

VT-2940: VETERINARY FIELD EXPERIENCE

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: VT-2940 : Veterinary Field Experience

Board of Trustees:

June 2022

Academic Term:

Fall 2024

Subject Code

VT - Veterinary Technology

Course Number:

2940

Title:

Veterinary Field Experience

Catalog Description:

Capstone course in Veterinary Technology. Clinical experience involving practice of techniques commonly used in veterinary medicine. Students assigned to two different types of veterinary facilities. Site options may include small animal practices, animal emergency clinics, referral practices, equine practices, mixed practices, food animal practices, laboratory animal facilities and the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo.

Credit Hour(s):

2

Lecture Hour(s):

0

Lab Hour(s):

0

Other Hour(s):

24

Other Hour Details:

Field experience: 24 hrs/week

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

VT-2860 Veterinary Practicum and Seminar II, and VT-2610 Veterinary Anesthesia, Analgesia, & Dental Techniques.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Perform the duties of a competent professional registered veterinary technician (RVT) in a variety of veterinary care facilities.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Critical/Creative Thinking: Analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information in order to consider problems/ideas and transform them in innovative or imaginative ways.

Objective(s):

1. Perform routine office procedures including patient admission, telephone inquiries, medical record keeping, estimation of fees, and payment of fees.
2. Apply communication techniques and establish good rapport with clients and staff.
3. Perform animal restraint techniques specific to the species encountered during the clinical field experience.

4. Label and package dispensed drugs correctly and communicate to clients (where applicable) the correct method of administering medications to their animals at home.
5. Administer medications correctly both orally and parenterally.
6. Perform the surgical and anesthesia associated duties of a veterinary technician.
7. Perform animal nursing procedures including administration of intravenous (IV) fluids and patient monitoring.
8. Perform bandaging and application/removal of casts and/or splints (completion of this objective is dependent on type of clinical site and clinic caseload).
9. Perform routine laboratory diagnostic procedures in accordance with the type of practice, practice caseload, and laboratory facilities available.
10. Use good radiographic technique including correct adjustment of the x-ray unit, care of the x-ray unit, preparation and positioning of the patient, exposure of the radiography, and processing of the x-ray film.
11. Apply safety measures at all times in all types of practices.
12. Describe management procedures present in different types of veterinary facilities.
13. Successfully become credentialed as a RVT in Ohio or in another state or province.
14. Evaluate one's strengths and weaknesses when considering a job in clinical practice versus an institutional career, such as research, government or zoological parks.
15. List at least three disaster possibilities for a clinical veterinary practice or animal-care facility in the area.
16. List at least two procedures that can mitigate or resolve disruption of business and animal care for each possible disaster situation.
17. Draft a contingency plan for a typical veterinary practice or animal-care facility.

Course Outcome(s):

Apply effective techniques for communication to establish rapport with a variety of clients and colleagues.

Objective(s):

1. Perform routine office procedures including patient admission, telephone inquiries, medical record keeping, estimation of fees, and payment of fees.
2. Apply communication techniques and establish good rapport with clients and staff.

Course Outcome(s):

Perform proper techniques for restraint and nursing care to provide optimum patient care in a variety of veterinary care facilities.

Objective(s):

1. Perform animal restraint techniques specific to the species encountered during the clinical field experience.
2. Label and package dispensed drugs correctly and communicate to clients (where applicable) the correct method of administering medications to their animals at home.
3. Administer medications correctly both orally and parenterally.
4. Perform the surgical and anesthesia associated duties of a veterinary technician.
5. Perform animal nursing procedures including administration of IV fluids and patient monitoring.
6. Perform bandaging and application/removal of casts and/or splints (completion of this objective is dependent on type of clinical site and clinic caseload).
7. Perform routine laboratory diagnostic procedures in accordance with the type of practice, practice caseload, and laboratory facilities available.

Course Outcome(s):

Evaluate the internship experience in terms of a working interview and use this information to determine the type of job experience best suits the individual's strengths and weaknesses.

Objective(s):

1. Evaluate one's strengths and weaknesses when considering a job in clinical practice versus an institutional career, such as research, government, or zoological parks.

Course Outcome(s):

Make correct clinical decisions regarding patient care in a number of clinical situations in a veterinary-care facilities.

Objective(s):

1. Perform animal restraint techniques specific to the species encountered during the clinical field experience.
2. Label and package dispensed drugs correctly and communicate to clients (where applicable) the correct method of administering medications to their animals at home.
3. Administer medications correctly both orally and parenterally.
4. Perform the surgical and anesthesia associated duties of a veterinary technician.
5. Perform animal nursing procedures including administration of IV fluids and patient monitoring.
6. Perform bandaging and application/removal of casts and/or splints (completion of this objective is dependent on type of clinical site and clinic caseload).
7. Perform routine laboratory diagnostic procedures in accordance with the type of practice, practice caseload, and laboratory facilities available.

Course Outcome(s):

Design and implement contingency or emergency plan for a typical veterinary practice or animal-care facility.

Objective(s):

1. List at least three disaster possibilities for a clinical veterinary practice or animal-care facility.
2. List at least two procedures that can mitigate or resolve disruption of business and animal care for each possible disaster situation.
3. Draft a contingency plan for a typical veterinary practice or animal-care facility.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Written clinical diaries which detail the major clinical experiences encountered each day
2. Participation in seminars and internships
3. Contingency plan and other written assignments
4. Clinical instructor evaluation including
 - a. Evidence of cooperation with existing staff
 - b. Participation as required in hospital procedures
 - c. Theoretical knowledge
 - d. Psychomotor skill evaluation
 - e. Overall assessment of task competency

Course Content Outline:

1. Office procedures
 - a. Telephone communications
 - b. Admissions procedures
 - c. Medical records
 - d. Client rapport techniques (where applicable)
2. Outpatient examination procedures and techniques (where applicable)
 - a. Restraint techniques
 - b. Physical examination
 - c. Administration of medications
 - d. Explanation of procedures to clients
 - e. "To go home" instructions
 - f. Teaching clients how to perform required "at home" procedures
3. Pharmacy duties
 - a. Labeling and packaging of prescriptions
 - b. Inventory control procedures
 - c. Pharmacy logs and record keeping
4. Treatment and laboratory technician duties
 - a. Specimen collection and identification
 - b. Preparation of specimens for shipment
 - c. General nursing care procedures
 - d. Non-laboratory diagnostic tests (e.g., EKG)

- e. Patient preparation for surgery (where applicable)
- f. Administration of pre-anesthetic agents
- g. Surgical instrument pack preparation
- h. Maintenance of diagnostic equipment
- i. Wound care and bandaging
- j. Laboratory diagnostic tests (facility and caseload dependent)
 - i. complete blood count
 - ii. packed cell volume/total protein determination
 - iii. serum chemistry tests
 - iv. fecal examinations
 - v. tests for external parasite identification
 - vi. fungal culture and identification
 - vii. bacterial culture and sensitivity testing
 - viii. cytology
 - ix. urinalysis
- 5. Surgical technician duties
 - a. Preparing room for surgery and anesthetic induction
 - b. IV anesthetic induction
 - c. Intubation of patient
 - d. Administration and monitoring of general anesthesia
 - e. Performing as a circulating nurse
 - f. Performing as a surgical assistant
 - g. Monitoring patient recovery
- 6. Animal husbandry
 - a. Counseling owners about animal nutrition
 - b. Counseling owners about animal behavior
 - c. Food preparation
 - d. Prescription diets
 - e. Basic grooming and animal care
- 7. Emergency procedures (caseload dependent)
 - a. Assisting with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)
 - b. Preparing drugs for emergency administration
 - c. EKG monitoring
 - d. Maintenance of the "crash cart"
 - e. Respirators
 - f. Communicating with owners during an emergency situation
- 8. Euthanasia, necropsy, carcass disposal (caseload dependent)
 - a. Necropsy
 - b. Carcass disposal (caseload dependent)
- 9. Radiologic technician
 - a. Care for x-ray unit, cassettes, film, processor, and other equipment
 - b. Positioning patient correctly for radiography
 - c. Correct x-ray unit settings
 - d. Exposure of the film
 - e. Film processing and identification
 - f. Assessment of diagnostic quality
 - g. Practicing safety procedures
- 10. Miscellaneous
 - a. Maintaining adequate supplies in a mobile unit (if applicable) and in user areas of the hospital
 - b. Practicing professionalism
 - c. Appreciating and complying with the rules/regulations as required by the
 - i. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
 - ii. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)
 - iii. pharmacy board
 - iv. Ohio Veterinary Medical Licensing Board (OVMLB)
 - d. Veterinary technician as a team member
 - e. Contingency (disaster) plans for patient care and resumption of business

Resources

Bassett, Joanna, et al., editors. *McCurnin's Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians and Nurses*. 10th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier, 2022.

American Red Cross. *Cat First Aid*. Yardley, PA: Stay Well, 2008.

American Red Cross. *Dog First Aid*. Yardley, PA: Stay Well, 2008.

Opperman, Mark, et al. *The Art of Veterinary Practice Management*. 2nd ed. Lenexa, KS: Advanstar, 2014.

"JAVMA"

"Veterinary Economics"

Aiello, Susan E., and Michael A. Moses, editors. *The Merck Veterinary Manual*. 11th ed. Merck & Co., 2016.

Tighe, Monica, and Marg Brown, editors. *Mosby's Comprehensive Review for Veterinary Technicians*. 5th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier, 2020.

Prendergast, Heather. *Review Questions and Answers for Veterinary Technicians*. 6th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier, 2022.

Resources Other

ASPCA. <https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness> (<https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness/>)

American Veterinary Medical Association. <http://www.avma.org>. 2024.

The Humane Society of the United States. <http://hsus.org>. 2024.

On the floor at Dove: <https://go.atdove.org/>. 2024.

Preparing for the VTNE. <http://www.VetTechPrep.com>

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