

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



COURSE OUTLINE

VSCT 101 – FUNDAMENTAL VETERINARY NURSING SKILLS I

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

- A. **TITLE:** Fundamental Veterinary Nursing Skills I
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** VSCT 101
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 2
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** No
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Fall
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** One 50-minute lecture per week, 2 hours of laboratory per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces students to the Veterinary Technology profession and fundamental animal care nursing skills. Students learn how to properly restrain cats and dogs, administer parenteral injections on models, take a patient history, complete medical records, conduct a physical examination, and perform clinical procedures related to primary patient care. Students also learn to identify cat and dog breeds and surgical instruments. Competencies related to basic nursing care are conducted at the end of the course. Course is limited to freshman students in the Veterinary Science Technology curriculum. This course is a prerequisite to all other VSCT courses.

- I. **PRE-REQUISITES OR CO-COURSES:** Admission to parent program, Intro to Animal Agriculture (VSCT 103), College Biology (BIOL 150) with Lab and College Chemistry I (CHEM 150) with Lab
- J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

<i>Course Objective</i>	<i>Institutional SLO</i>
Discuss veterinary science careers, responsibilities, and professionalism.	3. Prof. Competence
Discuss the legal and ethical context of practice.	2. Critical Thinking 3. Prof. Competence
Comply with occupational health and safety guidelines in veterinary medicine.	3. Prof. Competence
Recognize surgical instruments and describe their use.	3. Prof. Competence
Identify cat breeds and dog breeds.	3. Prof. Competence
Discuss temporary and permanent methods of animal identification.	3. Prof. Competence
Take patient histories and create and maintain client/patient records.	3. Prof. Competence
Correctly sanitize and clean patient housing areas and exam tables.	3. Prof. Competence

Correctly remove dogs and cats from cages and restrain them for examinations and procedures.	3. Prof. Competence
Perform physical examinations on cats and dogs.	3. Prof. Competence
Perform primary patient care procedures on cats and dogs	3. Prof. Competence

K. REQUIRED TEXTS for course:

- Lecture and laboratory note packet
- Program Manual / Essential Tasks booklet

REQUIRED TEXT FOR PROGRAM:

- Bassert, Joanna and Thomas, John (2014). *McCurnin's Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians*, 8th Ed, Saunders: St. Louis, Missouri, ISBN: 978-1-4377-2680-0.

L. REFERENCES: Campus library, *Veterinary Technician Journal*

M. EQUIPMENT:

- ANGEL learning system: <http://www.canton.edu/angel/>
- Laboratory supplies and equipment

N. GRADING METHOD: A - F

O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:

- Quizzes
- Midterm
- Cumulative Final
- Clinical Competency
- Participation

P. DETAILED TOPICAL OUTLINE:

- I. Directional and Positional Terms
 - A. Directional terms
 - B. Positional terms

- II. The Veterinary Technology profession
 - A. Education and testing
 - B. Credentials
 - C. Professional associations
 - D. Specialization
 - E. Certifications that do not require licensure
 - F. Career opportunities
 - G. Responsibilities of veterinarians and veterinary technicians

- III. Laws governing veterinary technology
 - A. The Practice Act
 - B. State Veterinary Board
 - C. Rules and Regulations

- D. Continuing education requirements
 - E. Types of law
 - F. Federal government agencies that regulate veterinary medicine
 - G. State government agencies that regulate veterinary medicine
- IV. Ethics in Veterinary Technology
- A. 3 tiers of ethics
 - B. Professional ideals
 - C. Utilitarianism
 - D. Deontology
 - E. Ethical dilemmas
 - F. Veterinary Technician's Code of Ethics
- V. Medical records
- A. Importance thereof
 - B. Release of medical information
 - C. Making entries in medical records
 - D. Paperless records
 - E. Information to include in medical records
 - F. Medical records formats
- VI. History taking
- A. Information included in the History
 - B. History of the present problem
- VII. Occupational safety & health in Veterinary Technology
- A. Animal-related injuries & illnesses
 - B. Laboratory hazards
 - C. Sharps
 - D. Radiation safety
 - E. Anesthetics
 - F. Toxic chemicals
 - G. Preventing & addressing work-related illness & injury
- VIII. Regulated medical waste
- IX. Cat breeds and dog breeds
- Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE:**
- I. Disinfection & cleaning
 - A. Definitions
 - B. Chemical disinfectants
 - C. Preventing the spread of infectious agents in a veterinary facility
 - D. Procedure for cleaning surfaces, cages, kennels
 - E. Antiseptics
 - II. Animal identification methods

- A. Reasons for identifying animals
 - B. Temporary identification methods for various species
 - C. Permanent identification methods for various species
 - D. Microchipping procedure
 - E. Scanning for a microchip
- III. Introduction to restraint
- A. Reasons for restraint & principles of restraint
 - B. Sources & effects of stress & struggling
 - C. Types of restraint
 - D. Amount of restraint needed
- IV. Feline cage removal & restraint
- A. Behavioral signals
 - B. Restraint for procedures
 - C. Restraint for venipuncture
- V. Canine cage removal & restraint
- A. Behavioral signals
 - B. Approaching a dog
 - C. Use of the slip leash
 - D. Cage or carrier removal
 - E. Snubbing
 - F. Lifting a dog
 - G. Muzzling
 - H. Restraint for venipuncture
- VI. Physical examination introduction
- A. Senses to use
 - B. Body condition scoring
 - C. Completion of a physical exam form
- VII. Lymph node palpation
- VIII. Oral examination & dentistry introduction
- A. Terminology
 - B. Assessing mucous membrane color
 - C. Assessing capillary refill time
 - D. Dental formulas
 - E. Aging cats & dogs by dentition
 - F. Signs of oropharyngeal or periodontal disease
 - G. Problems to look for upon oral exam
 - H. Dentistry instruments
 - I. Client education
- IX. Ear examination & care

- A. Terminology
 - B. Anatomy of the ear
 - C. Behavioral indications of ear problems
 - D. Examination of the pinnae
 - E. Examination of the ear canal
 - F. Otitis
 - G. Taking and examining an ear mite sample
 - H. Use of the otoscope
 - I. Cleaning the ears
 - J. Instilling medication in the ears
 - K. Client communication
- X. Eye examination & care
- A. Terminology
 - B. Conditions of the eye
 - C. Examination of the eye
 - a. Reflexes and responses to test
 - b. Use of the pen light
 - c. Other diagnostic tools
 - D. Removal of exudates from the eye
Application of eye medication
- XI. Intranasal administration
- XII. Needles, syringes, injections on animal models
- A. Parts of needles & syringes
 - B. Needle & syringe sizes
 - C. Injection types
 - D. Drawing up fluid in a syringe
 - E. Subcutaneous injections on models
 - F. Intramuscular injections on models
- XIII. Suture & staple removal
- XIV. Integument
- A. Terminology
 - B. Parasites found in or on the skin
 - C. Ringworm
 - D. Lipomas & abscesses
- XV. Auscultation & measurement of heart rate, pulse, & respirations
- A. Parts of the stethoscope
 - B. Terminology
 - C. Auscultation of the heart
 - D. Pulse
 - E. Examination of the upper respiratory tract
 - F. Auscultation of the lungs
- XVI. Use of the thermometer

- A. Anatomical location
 - B. Types of thermometers
 - C. Preparing thermometer for use
 - D. Restraint
 - E. Taking a temperature
 - F. Reading thermometers
- XVII. Hydration status
- A. Normal fluid losses
 - B. Excessive fluid losses
 - C. Inadequate fluid intake
 - D. Methods of assessing hydration status
 - E. Percent dehydration
- XVIII. Oral medication
- A. Why used and when not to use
 - B. Terminology
 - C. Administration of liquids
 - D. Tablets, capsules, & gelscaps
 - E. Pilling a dog
 - F. Pilling a cat
 - G. Pill guns
 - H. Use of forceps
 - I. Owner compliance issues
- XIX. Therapeutic grooming & pedicures
- A. Why grooming is important
 - B. Grooming supplies and their care
 - C. Importance of nail trimming
 - D. Types of nail trimmers
 - E. Locating the quick
 - F. Nail trimming procedure
- XX. Surgical instruments and their use