will be two parts:
           1. Course content Essay Final
           2. Breed Identification Final
   - The final exam format may include T/F, matching, multiple choice, and short answer or essay.
   - The week before will be a review week and you will work in groups to create mock exam questions.
       i. These will be multiple choice/fill in the blank/short answer questions.

The final grade in the course will be based on your accumulated total points during the semester according to the following distribution:

Attendance/Participation	100
Journal Club and Rounds 15 pts x 10	150
Assignments 20-40 pts x 12	200
Breed Quizzes 10 pts x 4	40
Future Goals Essay	40
Breed Final	150
Essay Final	50
Total	**730**

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or below

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TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLEO Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements.

LMS Requirements:
https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements

LMS Browser Support:
https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool:
https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903-468-6000 or HelpDesk@etamu.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friends home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, an ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you are having technical difficulties with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:
https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport

INTERACTION WITH INSTRUCTOR STATEMENT

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Late work will not be accepted.

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Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

UNIVERSITY SPECIFIC PROCEDURES

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
https://issuu.com/docs/25e55b4d3078ed6ae51aa88b86c13cf9

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding to how interact with students in an online forum: https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedures 13.99.99.R0.01.

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03
Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

Graduate Students Academic Integrity Policy and Form

Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form

Students with Disabilities – ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library – Room 162
Phone: 903-886-5150   Fax: 903-468-8148

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Email: StudentDisabilityServices@etamu.edu
Website: Student Disability Services

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill – 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M University Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns on Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit their website.
Location: Hallady Student Services Building – Room 203
Phone: 903-886-5145
Website: Counseling Center | East Texas A&M University, ETAMU

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.

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[Counseling Center: TELUS | East Texas A&M University, ETAMU](#)

AI Use Policy [Draft 2, May 25, 2023]

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors guidelines. If no instructions are provided the students should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Department of Accrediting Agency Required Content

[https://www.avma.org/education/center-for-veterinary-accreditation/accreditation-policies-and-procedures-avma-council-education-coe](#)

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