

APAV 50A: CURRENT TOPICS IN VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY I

Foothill College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Units:	1
Hours:	12 lecture per quarter (12 total per quarter)
Prerequisite:	Per California Code of Regulations, this course is limited to students admitted to the Advanced Veterinary Assisting Apprenticeship Program.
Degree & Credit Status:	Degree-Applicable Credit Course
Foothill GE:	Non-GE
Transferable:	CSU
Grade Type:	Letter Grade Only
Repeatability:	Not Repeatable

Description

This course is the first in a series of three courses that orient the advanced veterinary assisting apprentice to the workplace. Different aspects of the veterinary health care team will be discussed, as well as the various roles available in the organization. Different departments will present their interests, core values, and structure for integrating veterinary assistants into the team. Students will develop an appreciation of the broad scope of careers within the field. An acculturation process of the student to the facility begins in this course.

Course Objectives

The student will be able to:

- Investigate a variety of pertinent topics that directly relate to successful socialization to the workplace.
- Explain the role of each member of the veterinary health care team.
- Evaluate how the information presented may help them broaden their scope of practice as a veterinary nurse.
- Describe the role of humane education in promoting animal welfare.
- Predict how the philosophy of volunteering can be used to create and support effective volunteer services in a large humane organization.
- Examine how dogs and cats learn and apply learning theory to behavior and training.
- Describe the rationale for and effectiveness of animal assisted therapy.
- Explain the role of veterinary professionals in community outreach for targeted populations and homeless animals.

Course Content

- Various departments present their role within the workplace
 - Department presentations
 - Volunteer Services
- Veterinary health care team
 - Receptionist
 - Animal care attendant
 - Veterinary assistants, levels
 - Veterinary technicians (RVT)

- Veterinarian (DVM, VMD)
- Practice of veterinary nursing
 - Self care for the veterinary nurse
- The role of humane education in promoting animal welfare
 - Humane education
 - Animal welfare
 - Advocacy
 - Adoptions philosophy
- Volunteer services
 - Philosophy of volunteering
 - Working with volunteers
- Learning theory
 - Behavior and training
 - Different approaches to behavior and training
 - Training demo: enrichment and/or body language
- Animal assisted therapy
 - Definitions and examples
 - History of animal assisted therapy – supporting research
 - Current programs in animal assisted therapy
- Community outreach
 - Role of neutering in managing overpopulation of dogs and cats
 - Vaccine clinics
 - Feral Cat Program
 - Other opportunities

Lab Content

Not applicable.

Special Facilities and/or Equipment

Classroom equipped with multimedia presentation and projection capabilities. Computers with Internet access.

Method(s) of Evaluation

Evaluation methods may include but are not limited to:

- Reflection essays
- Participation in planned activities
- Writing a journal
- Group discussions
- Surveys or tests

Method(s) of Instruction

During periods of instruction the student will be:

- Participating in interactive lectures and presentations
- Attending small group discussions and activities
- Performing hands-on experiences as appropriate for individual topics

Representative Text(s) and Other Materials

No required textbook. Instructor and presenter materials.

Types and/or Examples of Required Reading, Writing, and Outside of Class Assignments

- Handout material and online resources will be provided by the instructor and/or guest presenters, as needed
- Reflection papers

C. Written assignments

Discipline(s)

Registered Veterinary Technician