



EFFECTIVE: SEPTEMBER 2008

CURRICULUM GUIDELINES

A. Division: **Education** Effective Date: September, 2008

B. Department / **Science & Technology** Revision ☐ New Course ☒

Program Area: **Animal Health Technology**

If Revision, Section(s)
Revised:
Date of Previous Revision:
Date of Current Revision:

C: AHTT 2304 **D: Veterinary Surgical Assistance** **E: 3**

Subject & Course No.	Descriptive Title	Semester Credits
F: Calendar Description: This course will detail aseptic technique; review routine upkeep of surgical areas, packs and equipment; preparation of animal and surgical sites, anticipation of surgeon's needs, and monitoring surgical patients. The technologist's role in assisting in actual and simulated surgeries will be emphasized in addition to post-surgical care and client counselling. Enrolment is limited to students in the Animal Health Technology Program.		
G: Allocation of Contact Hours to Type of Instruction / Learning Settings Primary Methods of Instructional Delivery and/or Learning Settings: Lecture / Laboratory Workplace Lab Instruction (WLI) Number of Contact Hours: (per week / semester for each descriptor) 4 - 5 hours/week 6 weeks: 3 hours lecture / 2 hours lab 6 weeks: 4 hours WLI in Veterinary Clinics 3 weeks: practicum / internship Number of Weeks per Semester: 15 weeks	H: Course Prerequisites: Successful completion of the first year of the AHT program.	
	I: Course Corequisites: None	
	J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite None	
	K: Maximum Class Size: 30	
L: PLEASE INDICATE: <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Credit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> College Credit Non-Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> College Credit Transfer: </div> <p>SEE BC TRANSFER GUIDE FOR TRANSFER DETAILS (www.bctransferguide.ca)</p>		

M: Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Understand the principles of aseptic technique including methods of sterilization.
2. Perform proper pre-operative surgical suite, personnel and patient preparation.
3. Differentiate individual general surgery instruments, as well as specialized equipment.
4. Undertake the care and handling of instruments and equipment requiring disinfection and sterilization.
5. Understand the role of the animal health technician in surgical assistance.
6. Recognize proper patient and tissue handling and care.
7. Describe qualities of suture materials and nomenclature.
8. Accept responsibility for patient recovery and care.
9. Understand the principles of wound healing, proper closure and methods of wound care.
10. Perform proper wound management and bandaging in small and large animals.

N: Course Content

The major topics in the course include the following:

1. Aseptic technique
 - principles of techniques to reduce rates of infection and contamination
 - differentiation between disinfection and sterilization
 - physical and chemical methods of sterilization
2. Surgical instrumentation and equipment
 - general surgery instruments
 - specialty surgery instruments including ophthalmic, orthopaedic, and arthroscopic
 - care and maintenance of instrument packs, surgical drapes and gowns
 - understand the methodology of preparing histological sections, including techniques for fixation and sample submission
3. Surgical assistance
 - preparation of the surgical suite and personnel, as well the patient pre-operatively
 - proper positioning of the patient
 - maintenance of sterility in the operating room
 - surgical assistance with specific surgical procedures
5. Suture material
 - qualities of suture material, needles and alternate closure techniques
6. Wound healing and management
 - host factors, wound characteristics and external factors influencing wound healing
 - classification of wounds and healing patterns
 - wound lavage, debridement and methods of closure
 - wound management in small and large animals with emphasis on the equine
7. Bandaging
 - proper bandaging techniques and types of bandages
 - bandaging and casting techniques in small and large animals with emphasis on the equine
 - care and maintenance of casts, bandages, splints and slings

O: Methods of Instruction

This course involves three hours per week of classroom instruction and two hours per week of laboratory activity for six weeks. In addition, students will spend four hours per week for six weeks in Workplace Lab Instruction in small and large animal veterinary clinics to develop workplace practical skills. Finally, a three week practicum will allow students individual internship experience.

P: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students

McCurnin, D.M. & Bassert, J.M. 2006, *Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians*. Elsevier, 6th ed.

TBA

Q: Means of Assessment**TYPE OF EVALUATION****PERCENTAGE (total 100%)**

Quizzes	15-40%
Laboratory Assignments & Projects	20-40
Preparation, Participation & Attendance	10
Final Examination	20-40

Grades: A+ 95-100, A 90-94, A- 85-89, B+ 80-84, B 75-79, B- 70-74,

C+ 65-69, C 60-64, C- 55-59, P 50-54, F 0-49.

R: Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition: specify whether course is open for PLAR

No

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Course Designer(s)

Education Council / Curriculum Committee Representative

Dr. Sandy Vanderburgh

Dean / Director

Registrar