



Veterinary Assistant

CC012

Please read the information in this syllabus before proceeding to the course materials.

Credits 1

Prerequisites None

INSTRUCTIONAL TEAM

Margi Sirois

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Our Academic Advisors are also available to help you when you need it. They are trained to provide answers to your questions about the course or program.

Phone: 1-800-224-7234

Hours: 8:30AM – 8:30PM (Eastern Standard Time), Monday-Friday

MAIL

James Madison High School

6625 The Corners Parkway, Suite 500

Norcross, GA 30092

TEXTBOOK

This course does not require a textbook and contains all the materials and items you need to complete the course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines normal and abnormal animal behaviors and their prevention and correction. It also covers the different aspects of preventive veterinary care, and the procedures used to properly prepare equipment and supplies when assisting a veterinary or veterinary technician with animal examination, restraint, and medication administration.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing the Animal Nursing course, students will be able to:

- Describe normal and common abnormal behaviors exhibited by dogs and cats
- Explain methods used to restrain animals for a variety of procedures
- Describe the relationship between predator and prey
- Discuss aspects of preventive care
- Describe proper housing and sanitation for animals
- Describe the nutritional needs and feeding methods of animals in different life cycle stages
- Identify common zoonotic diseases



- Discuss the role of the veterinary assistant in surgical nursing, including instrument sterilization, equipment maintenance, wound closure, and surgical asepsis.
- Describe the role of the veterinary assistant in the collection and preparation of samples for diagnostic testing.
- Discuss the procedures for obtaining radiographic views of animals, including proper positioning, safety concerns, and record keeping requirements.

LESSONS	TOPICS
Part 1	
Lesson 1: Animal Behavior and Restraint	Dog and cat breeds; ethology; preventing and correcting behavior problems; house training; body language; restraint equipment and techniques.
Lesson 2: Animal Husbandry and Nutrition	Aspects of preventive care; proper housing and sanitation; nutritional needs; feeding methods for different life cycle stages; common zoonotic diseases; vaccine requirements.
Lesson 3: Animal Care and Nursing	Patient history and physical examination; therapeutic bathing; grooming and skin care; nail trimming; administering medications; fluid therapy; wound care and bandaging.
Lesson 4: Surgical Preparation and Assisting	The role of the veterinary assistant in surgical nursing; using appropriate terminology related to surgical procedures; sterilizing surgical instruments and equipment; suture materials; asepsis in the surgical suite.
Lesson 5: Laboratory Procedures	Collecting and preparing samples for diagnostic testing; lab equipment; hematology and clinical chemistry tests; immunology and urinalysis tests; common parasites.
Lesson 6: Diagnostic Imaging	Principles of X-ray generation; commonly obtained radiographic views; proper patient positioning during radiographs; safety concerns; radiology record-keeping procedures.



GRADING

The following point totals correspond to the following grades:

POINTS	GRADE
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100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
65-69	D
Below 65	F

James Madison High School allows 2 attempts on exams. If a student is not satisfied with his/her score on the 1st attempt, an exam may be resubmitted. The 2nd attempt is not required as long as the final course average is above 65%. The higher of the 2 attempts will be the score that counts towards the final average.

Exams are timed and once you begin an exam, the timer runs continuously, even if you leave the course. Refer to the exam instructions for the time limit (in most cases 3 hours), but the time limit cannot be spread over multiple days.

GRADE WEIGHT

TOPIC	ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE
	Part 1	
Lesson 1:	MC Quiz	11%
Lesson 2:	MC Quiz	11%
Lesson 3:	MC Quiz	11%
Assignment	Project	17%
Lesson 4:	MC Quiz	11%
Lesson 5:	MC Quiz	11%
Lesson 6:	MC Quiz	11%
Assignment	Project	17%



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ACADEMIC AND COURSE POLICIES

Please see the Academic Policies section in the James Madison High School Catalog for information on Course policies, including the Exam/Assignment Retake Policy, Grading Policy, Academic Honesty Policy, and Student Conduct Policy.

