

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

VET 104 BASIC CLINICAL SKILLS AND NURSING

Credit Hours: 3 Lec: 2 Lab: 3

PREREQUISITE:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Development of veterinary assisting knowledge and skills in client communication, patient nursing, examination room procedures, pharmacy procedures, laboratory techniques, surgical assisting, and patient care utilized in veterinary practice. Emphasis is placed on patient assessment, medical documentation, specimen handling, professionalism, and hands-on clinical applications in the veterinary setting.

1. COURSE GOAL

Prepare students to perform foundational veterinary assisting procedures in client communication, patient nursing, pharmacy procedures, laboratory procedures, surgical preparation, patient care, and basic body system identification utilized in veterinary practice under appropriate supervision.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication skills utilized in veterinary practice, including matching tone to the room or situation
- 2.2 Demonstrate effective written and electronic communication utilized in veterinary practice, including matching technology to content
- 2.3 Translate medical terminology into client-friendly language as part of professional client communication and client education
- 2.4 Explain the value of recommended procedures using appropriate client communication techniques
- 2.5 Recognize DEA standards involving controlled and non-controlled substances, including proper medication handling, storage, and inventory control
- 2.6 Compare and contrast types and groups of medications using proper veterinary prescription terminology and abbreviations
- 2.7 Differentiate between prescription medications and over-the-counter medications
- 2.8 Demonstrate prescription labeling requirements including expiration dates, medication instructions, and required documentation
- 2.9 Reconstitute vaccines and/or medications according to protocol
- 2.10 Describe possible routes of medication and/or vaccine administration
- 2.11 Prepare a prescription based on the veterinarian's orders
- 2.12 Communicate prescription instructions using professional client communication procedures
- 2.13 Determine and record temperature, pulse, respiration, mucous membrane color, capillary refill time, body condition score, weight, and patient history
- 2.14 Identify the differences between internal and external expression of the anal gland
- 2.15 Perform exam room grooming

- 2.16 Explain small animal nutritional requirements, pet food labeling standards, dry matter basis calculations, and differences between pet food products as part of client education
- 2.17 Apply medication using the eye or ear route
- 2.18 Perform routine recordkeeping and observation of hospitalized patients
- 2.19 Prepare supplies needed for fluid therapy
- 2.20 Administer oral medications, liquid and pills, for canines and felines
- 2.21 Perform IV catheter removal
- 2.22 Perform pressure bandage application and removal
- 2.23 Compare and contrast bandage types and materials used for each
- 2.24 Prepare food and prescription diets according to special dietary needs
- 2.25 Provide care and maintenance of medical equipment and supplies utilized for hospitalized patient care
- 2.26 Explain basic husbandry for birds, rabbits, pocket pets, reptiles, and other exotics
- 2.27 Recognize abnormal patient health status using knowledge of major animal body systems and patient assessment findings
- 2.28 Recognize and respond appropriately to common veterinary medical emergencies by notifying appropriate hospital personnel
- 2.29 Explain the process of euthanasia and postmortem care
- 2.30 Demonstrate appropriate procedure for disposal of deceased animals
- 2.31 Prepare surgical equipment and supplies based on surgical procedure and veterinarian preferences
- 2.32 Sterilize instruments and sanitize supplies
- 2.33 Identify different sterilization techniques
- 2.34 Operate and maintain autoclaves
- 2.35 Identify common surgical instruments
- 2.36 Identify common suture materials, types, and sizes
- 2.37 Assist the veterinarian and/or veterinary technician with the preparation of patients using aseptic techniques
- 2.38 Assist in positioning surgical patients
- 2.39 Aid the veterinarian and/or veterinary technician with physical monitoring of recovering surgical patients
- 2.40 Maintain the surgical log in accordance with standards of practice
- 2.41 Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis
- 2.42 Perform post-surgical cleanup using hazardous waste procedures
- 2.43 Fold and wrap surgical gowns, drapes, and packs
- 2.44 Collect voided urine and fecal samples utilizing proper safety, handling, and documentation procedures
- 2.45 Determine physical properties of urine including color and clarity
- 2.46 Prepare supplies for blood draw
- 2.47 Compare and contrast common blood tubes used in veterinary medicine
- 2.48 Collect voided fecal samples for examination
- 2.49 Prepare fecal flotation solutions and set up fecal flotations and direct smears
- 2.50 Describe necropsy procedures
- 2.51 Recognize clinical signs of suspected rabies cases and notify correct personnel
- 2.52 Explain procedures for handling rabies samples safely
- 2.53 Identify external parasites
- 2.54 Assist in the preparation of various specimen staining techniques
- 2.55 Compare and contrast preparation procedures of in-house lab versus reference lab sample submission
- 2.56 Confirm that laboratory results are accurately recorded

3. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- 3.1 Lecture
- 3.2 Multi-media Presentations
- 3.3 Group Discussions
- 3.4 Classroom Demonstrations
- 3.5 Laboratory Demonstrations
- 3.6 Supervised Laboratory Experiences

4. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 4.1 Group Discussions
- 4.2 Oral Presentations
- 4.3 Classroom Demonstrations
- 4.4 Laboratory Practice
- 4.5 Client Communication Activities
- 4.6 Written Assignments

5. EVALUATION

- 5.1 Quizzes/Exams
- 5.2 Assignments
- 5.3 Participation
- 5.4 Oral Presentations
- 5.5 Practical Skill Check-Offs

6. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 6.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 6.2 Classroom Assignments: Students are responsible for work missed and for completing all work before the next class meeting. Students are responsible for participating in all oral drills and for taking all exams.
- 6.3 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 6.4 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 6.5 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 6.6 Textbooks and materials: Students are required to bring notebook or looseleaf book, pens, pencils, dictionaries, and purchase textbook required for class.

6.7 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for "No Show" reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.

Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a "No Show" (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of "NS" on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.

For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):

- Submitting an academic assignment
- Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
- Attending a study group that is assigned by the school
- Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
- Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course