Bergen Community College
Veterinary Technology Program

Course Title: Dentistry for the Veterinary Technician

Course Number: VET-204

Credits: 3

Classroom Hours: 2

Laboratory Hours: 3

Prerequisites: Admission into the Veterinary Technology Program and successful completion of BIO- 215 and VET-112

Co-requisites: VET- 207

Course Description:

This course encompasses various procedures in veterinary dentistry along with the skills necessary to assist the veterinarian in a complete dental prophylaxis and other more complicated dental procedures. Oral and dental anatomy will be reviewed. The course will focus on the operation and maintenance of dental equipment, including dental radiography; the performance of a small animal dental prophylaxis procedure; and a survey of dental diseases in small and large animals and exotics. Emphasis will be placed on the scope of services that may be provided by the veterinary technician, including client education.

Course Goals:

- Provide an overview of oral and dental anatomy for small animals, large animals, and exotics
- Familiarize the student with dental equipment and supplies commonly used in general practices
- Furnish the student with foundation skills necessary to perform a small animal dental prophylaxis
- Survey various dental diseases in small animals, large animals, and exotics
- Inform the student about periodontics, endodontics, orthodontics, and extractions, in order to assist the veterinarian with relevant procedures
- Instruct the student regarding current recommendations for dental care
- Assist the student in providing client education regarding post procedural care, as well as preventive maintenance of pet's teeth at home

Performance Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of oral and dental functional anatomy in small animals, large animals, and exotics
- Utilize the terminology of veterinary dentistry in discussion and medical record-keeping
- Identify dental instruments and dental supplies, along with their use in veterinary dentistry
- Operate dental equipment commonly used in general practice
- Maintain dental equipment and supplies commonly used in general practice
- Practice radiological safety while performing dental radiography
- Provide correct positioning for obtaining diagnostic radiographs
- Understand proper exposure and development of dental films, along with storage and filing of dental radiographs
- Discuss health and safety considerations associated with performance of the dental prophylaxis procedure
- Set up for a simple dental prophylaxis procedure
- Demonstrate correct positioning of patient during a dental procedure
- Demonstrate step by step manual procedure of a simple dental prophylaxis utilizing models, manually and with machine
- List the common types of analgesics, tranquilizers, anesthetics and other drugs used in veterinary dentistry and explain how they exert their effects
- Perform dental charting
- Describe post anesthesia care for pets
- List and describe various oral and dental diseases in small animals, large animals, and exotics
- Describe procedures related to periodontics, endodontics, and orthodontics
- Understand extraction procedures as well as aftercare
- Provide client education, including postprophy care
- Discuss home preventive care of pet's teeth, including current dental care recommendations for pets
- Understand the legal limits of the veterinary technician, including knowledge of the guidelines described by the American Veterinary Dental College

Course Materials:

Required:

Gorrel, Cecilia. *Veterinary Dentistry for the Nurse and Technician,* St. Louis, Missouri, 2005; Elsevier

Teaching Methodologies:

Lecture topics are covered by utilizing a series of power point based presentations with accompanying required reading assignments, and clinical case presentations for large group discussion. Laboratory sessions will consist of laboratory demonstrations, hands-on exercises, and practical examinations. Models and cadavers will be utilized in the lab for teaching purposes. Radiation badges are required during related laboratory sessions and monitored by the program designee.

Lecture Grading Criteria:

There will be three written unit exams and a comprehensive final examination given at times selected and announced in advance by the instructor. Exams will cover lecture material, required readings, and other handouts provided. The exams are in any format including multiple choice, fill-in, short answer, and/or essay. Students are expected to take exams as scheduled. Failure to attend a scheduled examination requires the student to contact the instructor within 72 hours of the scheduled exam date AND provide a written bona fide excuse for the absence. Upon demonstration of a verifiable absence (e.g. medical), the instructor will provide a make-up exam, which will be given in an alternate format of the instructor's choice and administered in the testing center. Failure to contact the instructor within this given time frame will result in a grade of zero for that exam. Grades will be averaged as follows for 50% of the final course grade:

Unit Exam #1	10%
Unit Exam #2	10%
Unit Exam #3	10%
Comprehensive Final Exam	20%

IMPORTANT NOTE: The student must achieve a final lecture grade average of 76% to successfully complete this course, independent of the laboratory grade.

Laboratory Grading Criteria:

The laboratory grade will be based on laboratory assignments and practical examinations. The laboratory assignment portion of the grade will be based on completion of weekly assignments posted in advance. Practical examinations are primarily hands-on exercises covering material presented in the lab. Grades will be averaged as follows for 50% of the final course grade:

Practical Exam #1	15%
Practical Exam #2	15%
Comprehensive Final Practical	20%

IMPORTANT NOTE: The student must achieve a final laboratory grade average of 80% to successfully complete this course, independent of the lecture grade.

Clinical Competency Evaluations:

In addition to the regular coursework required, students will complete clinical competencies for a list of essential skills associated with the course topic, as dictated by the AVMA accrediting body. Students will work individually (or in groups where indicated) to achieve a satisfactory competence level necessary for each required skill. All skills performed during the semester will be evaluated by the instructor, who will provide a signature after the successful completion of a task. A list of skill sets will be provided by the instructor and available in the Veterinary Technology building for ongoing review.

Students must perform ALL the essential skills required in this course. If any essential task is not completed satisfactorily, you will be required to meet with the instructor to discuss completion of the skill and make arrangements to make up said skill/task. If a skill remains unsatisfactory by the semester's end, the student will be given a failure for the course, and the course will be repeated, regardless of final grade in lecture. You will also need to meet with the program director to determine your progression through the program.

Lecture Attendance Policy:

Attendance and classroom participation are of utmost importance. Students are expected to be present and on time for all classes. Attendance will be taken each session. Whether you are late or absent for a particular class, you are responsible for all material covered in your absence—this material should be obtained from a classmate. Missing 3 lecture sessions, regardless of the cause, will result in failure for this course (lateness > 20 minutes will be counted as ½ absence). You will be required to meet with the program director in the event this should happen. If you are late for a lecture, please enter the classroom quietly and without interruptions. You can contact the lecturer at the break or after lecture for any announcements you may have missed.

Laboratory Attendance Policy:

Attendance is mandatory. Missing greater than 2 lab sessions, regardless of the cause, will result in an automatic failure for the course. Lateness > 20 minutes will count as ½ absence. You will be required to meet with the program director in the event this should happen. If you have a legitimate reason for missing a laboratory, you should inform the instructor within 24 hours. Labs cannot be made up. You may attend a different lab session only with prior approval and appropriate notification.

Student Accommodations

Students who require accommodations by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) can request support services from the Office of Specialized Services of Bergen Community College, Room L-116, Pitkin Education Center, 201-612-5270 or http://www.bergen.edu/pages/676.asp. Deadline for accommodations is posted at this site.

Rules and Regulations Governing Conduct

Each student is expected to obtain a copy of the Bergen Community Student Handbook and is responsible for knowing the information included in the Handbook. Copies are available in the Office of Student Life, the Welcome Center, evening office, and on the Bergen Web site.

In addition, each student accepted in the Veterinary Technology Program is expected to obtain a copy of the Veterinary Technology Student Handbook and is responsible for knowing the information included in this Handbook. Copies are available through the program director.

All student and faculty are governed by college rules and regulations. Please refer to the Student Handbook for information regarding codes of conduct.

Academic Integrity/Discipline/Plagiarism

Bergen Community College and the Veterinary Technology Program are committed to academic integrity. Please refer to the current Student Handbooks for details related to academic integrity/discipline and plagiarism.

Important College Policies

Withdrawal from Classes and Refunds, pp. 38; 41; 45-46.

Grading, pp. 53-54.

Course Grade Appeal Policy, p. 54.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism, p. 60-61. **[Read this carefully.]**

Class Attendance Policy, pp. 63.

Acceptable Use of Information Technology Resources, pp. 64-65.

Clubs, pp. 65; 68-74.

Code of Student Conduct, pp. 88-92.

Alcohol and Drug Policy, pp. 78-79, 106.

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

ADA and Grievance Procedures pp. 16; 67; 98; 106; 124.

Sexual Harassment Policy, pp. 80-81, 89.

Campus Assault Victim's Bill of Rights, pp. 81-83.

Smoking Policy, p. 83.

Traffic Regulations, p. 77.

Course Contact Information:

Lecture: Professor Katherine Esformes
Email: kesformes@bergen.edu

Lab:

Monday Lab Instructors: Professor Kira Berger CVT
Email: kiraann82@yahoo.com
Lab Instructor: Professor Lisa Picht LVT BAS
Email: lpicht@bergen.edu

Tuesday Lab Instructors: Professor Jennifer Demers LVT BS
Email: Jennifer@liquifuse.net
Lab Instructor: Professor Janice Mazurek LVT, RN
Email: jreilly@bergen.edu

Topical Lecture Outline*

WEEK	LECTURE TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT
1	Introduction to Veterinary Dentistry; Oral and Dental Anatomy	Chapter 1
2	Dental Functional Anatomy; Dental Terminology	Chapter 1
3	Dental Equipment & Supplies	Chapter 2
4	**Unit Exam #1**	
5	Dental Radiography	Chapter 3
6	Performing a Complete Dental Prophy	Chapter 5
7	Dental Charting	Chapter 7
8	Anesthesia, Analgesia, and Postsurgical Support	Chapter 6

9	**Unit Exam #2**	
10	Dental Diseases in Small Animals	Chapters 4, 8, 9
11	Dental Diseases in Small Animals	Chapters 10,11
12	Dental Diseases in Large Animals & Exotics	
13	**Unit Exam #3**	
14	Client Education: Current Dental Care Recommendations for Pets	Chapter 12
15	**Comprehensive Final Exam**	

**subject to change*

Topical Lab Outline*

WEEK	LABORATORY TOPIC
1	Oral & Dental Anatomy
2	Oral & Dental Anatomy
3	Equipment & Supplies
4	Oral Exam and charting
5	Oral Exam and charting
6	Oral exam and charting
7	**Practical exam #1**
8	Performing the Dental Prophy
9	Performing the Dental Prophy

10	Performing the Dental Prophy/Begin dental radiographs
11	Dental radiographs
12	Dental radiographs
13	Practical exam #2
14	Home care Review for Final Exam
15	**Comprehensive Final Practical Examination**

**subject to change*