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

COURSE OUTLINE

VSCT 102 – COMPANION ANIMAL BEHAVIOR

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SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, HEALTH AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
VETERINARY SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY
MAY 2015

A.   **TITLE**:   Companion Animal Behavior

B.   **COURSE NUMBER: VSCT 102**

C.   **CREDIT HOURS:** 2

D.   **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE**: No

E.   **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks

F.   **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Spring

G.   **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:**
     2 lecture hours per week

H.   **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**
     This course is designed to help veterinary technicians gain insight and understanding into normal animal behavior. Emphasis is on analyzing problem behavior, preventative counseling, taking a behavioral history and client education of common canine and feline behavioral problems. In addition, avian and equine behavioral issues will also be discussed.

I.   **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**
     a. Pre-requisite(s): VSCT 203 Small Animal Medicine and Therapeutic Techniques and VSCT 204 Large Animal Medicine and Therapeutic Techniques.
     b. Co-requisite(s): none

J.   **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**
     By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

Course Objective	*Institutional SLO*
a. Describe aspects of normal social behavior and identify socialization periods	**3. Prof. Competence**
b. List and describe the most common behavioral complaints of companion animals, exotic animals and horses.	**3. Prof. Competence**
c. Describe methods of behavioral assessment in animals.	**1. Communication** **2. Crit. Thinking** **3. Prof. Competence**
d. Identify and explain treatment options, including behavior modification techniques and drug therapy.	**1. Communication** **2. Crit. Thinking** **3. Prof. Competence**
e. Explain the role of the veterinary technician in behavior modification services.	**1. Communication** **2.Crit. Thinking** **3. Prof. Competence**

K. <u>**TEXTS:**</u> Workbook: Companion Animal Behavior Note Packet

L. <u>**REFERENCES:**</u> none

M. <u>**EQUIPMENT:**</u> none

N. <u>**GRADING METHOD:**</u> A-F

O. <u>**MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**</u>
Exams

P. <u>**DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE:**</u>

    I.   Introduction and the importance of behavioral study in veterinary practice.
           A.   Veterinary hospitals and animal behavior
           B.   Staff interaction
    II.   Normal Canine Behavior
           A.   Domestication
           B.   Senses and Normal Behaviors
           C.   Canine Genetics
           D.   Proactive Behavior Assessment
    III.   Canine Behavior Problems and modifications
           A.   Aggression
           B.   Elimination
           C.   Destructive
           D.   Separation Anxiety
           E.   Phobias
           F.   Compulsive Behavior
           G.   Introducing new pets to households
    IV.   Pharmacology and drugs used in behavior modification
    V.   Temperament Testing
    VI.   Normal Feline Behavior
           A.   Domestication
           B.   Senses and Normal Behaviors
    VII.   Feline Behavioral Problems
           A.   Aggression
           B.   House Soiling
    VIII. Normal Equine Behaviors
    IX.   Equine Behavioral Problems
           A.   Vices
           B.   Foal Rejection
           C.   Aggression
           D.   Phobias
           E.   Imprinting
    X.   Behavior problems in avian patients
    XI.   Behavior Modification Services & the Technicians Role

Q. <u>**LABORATORY OUTLINE: NA**</u>