

VTHT 2439 – Veterinary Nursing Syllabus
AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Semester: Spring 2023 Synonym: 58622

PROGRAM: Veterinary Technology

COURSE NAME/NUMBER: Veterinary Nursing – VTHT 2439

COURSE TIME/LOCATION:

Lecture	Tuesday: 2:30pm – 3:20pm Thursday: 10:25am – 11:15am
Laboratory	Tuesday: 9:30am – 1:30pm

FACULTY NAMES/EMAILS: Kate Peterson, BS LVT; Katie.peterson@austincc.edu
Amanda Schoolcraft, BS LVT; Amanda.schoolcraft@austincc.edu
Leslie Sirmons, DVM; Leslie.sirmons@austincc.edu

OFFICE HOURS/LOCATION: By Appointment/Virtual. Please contact instructor via email to set up a meeting time and location

PROGRAM WEBSITE: <http://www.austincc.edu/health/vtht>

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Capstone course requiring integration of course work and clinical skills in the field of veterinary technology.

- Credit Hours: 4
- Classroom Contact Hours per week: 2
- Laboratory Contact Hours per week: 4

Transferability of workforce courses varies. Students interested in transferring courses to another college should speak with their Area of Study (AoS) Advisor, and/or Program Director.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: VTHT 1301, 1345, 1441, 2321, 2331

COURSE RATIONALE: This is a capstone course with advanced skills used from previous course work. As a capstone, it is taken the last semester before going to practicum and graduation.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of the course the student will be able to integrate all aspects of veterinary medicine with an emphasis on small animal medicine and surgery.

1. Formulate anesthetic protocols for use in healthy, stable patient.
2. Implement surgical nursing skills to be able to provide post-operative surgical care for patients.
3. Develop nursing plan in caring for hospitalized patients.
4. Implement emergency protocols and critical care of hospitalized patients.
5. Formulate appropriate dietary plans for animals based on their nutritional status.
6. Provide dental care for surgical patients. Be able to identify dental care instruments, perform medical charting, and produce diagnostic dental radiographs.
7. Recognize and respond appropriately to emergency and critical care situations.

***Skills will be demonstrated and practiced based on the availability of suitable animals.**

DISCIPLINE/PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: These learning outcomes are listed in the Veterinary Technology Student Handbook.

SCANS Competencies

In 1990, the U.S. Department of Labor established the Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) to examine the demands of the workplace and whether our nation's students are capable of meeting those demands. The Commission determined that today's jobs generally require competencies in the following areas:

Resources: Identifies, organizes, plans, and allocates resources

Interpersonal: Works with others

Information: Acquires and uses information

Systems: Understands complex interrelationships

Technology: Works with a variety of technologies

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board requires that all degree plans in institutions of higher education incorporate these competencies and identify to the student how these competencies are achieved in course objectives.

VTHT 1217 COMPETENCE	EXAMPLE OF LEVEL
Resources	Identifies resources used in course and allocates time for studying. Manages supplies and monitors needs
Interpersonal	Shares experiences and knowledge with classmates, works as a member of a team for any assigned activities.
Information	Records data for treatment protocols and compiles information about diseases.
Systems	Identifies body systems and understands the disease processes that affect those systems.
Technology	Discusses electronic diagnostic and treatment modalities such as the ECG, radiology, anesthetic monitoring equipment, and dental equipment.
Basic Skills	Reads assigned pages and takes notes.
Thinking Skills	Uses critical thinking skills in management of patients daily. Identifies and prepares for tests, quizzes, and research activities.
Personal Qualities	Works as a team member for any assigned activities. Asserts self and networks with classmates to obtain information on current topics.

TEXTBOOKS:

Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care of Veterinary Technicians, 4th edition; Andrea M. Battaglia/Andrea M. Steele; Elsevier

Recommended: Veterinary Dentistry: A Team Approach, 3rd edition; Steven E. Holmstrom; Elsevier

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY: Lecture and Laboratory

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT:

Austin Community College provides free, secure drive-up WiFi to students and employees in the parking lots of all campus locations. WiFi can be accessed seven days a week, 7 am to 11 pm. Additional details are available at <https://www.austincc.edu/sts>.

Students who do not have the necessary technology to complete their ACC courses can request to borrow devices from Student Technology Services. Available devices include iPads, webcams, headsets, calculators, etc. Students must be registered for a credit course, Adult Education, or Continuing Education course to be eligible. For more information, including how to request a device, visit <http://www.austincc.edu/sts>.

Student Technology Services offers phone, live-chat, and email-based technical support for students and can provide support on topics such as password resets, accessing or using Blackboard, access to technology, etc. To view hours of operation and ways to request support, visit <http://www.austincc.edu/sts>.

GRADING SYSTEM: The Veterinary Technology courses use the following scale for determination of final grades:

- A = 92-100%
- B = 83-91%
- C = 75-82%
- D = 60-74%
- F = below 60%

A grade of 75% or above is required for both lecture and lab to pass any subject area. The first lab score of less than 80%, student will be given a written warning, 2nd will be placed on probation, 3rd student could be withdrawn from class. Grade of D is allowed for ACC records but will disqualify student for progression through the program. Due to the nature of the program, you would not be able to take the class again until the following academic year – based on readmission criteria in student handbook. **Final grades are not rounded.**

This class is the final opportunity to check off any essential skills associated with the program. These are set by our accrediting body, the CVTEA. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that these skills are successfully completed in the presence of program faculty and documented in Salthouse by the end of the semester.

Before a student may progress to a subsequent semester, the student must demonstrate proficiency in the essential skill(s) required of each class. Duplicate essential skills requirements may be present in multiple classes or semesters, and students may be required to demonstrate proficiency in essential skills multiple times. At the sole discretion of the instructor, exceptions to the above requirements may be granted in the event that insufficient time exists to adequately teach one or more essential skills. If a student fails to complete any assigned skill for the semester, the case will be reviewed by the instructor(s) and program chair to determine the student's progression.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

- 20% Assignments/quizzes
- 40% Exams
- 25% Laboratory
- 15% Final Exam

***(Assignments/quizzes, exams and final are all part of your lecture grade)*

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance/Absences: All students are expected to be in class or lab on time. If a class or lab is missed, it is considered either excused or unexcused by the instructor. An absence will be determined by the following criteria.

Excused absences refer to unavoidable circumstances that prevent a student from attending on time that could not have been previously prevented by the student. You must contact your instructor within 24 hours of an absence. Examples include illness, COVID, medical emergency, death in the family, or other unavoidable circumstances (determined by instructor).

Unexcused absences refer to circumstances that prevent a student from attending class/lab on time that could have previously been prevented by the student. Examples include vacation, oversleeping, work.

Only 2 excused absences will be permitted each semester. All absences thereafter will be reported as unexcused and will result in a loss of credit for the lecture or lab. For extenuating circumstances only, you must meet with your instructor and explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to schedule any possible make up of skills or material missed with the instructor. Arrangements must be scheduled within 1 week of the missed lab. Each unexcused absence will result in the following:

- Lecture – You will receive a 0 for all assignments for that day.
 - o **Three (3) unexcused lectures will result in a 70% in the lecture portion of the class.** This is below the 75% needed to pass the course and will result in failure of the course.
- Lab – You will receive a 0 for the lab and any assignments from that day.
 - o **Three (3) unexcused labs will result in a 70% in the lab portion of the class.** This is below the 75% needed to pass the course and will result in failure of the course.

Punctual class and laboratory attendance is expected of all students. If attendance or compliance with other course policies is unsatisfactory, the instructor may withdraw students from the class.

- **If a student is tardy to a lab, their score for that lab period will be reduced by 50%.**
- **If a student is tardy to lecture, 5 points will be deducted from their lecture grade.**

In the event the college or campus closes due to unforeseen circumstances (for example, severe weather or other emergency), the student is responsible for communicating with their professor during the closure and completing any assignments or other activities designated by their professor as a result of class sessions being missed.

Late Assignment Policy: Assignments are expected to be turned in on time. Late assignments will receive a 50% deduction if received within 24 hours of the due date. Assignments submitted more than 24 hours beyond the due date will not be accepted and receive a zero grade. Assignments can be submitted via Blackboard or e-mailed to the instructor. For any other circumstances, the student needs to contact the instructor.

Exam Policy: You are expected to take all exams when scheduled. To take an exam at a time other than the scheduled time in which it is given, the absence must be considered an **excused absence** by the instructor. Written evidence must be presented. If you miss an exam, arrangements must be made up within a week of when it was given. If it is not taken by that time, you will receive a zero for that exam. Exams missed due to unexcused absences may not be made up. Only one exam may be made up during this course. If more than one exam is missed, you will receive a zero on all other missed exams.

Quizzes: You are required to be present for all quizzes. If you miss a quiz due to an excused absence, it must be made up within a week of when it was given, unless other arrangements are made. If it is not taken by that time, you will receive a zero for that quiz. Written evidence may be required. Quizzes missed due to unexcused absences may not be made up. There will be occasional pop quizzes/unannounced quizzes to help reinforce learning.

Class Participation: Regular and timely class participation in discussions and completion of work is expected of all students. If attendance or compliance with other course policies is unsatisfactory, the instructor may withdraw students from the class.

Withdrawal Policy: It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that his or her name is removed from the roll should he or she decide to withdraw from the class. The instructor does, however, reserve the right to drop a student should he or she feel it is necessary. If a student decides to withdraw, he or she should also verify that the withdrawal is submitted before the Final Withdrawal Date. The student is also strongly encouraged to retain their copy of the withdrawal form for their records. **April 24, 2023 is the final withdrawal date.**

Students are responsible for understanding the impact that withdrawal from a course may have on their financial aid, veterans' benefits, and international student status. Per state law, students enrolling for the first time in Fall 2007 or later at any public Texas college or university may not withdraw (receive a W) from more than six courses during their undergraduate college education. Some exemptions for good cause could allow a student to withdraw from a course without having it count toward this limit. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor when making decisions about course selection, course loads, and course withdrawals.

Incompletes: Due to the cohort nature of our program, a grade of incomplete will not be used.

COLLEGE POLICIES See Blackboard for link to college policies and student success resources

Course Outline / Calendar - Please note that schedule changes may occur during the semester. Any changes will be posted as a Blackboard Announcement.

Lecture Schedule:

Week	Lecture Subject	Readings
1	Triage, Shock, CPR	Battaglia Chapter 1, 13, 14, 15
1	Cardiovascular Emergencies, ECG	Battaglia Chapter 18 McCurnin Chapter 25
2	Respiratory Emergencies	Battaglia Chapter 19
3	Traumatic Emergencies	Battaglia Chapter 16
4	GI Emergencies	Battaglia Chapter 20
5	Exam 1	
6	Hematological Emergencies	Battaglia Chapter 17
7	Urinary Emergencies	Battaglia Chapter 22

Week	Lecture Subject	Readings
8	Metabolic and Endocrine Emergencies	Battaglia Chapter 21
9	Neurological Emergencies Emergency Review (Eye and Reproductive)	Battaglia Chapter 25 Battaglia Chapter 24, 23
10	Exam 2	
11	Toxicological Emergencies	Battaglia Chapter 26 McCurnin Chapter 26
12	Small Animal Nutrition	McCurnin Chapter 9
13	Small Animal Nutrition	McCurnin Chapter 9
14	Exam 3	
15	Animal Behavior, Oncology	McCurnin Chapter 5, 20
16	Final	

Lab Schedule:

Date	Week	Activities
1/17/2023	Week 1	Crash Cart Review, CPR Practice, Medical Math- CRIs
1/24/2023	Week 2	ECG, Medical Math-Dilutions, Dental Review
1/31/2023	Week 3	Dental/ Dental/ Clinical Skills
2/7/2023	Week 4	Dental/ Dental/ VT Clinic
2/14/2023	Week 5	Dental/ Dental/ Clinical Skills
2/21/2023	Week 6	Dental/ Dental/ Clinical Skills
2/28/2023	Week 7	Dental/ Dental/ VT Clinic
3/7/2023	Week 8	Dental/ Dental/ Clinical Skills
3/14/2023	Spring Break	
3/21/2023	Week 9	Demonstration of feeding tube, urinary catheter, and central line placement. Demo mechanical ventilator
3/28/2023	Week 10	Dental/ Dental/ VT Clinic
4/4/2023	Week 11	Dental/ Dental/ Clinical Skills
4/11/2023	Week 12	Dental/ Dental/ VT Clinic
4/20/2023	Week 13	Dental/ Dental/ Clinical Skills Thursday Lab
4/25/2023	Week 14	Final
5/2/2023	Week 15	VTNE Practice Exam – No Lab
5/9/2023	Week 16	No Lab

VTHT 2439- Vet Nursing Syllabus Acknowledgement

By signing below, I declare that I have received a copy of the course syllabus for VTHT 2439, Veterinary Nursing and have had a chance to review it and understand the contents of the syllabus. This is for the semester inclusive of the date below.

Student Signature

Date

Printed Name