



Veterinary Science
Technology

Program Handbook
&
Essential Tasks

Fall 2012



Mission Statement

The Veterinary Science Technology program at SUNY Canton provides qualified students with the education and skills necessary to obtain licensure and seek employment as a veterinary technician.

Vision Statement

The Veterinary Science Technology program at SUNY Canton provides students with:

- the skills and abilities to meet the demands and challenges of veterinary medicine;
- the professionalism to address ethical concerns and issues; and
- the tools to pursue a life-long path of professional growth and learning.

Most importantly, SUNY Canton strives to deepen respect and compassion for all animals, people, and society.

Veterinary Science Technology

Welcome to the Veterinary Science Technology program at the State University of New York College at Canton. The program is fully accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association. This handbook has been developed to familiarize you with materials pertinent to the program and the profession. Please read this handbook carefully and address any questions to your freshmen advisor or the Program Director. In addition, please familiarize yourself with the Student Handbook and SUNY Canton's college catalog.

Employment opportunities are excellent for licensed veterinary technicians as there is a statewide and nation-wide shortage. We hope that your desire to work with animals leads you to a rewarding career. Good luck with your work here in veterinary science and remember that the program's faculty and staff are always available to assist you in all your academic and professional endeavors.

Terminology

Veterinarian: A person with the degree Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM or VMD). In the USA, all veterinary colleges take four years of full time professional study to complete the DVM degree. This follows four years of a pre-veterinary program in which the student is awarded a Bachelors degree.

Veterinary Technologist: A person who has graduated from a four year AVMA accredited college program in veterinary technology may be designated as a veterinary technologist.

Veterinary Technician: A person who has graduated from a two or four year AVMA accredited college program in veterinary technology. In New York, only persons licensed by the state may call themselves veterinary technicians (LVT). The curriculum for veterinary technology is very applied and designed to educate veterinary technicians. It is NOT a pre-vet program.

Veterinary Assistant/ Animal Care Assistant: or other terms are those terms for members of the health care team with less formal education than a technician.

Veterinary Science Technology at SUNY Canton

Our college was originally founded in 1906. In 1971, Dr. Edwin B. Smith developed the Veterinary Science Technology program and the campus officially endorsed the program in 1972. The program was certified in 1975 by the State Education Department. The first class in Veterinary Science Technology was admitted in September 1975 and graduated in May 1977. The program was accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association in 1979 and has been fully accredited since that time. It is one of the oldest, fully accredited programs of veterinary technology in New York State.

Graduates of the Veterinary Technology program receive an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. Because we are an accredited program, our graduates are eligible to take the Veterinary Technology National Licensing Exam. Upon successful completion of this exam they are able to request licensure from the State of New York Department of Education.

Student Standards

Accountability: Each Canton veterinary science student is expected to act professionally and be accountable for his/her own action(s). You are expected to attend class. If you miss a class meeting for any reason (excused or unexcused) you will be held responsible for all material covered and announcements made in class.

Professional Behavior: Students are expected to exhibit professional conduct in all academic endeavors, interactions, and experiences. Veterinary Technology is a licensed profession requiring a high standard of behavior. Professionals are invested with trust by the community, therefore, we are bound by legal, ethical and moral obligations in addition to those common to every other member of society. Veterinary Technicians not only represent their animal hospital to the clients who in turn trust them to care for their pets, but they are allowed to have access to drugs, needles, syringes and supplies illegal for non-licensed personnel.

Therefore:

1. Knowledge of and adherence to a professional standard of behavior is an integral part of the Veterinary Technology curriculum.
2. The program requires that all students act professionally at all times. Condoning unprofessional behavior by others is also a violation of ethical conduct.
3. College policies on academic integrity are strictly enforced and violations of professional standards may result in penalties ranging from a failing grade to expulsion from the program. Violations include, but are not limited to cheating, plagiarism, theft or aggressive words or actions.
4. Destruction of equipment, misuse of supplies and poor or inhumane treatment of animals may result in dismissal from the program. Students **may not** initiate any treatment or procedure to any animal without authorization of a veterinarian.

Absence Policy:

There is a high correlation between attendance of regularly scheduled classes and laboratory sessions and successful academic achievement. Please attend all scheduled classes, if for some reason you cannot, please contact your instructor. Specific attendance policies for courses can be found in the course syllabus distributed by the instructor at the first class meeting. Attendance Policies are **strictly** enforced in Veterinary Science courses.

Arriving late for class and/or leaving early is inconsiderate of your instructors and colleagues.

Please be on time and remain for the entire period.

Cell phones must be turned off during lectures and laboratories unless authorized in advance by the instructor.

Grading

Grade distribution for Veterinary Science courses is noted in all course syllabi.

Missed Quiz or Exam Policy

If you miss a quiz or exam, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor of the course within 24 hours of the day of the missed quiz or exam, or if you are unable to do so yourself, designate someone else to do so. Contact information for your instructors (office addresses, emails and telephone numbers) may be found in your course syllabus. Excuses that represent a failure on your part, such as oversleeping, forgetting there was a quiz, etc., will not be accepted.

Failure to contact the instructor within 24 hours of the day of the missed quiz or exam will result in a grade of zero for that quiz or exam unless you obtain an official excuse from the Dean of Students. Such excuses are issued only for family emergencies, illnesses, or deaths for which you have provided documentation to the Dean of Students.

If your absence is excused by either the instructor or the Dean of Students, arrangements for a make-up exercise will be made.

Student Accident/ Illness/ Injury:

Students who are injured during class or laboratory must notify their instructor immediately and a college Accident Report should be completed. Depending on the nature of the injury, the student will be referred to the college health center, the emergency department or the student's health care provider.

Animal Handling: all animals are capable of inflicting personal injuries if improperly handled or restrained. If you are not familiar with proper restraint techniques, please ask for assistance with an animal. If an animal appears outwardly aggressive or unruly, contact a faculty or staff member, **do not attempt to handle the animal yourself.**

Universal Precautions: Students are instructed in taking universal precautions to avoid exposure to any blood or body fluid.

The pre-exposure rabies vaccination series is not required for veterinary technology students, *but it is strongly encouraged*. If you do elect to be vaccinated, it is recommended that the series is completed prior to your performing the mandatory preceptorship during the senior year. You should contact your health care provider for further information.

Potential Risks to Students:

The potential for injury always exists in the practice of veterinary medicine. While instructors emphasize safety throughout the Veterinary Technology education, there are certain risks associated with laboratory and clinical course training which cannot be completely mitigated. As a veterinary technology student, you will be participating in laboratory and clinical settings which may put you at risk of exposure to potentially harmful or dangerous environmental elements and physical situations.

Examples of the risks and areas of concern include:

1. Anesthetics (gas inhalation and skin absorption)
2. Handling of certain drugs and chemicals; for example:
 - a. pesticides, insecticides
 - b. disinfectants
 - c. broad range of drug compounds
 - d. hormonal agents
3. Exposure to radiological procedures
4. Handling of animal feces for diagnostic testing and kennel caretaking due to parasites and disease. (Toxoplasmosis, *Toxacara* larvae)
5. Heavy lifting and handling of cooperative or uncooperative animals
6. Working with livestock and their specific restraint devices (chutes & gates)
7. Potential contact with sick or diseased animals and exposure to animal disease that may be transmitted without direct contact

If you have concern about these potential risks, share this list with your physician. Students with disabilities who want to request a reasonable accommodation should contact our Accommodative Services Office as soon as possible to make arrangements. The Accommodative Services Office is located at Campus Center room 233; phone: 315-386-7392.

Pregnancy Policy:

The risks listed above also pose potential harm to an unborn fetus. Students who are pregnant or plan to become pregnant are urged to contact a physician immediately to discuss the risks and hazards of participating in the Veterinary Technology program while pregnant and to provide this sheet to the physician to facilitate an informed discussion. Each student should use her own judgment about participating in any assigned task and should bring to the attention of the participating instructor any task or duty which she is not able to complete because of the pregnancy. While all students are expected to complete each and every skill requirement of their scheduled degree plan, a student who is pregnant may elect to refrain from continuing in the Veterinary Technology program, arrange to withdraw from courses and re-enroll within one calendar year.

Expectations

Communication:

Veterinary technicians are responsible for conveying information to clinicians and other veterinary staff members. They are also responsible for much of the client education that goes on in a veterinary hospital. For these reasons, students will be expected to understand and speak English and interact and communicate in a professional and appropriate manner with others.

Veterinary technicians are responsible for keeping daily logs and medical records. Students are expected to be proficient in reading English and writing it legibly. They must be able to receive and issue instructions concerning the care of patients without the risk of misunderstanding. They must also have good observation skills and be able to perform accurate calculations.

Physical:

A veterinary technician requires good manual and physical dexterity and excellent hand-eye coordination. Students admitted to veterinary science must be able to ambulate and function in a safe manner. Students must be able to handle and perform laboratory exercises (including therapeutics and restraint) on dogs, cats, horses, cattle, sheep, goats and laboratory rodents and rabbits.

Motor skills such as lifting, bathing, positioning and transporting animals are required. They must be physically capable of lifting, carrying loads up to 50 lbs. Students should be able to move freely to observe access and perform patient care in emergency and non-emergency situations. They should be able to sit, bend, walk and stand for most of the work day and have unrestricted movement of limbs.

Veterinary technicians must have functional use of senses to safely and correctly assess patients and interpret and record data. Students must be able to detect changes in skin and mucus membrane color. They must be able to use a compound microscope to identify cells and organisms and be able to differentiate colors of stained objects. They must be able to detect sounds related to patient movement, sounds ausculted via a stethoscope and sounds associated with patient monitoring devices.

Manual dexterity and fine motor skills are also necessary. Students will be expected to handle surgical instruments in a sterile setting as well as perform injections, venipuncture and catheter placement on a variety of animals. Students must be able to perform these tasks without risk of injury to themselves, colleagues, or the patient.

The veterinary science faculty encourages any student eligible to receive accommodation due to special needs to make arrangements with the college accommodative service office.

Dress: Veterinary technology laboratory sessions require both men and women to wear either a white lab coat or surgical scrub top during VSCT labs over their clothes. Non-skid shoes are recommended. Open toe shoes, sandals or crocs are prohibited in animal labs. A watch with a second hand is required for labs involving physical exams.

Attire for large animal labs will be addressed in that class.

Freshman Year Community Service Requirement:

Students are required to complete **ten hours** of animal-related community service work during the freshman year in Veterinary Science Technology. Community service includes volunteer work for a **not-for-profit** organization or public entity or in an educational setting, but **not** paid work or work in a veterinary clinic or any other business setting. (You will be required to gain experience in a veterinary clinic during your senior preceptorship.) Completion of this requirement will be acknowledged in association with your completion of VSCT 115, Fundamental Veterinary Nursing Skills II.

Student Animals:

No privately owned animals are allowed in the building unless prior permission has been granted by the staff. There are no exceptions to this.

Only veterinary science technology students are allowed in the animal care (kennel) area. First-year students are only allowed there under the supervision of faculty, staff or second-year students.

VTA:

The Veterinary Technician Association is a student club. It has regularly scheduled meetings during the academic year. Club activities include guest speakers on various topics, community service projects and field trips. All veterinary science students are welcome and encouraged to join.

Senior Year Notes:

A mandatory 120-hour preceptorship is required during the winter recess of your senior year (between your third and fourth semester). The faculty of the Veterinary Science Department will help you find a suitable site for this experience. Arrangements for this are usually at the beginning of the third semester.

During the fourth semester it will be necessary to apply for the national licensing exam and for state registration. Historically the fees for both of these are between \$450 and \$500. Historically both fees are due by April 1 of the year you graduate.

During **each semester** of the senior year, students are required to perform **(2) 1-week** animal care rotations. Students are assigned to an animal care group and are required to provide general care (i.e., feed, walk, and clean) to the kennel animals. Morning duties are performed between **7:00 and 8:00am**; and evening duties are performed between **4:00 and 5:00pm**. ***This is a seven-day rotation that includes weekends.*** For more details on the responsibilities and duties of animal care, please refer to the attached sample kennel contract.

Curriculum:

On the following page is the Veterinary Science Technology curriculum check sheet. This sheet lists all the required courses in the curriculum; you must successfully complete all of these in order to graduate from the program. You may want to use this sheet to make sure you register for the proper courses each semester.



State University of New York College at Canton

Veterinary Science Technology Program

I understand that there is an inherent risk of injury involved when dealing with animals. I understand that it is my responsibility to practice safety rules and caution when working around all animals.

I have read and understand all the policies in this handbook and I have been given the opportunity to ask any questions I might have about these policies and have had any questions answered to my satisfaction.

Student's Printed Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please sign, date and return to a veterinary science faculty member within the first week of classes.

(USE PENCIL)

***Electives by Advisement**
#Writing Intensive

1/20/15



KENNEL CONTRACT FOR SENIOR VET SCI STUDENTS

Kennel duty runs noon Monday-noon Monday **unless stated otherwise.**

Morning kennels begin at 7 a.m. On time: anytime prior to 7 a.m.,

Late: 7:01-7:15, absent: anytime after 7:15. Afternoon kennels begin after 4 p.m.

Cats and dogs cannot be fed prior to 4:30 p.m.. Two "lates" equal 1 absence. If 2 or more absences occur you may be dismissed from appropriate class.

I understand a half letter grade reduction will be assigned for EACH absence. Reductions taken from Small Animal Medicine and Therapeutic Techniques class (VSCT 203) in the Fall and Practices and Procedures class (VSCT 211) in the Spring. Emergencies will be considered on an individual basis. Excused absences must be provided by the Dean of Students, for situations such as sickness, educational commitments, and athletics.

I understand attempts to deceive a third party (signing in when not present or not coming forth when a member did not show up for kennels) may result in my dismissal from the vet science curriculum.

There will be NO switching of kennel assignments after date assigned.

You are expected to take part in kennel rounds which will occur weekly and be determined by faculty, staff and students. Rounds will take no more than 1 hour per week. Current kennel duty students and those on kennels the next week are expected to be present.

Only Vet Science students are allowed in the kennel area. Pre-Vet Sci students must be accompanied by a senior student or faculty/staff member. All others are not permitted unless a faculty/staff member is present.

NO privately owned animals are allowed in the building unless prior approval has been granted by staff. This is for the safety of both humans and animals and no exceptions will be allowed.

It is the responsibility of each group to familiarize themselves with the location of supplies and standard operating procedures for animal husbandry and care of the facility (see notebook binder in common area of kennel).

The attending veterinarian should ONLY be notified regarding health issues.

Questions regarding facility operations should be directed to the facility supervisor (Robbie Gittings, LVT).

I FULLY understand and agree to comply with the above statements:

NAME: _____ Date: _____



Veterinary Technology Program

Academic Year 2012- 2013

This book belongs to: _____

Date started in program: _____

Expected graduation date: _____

Faculty Advisor: _____

The tasks outlined on the following pages are considered essential by the American Veterinary Medical Association's Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA).

Students are responsible for maintaining their task books and having them available for evaluators to sign. As tasks are successfully completed by the student, a SUNY Canton instructor may sign in the appropriate space indicating that the task has been performed to his/her satisfaction. Some tasks require more than one signature. Task books may be collected periodically throughout the program. All tasks must be successfully completed prior to graduation.

If a student loses his/her task book, it is the student's responsibility to obtain a new book and instructor signatures for all tasks.

VSCT 101 FUNDAMENTAL VETERINARY NURSING SKILLS I

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication

MANAGEMENT

Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations

	Evaluator	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schedule appointments, admit, discharge and triage according to client, patient and facility needs through phone and in-person contact*• Demonstrates the ability to communicate with the client over the phone and in person which would include the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setting appointments• Admitting and discharging patients		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage inventory control*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish and maintain appropriate sanitation and nosocomial protocols for a veterinary facility, including patient and laboratory area*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies*		

COMMUNICATIONS

Decision-making abilities: Taking into account the patient, client, staff and circumstances, the veterinary technician will effectively and accurately acquire and convey information utilizing an appropriate communication mode.

Skill: Communicate in a professional manner in all formats including written, oral, non-verbal, and electronic.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate appropriate telephone etiquette*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop and provide client education in a clear and accurate manner at a level the client understands (i.e., oral and written form, including educational handouts)*		

LAW AND ETHICS

Decision-making abilities: Given knowledge of legal limitations and applicable ethical standards, the veterinary technician will carry out her/his duties within appropriate legal boundaries and maintain high ethical standards to provide high quality service to clients, patients, employers and the veterinary profession.

Skill: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients.

	Evaluator	Date
• Understand and observe legal boundaries of veterinary health care team members*		
• Interact professionally with clients and fellow staff members*		

NURSING: PATIENT ASSESSMENT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will safely and efficiently obtain subjective and objective patient data that will allow accurate evaluation of the patient's physical status with minimum stress and maximum safety.

Skill: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species.

• Describe and use common animal identification methods.*		
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RESTRAINT

Skill: Demonstrate effective and appropriate restraint techniques for various animal species:

Feline <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encage and remove from cages*• Cephalic venipuncture restraint• Medial saphenous venipuncture restraint• Apply Elizabethan collar*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply commercial cat muzzle safely*• Jugular venipuncture restraint• Use restraint aids*		
Canine <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encage and remove from cages*• Apply commercial dog muzzle safely*• Cephalic venipuncture restraint• Restrain in lateral recumbency• Use restraint pole and other restraint aids*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply improvised muzzle• Jugular venipuncture restraint• Lateral saphenous venipuncture restraint• Apply Elizabethan collar*		

	Evaluator	Date
Patient assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain a thorough patient history* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temperature (dog, cat)* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pulse (dog, cat)* Respiration (dog, cat)* Auscultate heart/lungs (dog, cat)* 		
ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS		
Decision-making abilities: Given the directions of the veterinarian and the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will carry out appropriate therapeutic techniques in order to achieve maximum health benefits for the patient.		
Administer enteral medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand pilling (dog, cat)* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect/evaluate skin scrapings* 		
HUSBANDRY		
Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will implement appropriate husbandry techniques to enhance wellness and reduce risk of disease, injury and stress.		
Grooming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform therapeutic bathing, basic grooming, and dipping of small animals* Trim nails (dogs, cats)* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean and medicate ears (dog, cat)* 		
Environmental conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement appropriate sanitation procedures for animal holding and housing areas* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate understanding of permanent identification* 		

VSCT 103 Introduction to Animal Agriculture

NURSING: PATIENT ASSESSMENT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will safely and efficiently obtain subjective and objective patient data that will allow accurate evaluation of the patient's physical status with minimum stress and maximum safety.

Skill: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species.

	EVALULATOR	DATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize common domestic animal species and breeds.* 		

RESTRAINT

Skill: Demonstrate effective and appropriate restraint techniques for various animal species:

Domestic farm animals

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> halter, tie, and lead horses and cattle* apply twitch (horses)* apply nose tongs/leads* load large animals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> restrain cattle and horses* apply bovine tail restraint* restrain sheep and swine restrain birds* (chickens) |
|---|---|

NUTRITION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will understand appropriate and inappropriate dietary components for various life stages and therapeutic regimens (e.g., prescription diets) in order to promote optimal health, enhance recovery and manage chronic disease conditions. The veterinary technician will also explain nutritional recommendations to clients and reinforce owner compliance.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand life stage energy and nutrient requirements of well animals (dog, cat, horse, cow)* Identify common grains and forages Understand key nutritional factors in disease conditions* Familiarity with prescription diets* Identify common poisonous plants* Familiarity with organic substances* Develop and communicate hospital nutrition protocols* 		
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VSCT 104 Veterinary Office Practices

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication		
MANAGEMENT		
Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations		
	Evaluator	Date
Create and maintain individual client/patient records, vaccination certificates, and other appropriate forms* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a client/patient record • Properly fill out vaccination certificates 		
Develop computer skills* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate the ability to use common computer programs (word processing, spreadsheets) • Demonstrate the ability to use internet resources • Be familiar with veterinary on-line services* 		
Be able to utilize common management software programs* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate the ability to use common management software programs 		
Perform basic filing of medical records, radiographs, lab reports, etc.*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage inventory control* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain appropriate disposal protocols for hazardous materials* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule appointments, admit, discharge and triage according to client, patient and facility needs through phone and in-person contact* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the ability to communicate with the client over the phone and in person which would include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting appointments • Admitting and discharging patients 		

COMMUNICATIONS

Decision-making abilities: Taking into account the patient, client, staff and circumstances, the veterinary technician will effectively and accurately acquire and convey information utilizing an appropriate communication mode.

Skill: Communicate in a professional manner in all formats including written, oral, non-verbal, and electronic.

	Evaluator	Date
• Demonstrate appropriate telephone etiquette*		
• Apply understanding of interpersonal skills and team dynamics in all aspects of team dynamics*		
• Utilize appropriate interpersonal and public relations skills*		
• Recognize the legality of the veterinary-client-patient relationship*		
• Develop and provide client education in a clear and accurate manner at a level the client understands (i.e., oral and written form, including educational handouts)*		
• Apply crisis intervention /grief management skills with clients*		

LAW AND ETHICS

Decision-making abilities: Given knowledge of legal limitations and applicable ethical standards, the veterinary technician will carry out her/his duties within appropriate legal boundaries and maintain high ethical standards to provide high quality service to clients, patients, employers and the veterinary profession.

Skill: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients.

Understand and observe legal boundaries of veterinary health care team members*		
Interact professionally with clients and fellow staff members*		
Demonstrate a commitment to high quality patient care*		
Respect and protect the confidentiality of client and patient information*		

VSCT 112 VETERINARY CLINICAL PATHOLOGY I

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication		
MANAGEMENT		
<u>Skill:</u> Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations		
	Evaluator	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform basic filing of medical records, radiographs, lab reports, etc.* 		
ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS		
<u>Decision-making abilities:</u> Given the directions of the veterinarian and the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will carry out appropriate therapeutic techniques in order to achieve maximum health benefits for the patient.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect/evaluate skin scrapings* 		
LABORATORY PROCEDURES		
<u>Decision-making abilities:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given the characteristics of the patient and the requested analysis, the veterinary technician will properly prepare, handle and submit appropriate samples for diagnostic analysis in order to ensure maximum accuracy of results. 2. Given the characteristics of laboratory instruments and equipment, the veterinary technician will determine proper maintenance and quality control procedures necessary to ensure accurate results. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properly prepare diagnostic specimens for shipment* 		
Specimen management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properly package, handle and store specimens for laboratory analysis. Prepare specimens for diagnostic analysis* Select and maintain laboratory equipment* Implement appropriate quality control measures* Ensure safety of patients, clients and staff* 		

SPECIMEN ANALYSIS

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient, the specimen submitted and the results of the analysis, the veterinary technician will be able to recognize accurate vs. erroneous results in order to provide maximum diagnostic benefit.
2. Given the laboratory specimen collected and characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will determine appropriate methodology and carry out analytical procedures necessary to provide accurate and precise diagnostic information.
3. Having determined the accuracy of analytical results, the veterinary technician will work with the veterinarian to determine if a need exists for additional laboratory tests that will provide useful diagnostic information.

	Evaluator	Date
Perform urinalysis <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine physical properties (e.g., color, clarity, specific gravity)*• Test chemical properties*• Examine and identify sediment*		
Perform CBC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hemoglobin*• Packed cell volume*• Total protein*• White cell count – Unopette & automated cell counter*• Red cell count – PCV or electronic cell counter*• Correct white blood cell counts for nucleated cells*• Calculate hematologic indices*		
Perform platelet count: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unopette*• Automated cell counter*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perform serologic test (ELISA, slide/card agglutinations)*		
PARASITOLOGY		
Perform parasitologic procedures for internal parasites: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• floatation solution preparation• fecal sedimentation*• scotch tape retrieval of pinworm ova• fecal flotations*• direct smears*		
Identify common adult parasites and ova: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nematodes*• Cestodes*• Trematodes*• Protozoa*		

VSCT 115 Fundamental Veterinary Nursing Skills II

PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY: ADMINISTRATION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will calculate the correct amount of medication in the prescribed form and administer it by the prescribed route to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize the potential for adverse effects. The veterinary technician should also be able to differentiate between abnormal and normal responses to medication.

Skill: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients.

	Evaluator	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize the safe and effective manner in which vaccines must be administered 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurately perform appropriate calculations; use weights and measures correctly* 		

NURSING : PATIENT ASSESSMENT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will safely and efficiently obtain subjective and objective patient data that will allow accurate evaluation of the patient's physical status with minimum stress and maximum safety.

Skill: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize common domestic animal species and breeds.* 		
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RESTRAINT

Skill: Demonstrate effective and appropriate restraint techniques for various animal species:

Exotic/Pocket Pets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> restrain birds* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> restrain pocket pets and exotics 		

SPECIMEN COLLECTION

Skill: Properly collect diagnostic specimens for analysis (ex: urine, blood, feces, specimens for cytology)*

Collect urine sample <ul style="list-style-type: none"> collect voided urine sample (small animal)* 		
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ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS

Decision-making abilities: Given the directions of the veterinarian and the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will carry out appropriate therapeutic techniques in order to achieve maximum health benefits for the patient.

	Evaluator	Date
Administer parenteral medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• subcutaneous*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• intramuscular*		
Administer topical medications (including eye meds, fluorescein staining and Schirmer tear test)*		
Perform ocular diagnostic tests (including fluorescein staining and Schirmer tear test)*		
Administer enemas*		
Nursing care of injured limbs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply and remove bandages and splints*• Remove casts		
Develop understanding of wound management and abscess care*		

PROCEDURAL MANAGEMENT

Understand and provide the proper instruments, supplies and environment to maintain asepsis during surgical procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and know proper use for instruments*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare gowns, masks, gloves and drapes*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Perform post surgical clean-up (e.g. equipment, instruments, room , proper disposal of hazardous medical waste)*• Prepare surgical instrument and supplies*• Operate and maintain autoclaves*• Sterilize instruments and supplies using appropriate methods*		

HUSBANDRY

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will implement appropriate husbandry techniques to enhance wellness and reduce risk of disease, injury and stress.

	Evaluator	Date
Grooming <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trim nails (dogs, cats)*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trim nails (birds, pocket pets)*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Express canine anal sacs*		
Demonstrate understanding of breeding/reproduction techniques* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate understanding of care of orphan animals• Demonstrate understanding of nursing care of newborns*		

AVIAN, EXOTIC & FISH PROCEDURES

Decision-making abilities: Given the unique requirements of these species, the veterinary technician will safely obtain subjective and objective data that will allow evaluation of the patient. The veterinary technician will be able to: (1) identify husbandry issues, (2) discern appropriate from inappropriate nutritional support, and (3) recognize normal from abnormal behavior patterns.

Understand the approach to providing safe and effective care for birds: recognize and restrain caged birds		
Understand the approach to providing safe and effective care for reptiles and amphibians: recognize and restrain reptiles and amphibians.		
Understand the approach to providing safe and effective care for ferrets: recognize and restrain ferrets		
Understand the unique husbandry issues for each species and provide client education: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nutritional needs/diets• Caging (temperature, humidity, light)• Basic grooming (beak, wing and nail clipping)• Appropriate transportation methods• Watering• Aquarium care• Breeding		
Wildlife species <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain inadvisability of keeping wildlife as pets		

VSCT 202 Veterinary Clinical Pathology II

LABORATORY PROCEDURES

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient and the requested analysis, the veterinary technician will properly prepare, handle and submit appropriate samples for diagnostic analysis in order to ensure maximum accuracy of results.
2. Given the characteristics of laboratory instruments and equipment, the veterinary technician will determine proper maintenance and quality control procedures necessary to ensure accurate results.

	Evaluator	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properly prepare diagnostic specimens for shipment* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect, cross match, and give blood transfusions 		
Specimen management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properly package, handle and store specimens for laboratory analysis. • Prepare specimens for diagnostic analysis* • Select and maintain laboratory equipment* • Implement appropriate quality control measures* • Ensure safety of patients, clients and staff* 		

SPECIMEN ANALYSIS

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient, the specimen submitted and the results of the analysis, the veterinary technician will be able to recognize accurate vs. erroneous results in order to provide maximum diagnostic benefit.
2. The laboratory specimen collected and characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will determine appropriate methodology and carry out analytical procedures necessary to provide accurate and precise diagnostic information.
3. Having determined the accuracy of analytical results, the veterinary technician will work with the veterinarian to determine if a need exists for additional laboratory tests that will provide useful diagnostic information.

Perform urinalysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine physical properties (e.g., color, clarity, specific gravity)* • Test chemical properties* • Examine and identify sediment* 		
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	Evaluator	Date
Perform CBC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hemoglobin* • Packed cell volume* • Total protein* • White cell count – Unopette & automated cell counter* • Red cell count – PCV or electronic cell counter* • Correct white blood cell counts for nucleated cells* • Calculate hematologic indices* 		
Perform reticulocyte count*		
Perform platelet count: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unopette* • Automated cell counter* 		
Perform one of the following coagulation tests* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buccal mucosal bleeding time • Activated clotting time (ACT) • Prothrombin time (PT) • Partial thromboplastin time (PTT) • Fibrinogen assay 		
Perform blood chemistry tests (BUN, glucose, common enzymes)*		
Perform serologic test (ELISA, slide/card agglutinations)*		
PARASITOLOGY		
Identify blood parasites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dirofilaria</i> sp/<i>Dipetalonema</i> sp – direct, hematocrit tube, Knotts, filter, antigen kit* • <i>Haemobartonella</i> sp* • <i>Anaplasma</i> sp • <i>Babesia</i> sp • <i>Trypanosoma</i> sp • <i>Eperythrozoon</i> sp • <i>Ehrlichia</i> sp 		
Perform parasitologic procedures for external parasites and identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mites* • lice* • flies • ticks* • fleas* 		

	Evaluator	Date
Perform parasitologic procedures for internal parasites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • floatation solution preparation • fecal flotations* • fecal sedimentation* • direct smears* • scotch tape retrieval of pinworm ova 		
Identify common adult parasites and ova: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nematodes* • Trematodes* • Cestodes* • Protozoa* 		
Perform coprologic tests		
Perform cytologic evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assist in collecting, preparing and evaluating transudate, exudates and cytologic specimens (joint, cerebrospinal, airway, body cavity) • perform fine needle tissue aspirates and impression smear preparation (differentiate benign vs. malignant) • prepare and stain bone marrow specimens • collect, prepare, and evaluate ear cytology* • collect, prepare, and evaluate canine vaginal smears* • evaluate semen • understand timing and types of pregnancy testing • assist with artificial insemination 		

VSCT 203 Small Animal Medicine & Therapeutic Techniques

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication MANAGEMENT		
Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations		
	Evaluator	Date
Perform basic filing of medical records, radiographs, lab reports, etc.*		
Create and maintain all appropriate facility records and logs in compliance with regulatory guidelines (e.g., radiographs, surgery, anesthesia, laboratory, controlled substance)*		
Create and maintain individual client/patient records, vaccination certificates, and other appropriate forms* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up client/patient record • Properly fill out vaccination certificates 		
Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies*		
Establish and maintain appropriate sanitation and noscomial protocols for a veterinary facility, including patient and laboratory area*		
COMMUNICATIONS Decision-making abilities: Taking into account the patient, client, staff and circumstances, the veterinary technician will effectively and accurately acquire and convey information utilizing an appropriate communication mode.		
Skill: Communicate in a professional manner in all formats including written, oral, non-verbal, and electronic		
Apply understanding of interpersonal skills and team dynamics in all aspects of team dynamics*		

LAW AND ETHICS

Decision-making abilities: Given knowledge of legal limitations and applicable ethical standards, the veterinary technician will carry out her/his duties within appropriate legal boundaries and maintain high ethical standards to provide high quality service to clients, patients, employers and the veterinary profession.

Skill: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients.

	Evaluator	Date
Understand and observe legal boundaries of veterinary health care team members*		
Interact professionally with clients and fellow staff members*		
Demonstrate a commitment to high quality patient care*		
Respect and protect the confidentiality of client and patient information*		

PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY: ADMINISTRATION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will calculate the correct amount of medication in the prescribed form and administer it by the prescribed route to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize the potential for adverse effects. The veterinary technician should also be able to differentiate between abnormal and normal responses to medication.

Skill: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients

Recognize the safe and effective manner in which vaccines must be administered		
Accurately perform appropriate calculations; use weights and measures correctly*		
Safely and effectively administer drugs by common parenteral and enteral routes; be able to explain appropriate routes and methods and when used*		
Demonstrate the ability to accurately record medical information*		

DISPENSING

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will (1) calculate and dispense the correct form and dose of medication and (2) communicate necessary client information in order to maximize safety, compliance with prescribed therapy and successful treatment of the patient. The veterinary technician should also be proficient at performing inventory control procedures.

Skill: Accurately dispense and explain prescribed drugs to clients.

	Evaluator	Date
Given a drug order, properly prepare medications for dispensing, including performing accurate calculations*		
Demonstrate compliance with regulations governing prescription drugs versus over-the-counter drugs*		

NURSING: RESTRAINT

Skill: Demonstrate effective and appropriate restraint techniques for various animal species

Feline <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encage and remove from cages*• Cephalic venipuncture restraint• Medial saphenous venipuncture restraint• Apply Elizabethan collar*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply commercial cat muzzle safely*• Jugular venipuncture restraint• Use restraint aids*		
Canine <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encage and remove from cages*• Apply commercial dog muzzle safely*• Cephalic venipuncture restraint• Restrain in lateral recumbency• Use restraint pole and other restraint aids*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply improvised muzzle• Jugular venipuncture restraint• Lateral saphenous venipuncture restraint• Apply Elizabethan collar*		
Patient assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obtain a thorough patient history*			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Temperature (dog, cat)*			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pulse (dog, cat)*• Respiration (horse, cow)*• Auscultate heart/lungs (horse, cow)*			

SPECIMEN COLLECTION**Skill:** Properly collect diagnostic specimens for analysis (ex: urine, blood, feces, specimens for cytology)*

	Evaluator	Date
Perform venipuncture – canine and feline <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cephalic (dog, cat)*• jugular (dog, cat)*• saphenous (dog)*• medial femoral (dog, cat)• sublingual (dog)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• catheterize male and female dogs*• catheterize female cat• catheterize male cat*• perform cystocentesis (small animal)*		

ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS**Decision-making abilities:** Given the directions of the veterinarian and the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will carry out appropriate therapeutic techniques in order to achieve maximum health benefits for the patient.

Administer parenteral medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• intradermal• intraperitoneal• intramammary (mastitis therapy only)• intravenous		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• balling gun (ruminant)*• dose syringe (ruminant, horse, pig)*• gastric intubation (small animal)*• gastric lavage (dog)• dose syringe (horse, pig)*• oral speculum and stomach tube(ruminant)• nasogastric intubation (small animal, horse)		
Administer topical medications (including eye meds, fluorescein staining and Schirmer tear test)*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performing ocular diagnostic tests (including fluorescein staining and Schirmer tear test)*• Perform tonometry		
Administer enemas*		
Nursing care of injured limbs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply and remove bandages and splints*• Remove casts		
Develop understanding of wound management and abscess care*		

	Evaluate	Date
Perform physical therapy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hydrotherapy • orthopedic • explain care of recumbent patient* • post-operative • neurological 		
Recognize and respond appropriately to veterinary medical emergencies* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know how to perform CPR • Know how to respond to common veterinary emergencies 		
Perform emergency and critical care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain emergency medical supplies/crash cart * • perform first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (simulation acceptable) • use ambu bag* • apply emergency splints and bandages* • maintain chest tracheostomy, pharyngostomy tubes 		
DENTISTRY		
Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient and the requested analysis, the veterinary technician will recognize a patient's dental health status and perform techniques, as prescribed by a veterinarian, appropriate to the species and its condition in order to promote and maintain dental health.		
Canine and Feline Dentistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform routine dental prophylaxis (manual and machine)* • Understand client education regarding home care* 		
SURGICAL NURSING		
It is essential that technicians have knowledge of routine surgical procedures and related equipment. Direct involvement with all procedures will not be required, but students should have experience with most of those listed. The following procedures are intended to be suggestive of surgical procedures that may be common in a veterinary practice and the technician's education may not necessarily be limited to the items listed:		
Familiarity with the following small animal surgical procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ovariohysterectomy – dogs and cats* • caesarean section – all common species* • orthopedic procedures* • castration - all common species* • tail docking* • onychectomy – dogs and cats* • laparotomies – all common species • dystocias in common species* • prolapsed organs – common types, species, and incidence* 		

PATIENT MANAGEMENT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient and the surgical procedure to be performed, the veterinary technician will be able to do the following:

1. Use medical records and patient identification methods to assure that the patient and scheduled procedures are correct.
2. Obtain the patient's vital signs, note any specific physical abnormalities, ensure presurgical tests have been completed and report the patient assessment to the veterinarian.
3. Identify the appropriate area of hair to be removed and select appropriate methods to reduce microbial flora on the skin in the area of surgical site in order to decrease the chance of surgical wound contamination. The veterinary technician will position the patient appropriately to provide maximum convenience for the surgeon and maximum safety and benefit for the patient.

	Evaluator	Date
Properly identify patients and surgical procedures*		
Patient assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize medical records/consent forms*• Review pre-operative evaluation*• Evaluate current patient status*• Coordinate anesthesia*• Coordinate pain management with the anesthesia/surgical team*		
Surgical preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare surgical site using appropriate aseptic techniques*• Position patient for common procedures*		
Provide surgical assistance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis*• Assist with care of exposed tissues and organs*• Properly pass instruments and supplies*• Operate and maintain suction and cautery machines*• Operate and maintain fiber optic equipment*• Keep operative records*		
Provide post-operative care: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain management*• Fluid therapy*• Adequate nutrition*• Wound management*• Bandaging*• Discharge instructions*• Suture removal		

PROCEDURAL MANAGEMENT		
	Evaluator	Date
Understand and provide the proper instruments, supplies and environment to maintain asepsis during surgical procedures, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and know proper use for instruments* • Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare gowns, masks, gloves, and drapes* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform post-surgical clean-up (e.g., equipment, instruments, room, proper disposal of hazardous medical waste)* • Prepare surgical instruments and supplies* • Operate and maintain autoclaves* • Sterilize instruments and supplies using appropriate methods* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify common suture materials, types and sizes* • Provide operating room sanitation and care* 		
HUSBANDRY		
Decision making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will implement appropriate husbandry techniques to enhance wellness and reduce risk of disease, injury and stress.		
Grooming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and medicate ears (dog, cat)* 		
Environmental Conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement appropriate sanitation procedures for animal holding and housing areas* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding of permanent identification* 		
Demonstrate understanding of breeding /reproduction techniques* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding of care of orphan animals • Demonstrate understanding of nursing care of newborns* 		

LABORATORY PROCEDURES

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient and the requested analysis, the veterinary technician will properly prepare, handle and submit appropriate samples for diagnostic analysis in order to ensure maximum accuracy of results.
2. Given the characteristics of laboratory instruments and equipment, the veterinary technician will determine proper maintenance and quality control procedures necessary to ensure accurate results.

	Evaluator	Date
Collect, cross match, and give blood transfusions		
NECROPSY PROCEDURES		
Perform humane euthanasia procedures		

VSCT 204 LARGE ANIMAL MEDICINE AND THERAPEUTIC TECHNIQUES

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication MANAGEMENT

Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations

	Evaluator	Date
Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies*		
Establish and maintain appropriate sanitation and noscomial protocols for a veterinary facility, including patient and laboratory area*		

COMMUNICATIONS

Decision-making abilities: Taking into account the patient, client, staff and circumstances, the veterinary technician will effectively and accurately acquire and convey information utilizing an appropriate communication mode.

Skill: Communicate in a professional manner in all formats including written, oral, non-verbal, and electronic

Apply understanding of interpersonal skills and team dynamics in all aspects of team dynamics*		
Develop and provide client education in a clear and accurate manner at a level the client understands (i.e., oral and written form, including educational handouts)*		

LAW AND ETHICS

Decision-making abilities: Given knowledge of legal limitations and applicable ethical standards, the veterinary technician will carry out her/his duties within appropriate legal boundaries and maintain high ethical standards to provide high quality service to clients, patients, employers and the veterinary profession.

Skill: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients.

Understand and observe legal boundaries of veterinary health care team members*		
Interact professionally with clients and fellow staff members*		
Demonstrate a commitment to high quality patient care*		
Respect and protect the confidentiality of client and patient information*		

PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY: ADMINISTRATION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will calculate the correct amount of medication in the prescribed form and administer it by the prescribed route to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize the potential for adverse effects. The veterinary technician should also be able to differentiate between abnormal and normal responses to medication.

Skill: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients

	Evaluator	Date
Accurately perform appropriate calculations; use weights and measures correctly*		
Safely and effectively administer drugs by common parenteral and enteral routes; be able to explain appropriate routes and methods and when used*		

NURSING: PATIENT ASSESSMENT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will safely and efficiently obtain subjective and objective patient data that will allow accurate evaluation of the patient's physical status with minimum stress and maximum safety.

Skill: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species.

Recognize common domestic animal species and breeds.*		
Describe and use common animal identification methods.*		

NURSING: RESTRAINT

Skill: Demonstrate effective and appropriate restraint techniques for various animal species

Domestic farm animals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• halter, tie, and lead horses and cattle*• apply twitch (horses)*• apply nose tongs/leads*• load large animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• restrain cattle and horses*• apply bovine tail restraint*• restrain sheep and swine• restrain birds* (chickens)	
Patient assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obtain a thorough patient history*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Temperature (horse, cow)*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pulse (horse, cow)*• Auscultate heart/lungs (horse, cow)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respiration (horse, cow)*	

SPECIMEN COLLECTION		
Skill: Properly collect diagnostic specimens for analysis (ex: urine, blood, feces, specimens for cytology)*		
	Evaluator	Date
Perform venipuncture – domestic farm animals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jugular (horse, ruminant)* • Coccygeal (cow) • Anterior vena cava (pig) • Ear (swine) 		
Catheterize large animal		
ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS		
Decision-making abilities: Given the directions of the veterinarian and the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will carry out appropriate therapeutic techniques in order to achieve maximum health benefits for the patient.		
	Evaluator	Date
Administer parenteral medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intradermal • Intraperitoneal • Intramammary (mastitis therapy only) • Intravenous 		
Administer enteral medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balling gun (ruminant)* • Oral speculum and stomach tube (ruminant) • Dose syringe (ruminant, horse, pig)* • Nasogastric intubation (horse) 		
Administer topical medications (including eye meds, fluorescein staining and Schirmer tear test)*		
Perform ocular diagnostic tests (including fluorescein staining and Schirmer tear test)*		
Develop understanding of wound management and abscess care*		
Perform physical therapy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrotherapy • Orthopedic • Explain care of recumbent patient* • Post-operative • Neurological 		

SURGICAL NURSING

It is essential that technicians have knowledge of routine surgical procedures and related equipment. Direct involvement with all procedures will not be required, but students should have experience with most of those listed. The following procedures are intended to be suggestive of surgical procedures that may be common in a veterinary practice and the technician's education may not necessarily be limited to the items listed:

	Evaluator	Date
Familiarity with the following large animal procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Castration – all common species*• Tail docking*• Dystocias in common species*• Dehorning – cattle and goats• Prolapsed organs – common types, species, and incidence*		

PATIENT MANAGEMENT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient and the surgical procedure to be performed, the veterinary technician will be able to do the following:

1. Use medical records and patient identification methods to assure that the patient and scheduled procedures are correct.
2. Obtain the patient's vital signs, note any specific physical abnormalities, ensure presurgical tests have been completed and report the patient assessment to the veterinarian.
3. Identify the appropriate area of hair to be removed and select appropriate methods to reduce microbial flora on the skin in the area of surgical site in order to decrease the chance of surgical wound contamination. The veterinary technician will position the patient appropriately to provide maximum convenience for the surgeon and maximum safety and benefit for the patient.

Properly identify patients and surgical procedures*		
Patient assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize medical records/consent forms*• Review pre-operative evaluation*• Evaluate current patient status*• Coordinate anesthesia*• Coordinate pain management with the anesthesia/surgical team*		
Provide post-operative care: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pain management*• Fluid therapy*• Adequate nutrition*• Wound management*• Bandaging*• Discharge instructions*• Suture removal		

HUSBANDRY

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will implement appropriate husbandry techniques to enhance wellness and reduce risk of disease, injury and stress.

	Evaluator	Date
Environmental conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement appropriate sanitation procedures for animal holding and housing areas*		
Demonstrate understanding of permanent identification*		
Demonstrate understanding of breeding/reproduction techniques* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate understanding of care of orphan animals• Demonstrate understanding of nursing care of newborns*		

NUTRITION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will understand appropriate and inappropriate dietary components for various life stages and therapeutic regimens (e.g., prescription diets) in order to promote optimal health, enhance recovery and manage chronic disease conditions. The veterinary technician will also explain nutritional recommendations to clients and reinforce owner compliance.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand life stage energy and nutrient requirements of well animals (dog, cat, horse, cow)*• Identify common grains and forages• Understand key nutritional factors in disease conditions*• Familiarity with prescription diets*• Identify common poisonous plants*• Familiarity with organic substances*• Develop and communicate hospital nutrition protocols*		
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LABORATORY PROCEDURES

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient and the requested analysis, the veterinary technician will properly prepare, handle and submit appropriate samples for diagnostic analysis in order to ensure maximum accuracy of results.
2. Given the characteristics of laboratory instruments and equipment, the veterinary technician will determine proper maintenance and quality control procedures necessary to ensure accurate results.

Properly prepare diagnostic specimens for shipment*		
Specimen management Properly package, handle and store specimens for laboratory analysis* <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare specimens for diagnostic analysis*• Select and maintain laboratory equipment*• Implement appropriate quality control measures*• Ensure safety of patients, clients and staff*		

NECROSPY PROCEDURES		
	Evaluator	Date
Perform prosection on non-preserved animal*		
Collect samples, store and ship according to laboratory protocols*		
Explain how to handle rabies suspects and samples safely*		
Handle disposal of dead animals		
Perform humane euthanasia procedures		
LARGE ANIMAL PROCEDURES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trim hooves (ruminant, horses) • Apply equine tail and leg wraps* • Float teeth • Clip needle teeth • Clean sheath (horse) 		

VSCT 205 Radiographic Techniques

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication MANAGEMENT

Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media, appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations.

	Evaluator	Date
Perform basic filing of medical records, radiographs, lab reports, etc.*		
Create and maintain all appropriate facility records and logs in compliance with regulatory Guidelines (e.g., radiographs, surgery, anesthesia, laboratory, controlled substance)*		

IMAGING

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient and the radiographic study that has been requested, the veterinary technician will properly (1) prepare radiographic and darkroom equipment, (2) measure and position animals using topographic landmarks, (3) choose an appropriate radiographic technique to minimize the need for repeat exposures (4) produce the latent image, (5) process the exposed film, (6) analyze the final radiograph for quality in order to provide maximum diagnostic benefit.
2. Given a radiograph, the veterinary technician will be able to determine if the image is of diagnostic quality. If the image is not diagnostic, the veterinary technician will be able to offer options to correct deficiencies in order to provide maximum diagnostic benefit and minimize personnel radiation exposure from unnecessary repeat exposures.
3. Given knowledge of the health risks associated with radiographic procedures and effective safety procedures, the veterinary technician will exercise professional judgment to minimize risks to personnel and patients during radiographic procedures to ensure safety.
4. Given the characteristics of the patient and the non-radiographic imaging study that has been requested, the veterinary technician will properly (1) Prepare the imaging site and equipment and (2) position patients appropriately for the study being conducted.

Safely and effectively produce diagnostic radiographic and non-radiographic images

- Implement and observe recommended radiation safety measures*
- Implement effective radiographic quality control measures*
- Develop and properly utilize accurate radiographic technique charts*
- Properly position animals for radiographic studies (including laboratory and exotic animals)*
- Properly utilize radiographic equipment to expose x-ray film (stationary and portable units)*
- Properly process exposed films to create clear and lasting radiographic images (hand and automatic processing)*
- Properly label, file, and store film*
- Properly complete radiographic logs, reports, files and records*
- Properly utilize positive and negative radiographic contrast media (including GI series, pneumocystogram, and intravenous urogram)*
- Properly learn radiographic techniques utilized in screening for canine hip dysplasia*
- Demonstrate proper maintenance of radiographic equipment, including recognition of faulty equipment operation*
- Use ultrasonography equipment
- Use endoscopic equipment

VSCT 206 Anesthetic Principles

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication MANAGEMENT		
Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations		
	Evaluator	Date
Recognize and respond appropriately to veterinary medical emergencies* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know how to perform CPR Know how to respond to common veterinary emergencies 		
Create and maintain individual client/patient records, vaccination certificates, and other appropriate forms* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up a client/patient record Properly fill out vaccination certificates 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and maintain all appropriate facility records and logs in compliance with regulatory guidelines (e.g., radiographs, surgery, anesthesia, laboratory controlled substance)* Be familiar with veterinary on-line services* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain appropriate disposal protocols for hazardous materials* 		
LAW AND ETHICS		
Decision-making abilities: Given knowledge of legal limitations and applicable ethical standards, the veterinary technician will carry out her/his duties within appropriate legal boundaries and maintain high ethical standards to provide high quality service to clients, patients, employers and the veterinary profession.		
Skill: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients.		
Demonstrate a commitment to high quality patient care*		

PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY: ADMINISTRATION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will calculate the correct amount of medication in the prescribed form and administer it by the prescribed route to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize the potential for adverse effects. The veterinary technician should also be able to differentiate between abnormal and normal responses to medication.

Skill: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients.

	Evaluator	Date
Accurately perform appropriate calculations; use weights and measures correctly*		
Safely and effectively administer drugs by common parenteral and enteral routes; be able to explain appropriate routes and methods and when used*		
Monitor therapeutic responses*		
Demonstrate the ability to accurately record medical information*		
Demonstrate the understanding of regulations governing maintenance of controlled substances log book*		
Demonstrate compliance with all federal regulatory guidelines for drug purchase, storage, administration, withdrawal, dispensing, disposal and inventory control (e.g., biologics and therapeutic agents, pesticides and hazardous wastes)*		

ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS

Decision-making abilities: Given the directions of the veterinarian and the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will carry out appropriate therapeutic techniques in order to achieve maximum health benefits for the patient.

Perform emergency and critical care <ul style="list-style-type: none">• maintain emergency medical supplies/crash cart*• perform first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (simulation acceptable)• use ambu bag*• apply emergency splints and bandages*• maintain chest, tracheostomy, pharyngostomy tubes		
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PATIENT MANAGEMENT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the anesthetic patient and the procedure being performed, the veterinary technician will work with the veterinarian to do the following:

1. Assess the patient's risk status and determine appropriate anesthetic and perianesthetic protocols to provide effective pain management and maximum anesthetic safety and effectiveness.
2. Choose and utilize appropriate techniques and equipment to accurately and effectively monitor the patient's ongoing status before, during and after anesthesia to provide for adequate anesthesia, analgesia and a safe recovery.

Skill: Safely and effectively manage patients in all phases of anesthetic procedures.

	Evaluator	Date
Accurately calculate dosages of appropriate anesthetic-related drugs*		
Safely and effectively administer appropriate anesthetic-related drugs by injection, mask, induction chamber or endotracheal tube*		
Utilize clinical signs and appropriate equipment to monitor patient status in all stages of anesthetic procedures.		
Effectively evaluate patient and implement and evaluate pain management protocols*		
Recognize and respond appropriately to patients in compromised states*		
Effectively perform appropriate resuscitation procedures as needed (e.g., calculate and administer appropriate anesthetic antagonists and emergency drugs as directed)*		

EQUIPMENT/FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the anesthetic instruments and equipment being used, the veterinary technician will recognize and respond appropriately to equipment malfunctions or inappropriate equipment setup in order to ensure proper function and provide maximum benefit to the patient.
2. Given the requirements of the anesthetic protocol, the veterinary technician will select, evaluate and adjust equipment to ensure proper function and provide maximum benefit to the patient.

Skill: Safely and effectively select, utilize and maintain anesthetic delivery and monitoring instruments and equipment.

Maintain and operate anesthetic delivery and monitoring equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pulse oximeter*• Esophageal stethoscope*• Electrocardiograph (e.g., recognize abnormal rhythms/audible sounds)*• Anesthetic machines, including rebreathing systems, non-rebreathing systems, induction• Endotracheal tubes*• Ambu bag*• Scavenging systems*• Oxygen sources*• Respiratory monitors*• Blood pressure monitoring devices*• Laryngoscopes• Ventilator• Defibrillator		
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VSCT 207 Health & Disease of Farm Animals

PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY: ADMINISTRATION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will calculate the correct amount of medication in the prescribed form and administer it by the prescribed route to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize the potential for adverse effects. The veterinary technician should also be able to differentiate between abnormal and normal responses to medication.

Skill: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients.

	Evaluator	Date
Recognize and explain common side effects of vaccine administration*		

NURSING: RESTRAINT

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will safely and effectively obtain subjective and objective patient data that will allow accurate evaluation of the patient's physical status with minimum stress and maximum safety,

Skill: Demonstrate and perform patient assessment techniques in a variety of animal species.

Domestic farm animals		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • halter, tie, and lead horses and cattle* • apply twitch (horses)* • apply nose tongs/leads* • load large animals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restrain cattle and horses* • apply bovine restraint* • restrain sheep and swine • restrain birds* (chickens) 	

HUSBANDRY

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will implement appropriate husbandry techniques to enhance wellness and reduce risk of disease, injury and stress.

Environmental conditions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement appropriate sanitation procedures for animal holding and housing areas* 		

VSCT 210 Veterinary Microbiology

LABORATORY PROCEDURES

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient and the requested analysis, the veterinary technician will properly prepare, handle and submit appropriate samples for diagnostic analysis in order to ensure maximum accuracy of results.
2. Given the characteristics of laboratory instruments and equipment, the veterinary technician will determine proper maintenance and quality control procedures necessary to ensure accurate results.

	Evaluator	Date
Properly prepare diagnostic specimens for shipment*		
Specimen management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Properly package, handle and store specimens for laboratory analysis. • Implement appropriate quality control measures* 		

SPECIMEN ANALYSIS

Decision-making abilities:

1. Given the characteristics of the patient, the specimen submitted and the results of the analysis, the veterinary technician will be able to recognize accurate vs. erroneous results in order to provide maximum diagnostic benefit.
2. Given the laboratory specimen collected and characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will determine appropriate methodology and carry out analytical procedures necessary to provide accurate and precise diagnostic information.
3. Having determined the accuracy of analytical results, the veterinary technician will work with the veterinarian to determine if a need exists for additional laboratory tests that will provide useful diagnostic information.

Perform microscopic exam of blood film <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare film and stain using a variety of techniques* • Evaluate erythrocyte morphology – normal vs abnormal* • Calculate absolute values* 		
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PARASITOLOGY		
	Evaluator	Date
Perform parasitologic procedures for external parasites and identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mites* • lice* • ticks* • fleas* • flies* 		
Perform microbiologic procedures/evaluations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collect representative samples* • culture bacteria and perform sensitivity tests* • identify common animal pathogens using commercially available media and reagents* • collect milk samples and conduct mastitis testing (e.g., CMT, bacterial culture) • perform common biochemical tests* • perform staining procedures* • culture and identify common dermatophytes* 		
NECROSPY PROCEDURES		
	Evaluator	Date
Collect samples, store and ship according to laboratory protocols*		

VSCT 211 Animal Hospital Practices and Procedures

Office and Hospital Procedures, Client Relations, and Communication

MANAGEMENT

Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations

	Evaluator	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule appointments, admit, discharge and triage according to client, patient and facility needs through phone and in-person contact* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates the ability to communicate with the client over the phone and in person which would include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting appointments Admitting and discharging patients 		
Recognize and respond appropriately to veterinary medical emergencies* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know how to perform CPR Know how to respond to common veterinary emergencies 		
Create and maintain individual client/patient records, vaccination certificates, and other appropriate forms* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up a client/patient record Properly fill out vaccination certificates 		
Develop computer skills* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate the ability to use common computer programs (word processing, spreadsheets) Demonstrate the ability to use internet resources Be familiar with veterinary on-line services* 		
Be able to utilize common management software programs* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate the ability to use common management software programs 		
Perform basic filing of medical records, radiographs, lab reports, etc.*		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and maintain all appropriate facility records and logs in compliance with regulatory guidelines (e.g., radiographs, surgery, anesthesia, laboratory controlled substance)* Be familiar with veterinary on-line services* 		
Manage inventory control *		
Maintain appropriate disposal protocols for hazardous materials*		
Establish and maintain appropriate sanitation and nosocomial protocols for a veterinary facility, including patient and laboratory area*		
Handle routine financial transactions*		

COMMUNICATIONS

Decision-making abilities: Taking into account the patient, client, staff and circumstances, the veterinary technician will effectively and accurately acquire and convey information utilizing an appropriate communication mode.

Skill: Communicate in a professional manner in all formats including written, oral, non-verbal, and electronic

	Evaluator	Date
Apply understanding of interpersonal skills and team dynamics in all aspects of team dynamics*		
Utilize appropriate interpersonal and public relations skills*		
Demonstrate appropriate telephone etiquette*		
Recognize the legality of the veterinary-client-patient relationship*		
Develop and provide client education in a clear and accurate manner at a level the client understands (i.e., oral and written form, including educational handouts)*		
Apply crisis intervention /grief management skills with clients*		

LAW AND ETHICS

Decision-making abilities: Given knowledge of legal limitations and applicable ethical standards, the veterinary technician will carry out her/his duties within appropriate legal boundaries and maintain high ethical standards to provide high quality service to clients, patients, employers and the veterinary profession.

Skill: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients.

Understand and observe legal boundaries of veterinary health care team members*		
Interact professionally with clients and fellow staff members*		
Demonstrate a commitment to high quality patient care*		
Respect and protect the confidentiality of client and patient information*		

PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY: ADMINISTRATION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will calculate the correct amount of medication in the prescribed form and administer it by the prescribed route to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize the potential for adverse effects. The veterinary technician should also be able to differentiate between abnormal and normal responses to medication.

Skill: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients.

	Evaluator	Date
Recognize and explain the common side effects of vaccine administration*		
Accurately perform appropriate calculations; use weights and measures correctly*		
Safely and effectively administer drugs by common parenteral and enteral routes; be able to explain appropriate routes and methods and when used*		
Monitor therapeutic responses*		
Demonstrate the ability to accurately record medical information*		
Demonstrate understanding of regulations governing maintenance of controlled substances log book*		
Demonstrate compliance with all federal regulatory guidelines for drug purchase, storage, administration, withdrawal, dispensing, disposal and inventory control (e.g., biologics and therapeutic agents, pesticides and hazardous wastes)*		

DISPENSING

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will (1) calculate and dispense the correct form and dose of medication and (2) communicate necessary client information in order to maximize safety, compliance with prescribed therapy and successful treatment of the patient. The veterinary technician should also be proficient at performing inventory control procedures.

Skill: Accurately dispense and explain prescribed drugs to clients

Given a drug order, properly prepare medications for dispensing, including performing accurate calculations*		
Demonstrate compliance with regulations governing prescription drugs versus over-the-counter drugs*		
Relay drug information to clients (e.g., handling, storage, administration, side effects, drug interactions, safety reasons for use of drug)*		

NURSING: RESTRAINT		
Skill: Demonstrate effective and appropriate restraint techniques for various animal species		
	Evaluator	Date
Feline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encage and remove from cages* • Cephalic venipuncture restraint • Medial saphenous venipuncture restraint • Apply Elizabethan collar* • Apply commercial cat muzzle safely* • Jugular venipuncture restraint • Use restraint aids* 		
Canine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encage and remove from cages* • Apply commercial dog muzzle safely* • Cephalic venipuncture restraint • Restrain in lateral recumbency • Use restraint pole and other restraint aids* • Apply improvised muzzle • Jugular venipuncture restraint • Lateral saphenous venipuncture restraint • Apply Elizabethan collar* 		
SPECIMEN COLLECTION		
Skill: Properly collect diagnostic specimens for analysis (ex: urine, blood, feces, specimens for cytology)*		
Perform venipuncture – canine and feline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cephalic (dog, cat)* • Jugular (dog, cat)* • Saphenous (dog)* • Medial femoral (dog, cat) • Sublingual (dog) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catheterize male and female dogs* • Catheterize male cat* • catheterize female cat • perform cystocentesis (small animal)* 		
ADMINISTER THERAPEUTICS		
Decision-making abilities: Given the directions of the veterinarian and the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will carry out appropriate therapeutic techniques in order to achieve maximum health benefits for the patient.		
Administer parenteral medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intradermal • intramammary (mastitis therapy only) • intraperitoneal • intravenous 		
Administer enteral medications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • balling gun (ruminant)* • gastric intubation (small animal)* • dose syringe (horse, pig)* • nasogastric intubation (small animal, horse) • dose syringe (ruminant, horse, pig)* • gastric lavage (dog) • oral speculum and stomach tube(ruminant) 		
Collect /evaluate skin scrapings*		

DENTISTRY		
Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient and the requested analysis, the veterinary technician will recognize a patient's dental health status and perform techniques, as prescribed by a veterinarian, appropriate to the species and its condition in order to promote and maintain dental health.		
	Evaluator	Date
Canine and Feline Dentistry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform routine dental prophylaxis (manual and machine)* • Understand client education regarding home care* 		
PATIENT MANAGEMENT: ANESTHESIA		
Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the anesthetic patient and the procedure being performed, the veterinary technician will work with the veterinarian to do the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the patient's risk status and determine appropriate anesthetic and perianesthetic protocols to provide effective pain management and maximum anesthetic safety and effectiveness. 2. Choose and utilize appropriate techniques and equipment to accurately and effectively monitor the patient's ongoing status before, during and after anesthesia to provide for adequate anesthesia, analgesia and a safe recovery. 		
Skill: Safely and effectively manage patients in all phases of anesthetic procedures.		
Accurately calculate dosages of appropriate anesthetic-related drugs*		
Safely and effectively administer appropriate anesthetic-related drugs by injection, mask, induction chamber or endotracheal tube*		
Utilize clinical signs and appropriate equipment to monitor patient status in all stages of anesthetic procedures.		
Effectively evaluate patient and implement and evaluate pain management protocols*		
Recognize and respond appropriately to patients in compromised states*		
Effectively perform appropriate resuscitation procedures as needed (e.g., calculate and administer appropriate anesthetic antagonists and emergency drugs as directed)*		

EQUIPMENT/FACILITY MANAGEMENT**Decision-making abilities:**

1. Given the characteristics of the anesthetic instruments and equipment being used, the veterinary technician will recognize and respond appropriately to equipment malfunctions or inappropriate equipment setup in order to ensure proper function and provide maximum benefit to the patient.
2. Given the requirements of the anesthetic protocol, the veterinary technician will select, evaluate and adjust equipment to ensure proper function and provide maximum benefit to the patient.

Skill: Safely and effectively select, utilize and maintain anesthetic delivery and monitoring instruments and equipment.

	Evaluator	Date
Maintain and operate anesthetic delivery and monitoring equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pulse oximeter*• Esophageal stethoscope*• Electrocardiograph (e.g., recognize abnormal rhythms/audible sounds)*• Anesthetic machines, including rebreathing systems, non-rebreathing systems, induction• Endotracheal tubes*• Ambu bag*• Scavenging systems*• Oxygen sources*• Respiratory monitors*• Blood pressure monitoring devices*• Laryngoscopes• Ventilator• Defibrillator		

SURGICAL NURSING

It is essential that technicians have knowledge of routine surgical procedures and related equipment. Direct involvement with all procedures will not be required, but students should have experience with most of those listed. The following procedures are intended to be suggestive of surgical procedures that may be common in a veterinary practice and the technician's education may not necessarily be limited to the items listed:

Familiarity with the following small animal surgical procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ovariohysterectomy – dogs and cats*• Caesarean section – all common species*• Orthopedic procedures*• Castration - all common species*• Tail docking*• Onychectomy – dogs and cats*• Laparotomies – all common species• Dystocias in common species*• Prolapsed organs – common types, species, and incidence*		
Patient assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organize medical records/consent forms• Review pre-operative evaluation*• Evaluate current patient status*• Coordinate anesthesia*• Coordinate pain management with the anesthesia/surgical team*		
Surgical preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare surgical site using appropriate aseptic techniques*• Position patient for common procedures*		
Provide surgical assistance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis*• Assist with care of exposed tissues and organs*• Properly pass instruments and supplies*• Operate and maintain suction and cautery machines*• Operate and maintain fiber optic equipment*• Keep operative records*		

	Evaluator	Date
Provide post-operative care: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain management* • Adequate nutrition* • Bandaging* • Suture removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluid therapy* • Wound management* • Discharge instructions* 	
PROCEDURAL MANAGEMENT		
	Evaluator	Date
Understand and provide the proper instruments, supplies and environment to maintain asepsis during surgical procedures, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and know proper use for instruments* • Maintain proper operating room conduct and asepsis* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare gowns, masks, gloves, and drapes* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform post-surgical clean-up (e.g., equipment, instruments, room, proper disposal of hazardous medical waste)* • Prepare surgical instruments and supplies* • Operate and maintain autoclaves* • Sterilize instruments and supplies using appropriate methods* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify common suture materials, types and sizes* • Provide operating room sanitation and care* 		
HUSBANDRY		
Decision making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will implement appropriate husbandry techniques to enhance wellness and reduce risk of disease, injury and stress.		
Grooming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform therapeutic bathing, basic grooming, and dipping of small animals* • Trim nails (dog, cat)* 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trim nails (birds, pocket pets)* 		

PARASITOLOGY		
	Evaluator	Date
Identify blood parasites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dirofilaria</i> sp/<i>Dipetalonema</i> sp – direct, hematocrit tube, Knotts, filter, antigen kit* • <i>Haemobartonella</i> sp* • <i>Anaplasma</i> sp • <i>Babesia</i> sp • <i>Trypanosoma</i> sp • <i>Eperythrozoon</i> sp • <i>Ehrlichia</i> sp 		
Perform coprologic tests		
Perform cytologic evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in collecting, preparing and evaluating transudate, exudates and cytologic specimens (joint, cerebrospinal, airway, body cavity) • Perform fine needle tissue aspirates and impression smear preparation (differentiate benign vs. malignant) • Prepare and stain bone marrow specimens • Collect, prepare, and evaluate ear cytology* • Collect, prepare, and evaluate canine vaginal smears* • Evaluate semen • Understand timing and types of pregnancy testing • Assist with artificial insemination 		
NECROPSY PROCEDURES		
Perform prosection on non-preserved animal*		

VSCT 212 Research Animal Techniques

NURSING: RESTRAINT

Skill: Demonstrate effective and appropriate restraint techniques for various animal species:

	Evaluator	Date
Exotic/Pocket Pets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrain pocket pets and exotics 		

LABORATORY ANIMAL PROCEDURES

Decision-making abilities: The veterinary technician will be familiar with the basic principles of animal research and understand the utilization of laboratory animals in animal research. The veterinary technician will also have a working knowledge of federal, state and local animal welfare regulations.

Perform and/or supervise basic care procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize and restrain* • Handling* • Identification* • Administer drugs or medicaments using appropriate sites and routes (all common species)* • Perform oral dosing* • Have working knowledge of anesthetic and recovery procedures* • Determine sex* • Feeding* • Collect blood samples* • Explain common disease signs* 		
Non-human primates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand restraint of non-human primates 		

AVIAN, EXOTIC & FISH PROCEDURES

Decision-making abilities: Given the unique requirements of these species, the veterinary technician will safely obtain subjective and objective data that will allow evaluation of the patient. The veterinary technician will be able to: (1) identify husbandry issues, (2) discern appropriate from inappropriate nutritional support, and (3) recognize normal from abnormal behavior patterns.

	Evaluator	Date
Understand the approach to providing safe and effective care for reptiles and amphibians; recognize and restrain reptiles and amphibians		
Understand the approach to providing safe and effective care for rabbits and ferrets; recognize and restrain rabbits and ferrets		
Understand unique husbandry issues for each species and provide client education: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nutritional needs/diet• Watering• Caging (temperature, humidity, light)• Aquarium care• Breeding• Basic grooming (beak, wing, and nail clipping)• Appropriate transportation methods		
Nursing care of exotic species <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administer or inject drugs using appropriate sites• Knowledge of sites for catheter placement• Understand tube feeding in birds• Perform laboratory procedures• Anesthetize avian and exotic animals• Recognize normal from abnormal behavior patterns		

VSCT 213 Practical Nutrition

HUSBANDRY

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will implement appropriate husbandry techniques to enhance wellness and reduce risk of disease, injury and stress.

	Evaluator	Date
Demonstrate understanding of breeding/reproduction techniques* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding of care of orphan animals • Demonstrate understanding of nursing care of newborns* 		

NUTRITION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will understand appropriate and inappropriate dietary components for various life stages and therapeutic regimens (e.g., prescription diets) in order to promote optimal health, enhance recovery and manage chronic disease conditions. The veterinary technician will also explain nutritional recommendations to clients and reinforce owner compliance.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand life stage energy and nutrient requirements of well animals (dog, cat, horse, cow)* • Identify common grains and forages • Understand key nutritional factors in disease conditions* • Familiarity with prescription diets* • Identify common poisonous plants* • Familiarity with organic substances* • Develop and communicate hospital nutrition protocols* 		
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VSCT 214 Veterinary Pharmacology

OFFICE AND HOSPITAL PROCEDURES, CLIENT RELATIONS, AND COMMUNICATION

MANAGEMENT

Skill: Participate in facility management utilizing traditional and electronic media and appropriate veterinary medical terminology and abbreviations.

	Evaluator	Date
Manage inventory control*		
Recognize roles of appropriate regulatory agencies*		
Maintain appropriate disposal protocols for hazardous materials*		
Establish and maintain appropriate sanitation and nosocomial protocols for a veterinary facility, including patient and laboratory area*		

COMMUNICATIONS

Decision-making abilities: Taking into account the patient, client, staff and circumstances, the veterinary technician will effectively and accurately acquire and convey information utilizing an appropriate communication mode.

Skill: Communicate in a professional manner in all formats including written, oral, non-verbal, and electronic

Recognize the legality of the veterinary-client-patient relationship*		
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LAW AND ETHICS

Decision-making abilities: Given knowledge of legal limitations and applicable ethical standards, the veterinary technician will carry out her/his duties within appropriate legal boundaries and maintain high ethical standards to provide high quality service to clients, patients, employers and the veterinary profession.

Skill: Follow and uphold applicable laws and the veterinary technology profession's ethical codes to provide high quality care to patients.

Understand and observe legal boundaries of veterinary health care team members*		
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PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY

ADMINISTRATION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will calculate the correct amount of medication in the prescribed form and administer it by the prescribed route to maximize therapeutic benefits and minimize the potential for adverse effects. The veterinary technician should also be able to differentiate between abnormal and normal responses to medication.

Skill: Safely and effectively administer prescribed drugs to patients.

	Evaluator	Date
Recognize and explain common side effects of vaccine administration*		
Demonstrate understanding of regulations governing maintenance of controlled substances log book*		
Demonstrate compliance with all federal regulatory guidelines for drug purchase, storage, administration, withdrawal, dispensing, disposal and inventory control (e.g., biologics and therapeutic agents, pesticides and hazardous wastes)*		

DISPENSING

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the instructions of the veterinarian and the medication to be used, the veterinary technician will (1) calculate and dispense the correct form and dose of medication and (2) communicate necessary client information in order to maximize safety, compliance with prescribed therapy and successful treatment of the patient. The veterinary technician should also be proficient at performing inventory control procedures.

Skill: Accurately dispense and explain prescribed drugs to clients.

Given a drug order, properly prepare medications for dispensing, including performing accurate calculations*		
Demonstrate compliance with regulations governing prescription drugs versus over-the-counter drugs*		
Relay drug information to clients (e.g., handling, storage, administration, side effects, drug interactions, safety, reasons for use of drug)*		

NUTRITION

Decision-making abilities: Given the characteristics of the patient, the veterinary technician will understand appropriate and inappropriate dietary components for various life stages and therapeutic regimens (e.g., prescription diets) in order to promote optimal health, enhance recovery and manage chronic disease conditions. The veterinary technician will also explain nutritional recommendations to clients and reinforce owner compliance.

	Evaluator	Date
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand life stage energy and nutrient requirements of well animals (dog, cat, horse, cow)*• Identify common grains and forages • Identify common poisonous plants*•• Develop and communicate hospital nutrition protocols*		