

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
CANTON, NEW YORK**



COURSE OUTLINE

VAST 105 – Veterinary Assisting

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**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
Veterinary Science Technology
May 2016**

VAST 105– Veterinary Assisting

- A. **TITLE:** Veterinary Assisting
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** VAST 105
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 1
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:**
3 hours of laboratory per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
This course provides students with an understanding of the roles of all members of the veterinary health care team and the knowledge and skills necessary to assist veterinarians and veterinary technicians in the practice of their professions. It instructs students in proper basic care and husbandry of animals, as well as the monitoring of general animal health indicators. It emphasizes the proper handling and restraint of animals for examinations and medical procedures. Care of veterinary supplies, equipment, and facilities is also covered, with an emphasis on meticulous disinfection, sterilization, and infection control measures.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-COURSES:** None
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**
By the end of this course, the student will:

<u>Course Objective</u>	<u>Institutional SLO</u>
a. Communicate effectively to members of a veterinary facility as well as with veterinary clients.	1. Communication 3. Prof. Competence 4. Inter-Intrapersonal Skills
b. Manage care and provide routine husbandry for animals housed in a veterinary facility.	3. Prof. Competence
c. Perform certain job appropriate tasks as a part of a physical examination and/or a laboratory analysis.	3. Prof. Competence
d. Maintain the cleanliness and orderliness of a veterinary facility and related supplies and equipment.	3. Prof. Competence
e. Recognize and respond appropriately to veterinary emergencies.	1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking 4. Inter-Intrapersonal Skills

- K. **TEXTS:** Veterinary Assisting Laboratory Manual

L. **REFERENCES:** N/A

M. **EQUIPMENT:**

- A white laboratory coat or appropriate scrub uniform and nametag will be worn during all laboratory sessions.
- Closed-toed shoes (no sandals or crocks) must be worn in the laboratory

N. **GRADING METHOD:** A-F

O. **MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHOD:**

Quizzes

Exams

Participation

Oral Presentations

Clinical Competency *

*Students must achieve a passing grade on the clinical examination in order to pass the course.

P. **LABORATORY OUTLINE:**

1. Facility and kennel care:
 - a. Maintain basic cleanliness and orderliness of a veterinary facility
 - b. Sanitize and clean patient housing areas and exam tables
 - c. Communications in a veterinary facility
2. Animal and breed identification:
 - a. Discuss temporary and permanent methods of animal identification
 - b. Identify common dog and cat breeds
3. Animal handling and restraint:
 - a. Safely remove dogs and cats from cages and return them to cages
 - b. Safely restrain dogs and cats for examinations and procedures
 - c. Safely restrain dogs and cats for venipuncture from various sites
4. Basic animal assessment:
 - a. Recognize signs of illness or distress in hospitalized patients
 - b. Identify common external parasites (Fleas, ticks, mites, lice)
 - c. Recognize and respond appropriately to veterinary medical emergencies by notifying appropriate hospital personnel
 - d. Measure and record weight, temperature, heart rate, and respiratory rate of animals
5. Basic animal care procedures:
 - a. Bathe, dip, and groom animals
 - b. Perform pedicures
 - c. Clean external ear canals of animals
 - d. Express anal sacs using the external method
 - e. Administer oral medications to animals
6. Pharmacology and routes of medication administration:
 - a. Recognize general types and groups of veterinary drugs
 - b. Package and label dispensed drugs
 - c. Reconstitute vaccines
 - d. Describe possible routes and methods of drug and vaccine administration

7. Surgical assisting:
 - a. Prepare surgical instrument and supply packs
 - b. Prepare gowns, masks, gloves and drapes for surgical use
 - c. Assist in the preparation of patients for surgery
 - d. Provide instruments and supplies during the course of surgery
 - e. Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis
 - f. Assist in the monitoring of patients recovering from surgery
 - g. Perform post-surgical clean-up and properly dispose of medical waste
 - h. Sterilize instruments and supplies using an autoclave

8. Diagnostic sample collection and handling:
 - a. Properly collect voided urine samples
 - b. Properly collect voided fecal samples
 - c. Prepare fecal flotation solutions and set up fecal flotations
 - d. Explain the proper handling of rabies suspects and samples

9. Assisting with radiography:
 - a. Assist in the positioning of animals for radiographs
 - b. Assist in the processing of radiographs