

**SYLLABUS
VETERINARY SCIENCE
2023-2024**

INSTRUCTOR: Deb Rosson, L.V.T.

OFFICE PHONE: (757) 874-4444 ext. 5587

E-MAIL: deb.rosson@nhrec.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday, 7:00am-3:00pm

COURSE: #8088 and #8089 (3 credits)

LOCATION: NHREC Woodside Lane Campus 13400 Woodside Lane Newport News, VA 23696

TEXT: Introduction to Veterinary Science, Third Edition / James Lawhead, MeeCee Baker
Small Animal Care and Management / Dean M. Warren
Pet First Aid / American Red Cross publication

Course Description: This is an introductory, one-year course designed to teach students to assist veterinarians and other veterinary professionals in the many areas involving the care of animal patients. The students will learn to work as part of a team, to respect one another as well as the patients in the classroom, and to communicate effectively using proper terminology and medical record keeping. Topics to be covered include basic first aid, medical terminology, professional and ethical standards of veterinary medicine, handling and restraint, animal anatomy, behavior, diseases and treatments with an emphasis on small/companion animal species. Completion of this course will prepare the students for full-time employment as a Kennel Attendant or Veterinary Assistant in a veterinary hospital and will establish a foundation for students to enter into the Community College system for an Associate Degree as a Licensed Veterinary Technician.

Instructional Philosophy: Students will be expected to meet the course goals listed below and be able to demonstrate their understanding of the underlying concepts. The instruction will include lectures, class discussion, hands-on training whenever possible, assigned reading materials and computer research. Students will be asked to work both individually and in teams and practice communication and problem-solving skills, and will be expected to prepare a resume and conduct job search exercises. Speaking and listening skills will be required of all students. Representatives from a multitude of animal care professions will appear as guest lecturers to give the students insight into the many branches of the field. Students will have the opportunity on many occasions to learn, practice and teach skills to their peers. There will also inevitably be the need for students to practice training skills with live animals.

Students will be evaluated based on the following:

Employability Skills: (34%) These are skills needed to be successful in the workforce. Examples of these skills include, but are not limited to, effective communication skills, time management, the ability to follow directions and safety rules, ability to work both independently and as a team player, personal appearance, proper use of vocabulary and terminology, class attendance, dressing for work on lab days and respect for self and others. Students are given 100 points every week and deductions are made for each violation of workplace rules.

Related Instruction: (33%) Quizzes, tests, portfolios, worksheets, vocabulary, homework, projects and other classroom assignments will be used to determine the overall related instruction grade. A minimum of six related instruction grades will be given during each quarter. Portfolios must be kept current and be available for grading at the middle of each quarter.

Competencies: (33%) As outlined in the Virginia Department of Education Competency-Based Task/Competency Lists for both Veterinary Science 1 and 2. Also included in this category is a basic understanding of Virginia's Workplace Readiness Skills. Task sheets will be provided each quarter to outline the hands-on competencies to be practiced during that time period. Please refer to CTE Resources online for more information.

Course Goals: Students in this course will learn:

- A. To follow safety procedures when working with animals in a hospital setting
- B. Animal, anatomy, behavior and training
- C. Safe and humane restraint of animals for various veterinary procedures
- D. Medical terminology and medical record keeping
- E. Diseases, symptoms, treatment and preventative measures for small animals
- F. Basic first aid, calculation and administration of medications, and general nursing care
- G. Routine technical, maintenance and office functions
- H. Professional and ethical standards and client communications
- I. Aseptic techniques, surgical instruments and procedures
- J. Clinic maintenance and cleanliness

Portfolio notebook:

Each student is required to assemble a portfolio containing any notes, assignments, handouts, class work, quizzes, task sheets and resumes. Students will need a 2-3 inch, 3 ring binder in which to organize their work. These portfolios will be checked by the instructor once per quarter and evaluated for neatness and content. These portfolios may be left in the classroom or taken home by the students, but must be available for evaluation when announced. This will be an ongoing project throughout the school term and will be the property of the student upon completion of this course.

Instructional Delivery Plan:

This course will be taught using a combination of online, lecture, textbook materials, handouts, demonstrations, instructional videos, class discussions, computer research, guest speakers and “hands on the animals” experiences. **Due to the nature of this course, students and parents must understand that working with animal patients holds some risk of injury to the students.** Students will be taught how to handle and restrain animals safely and with respect, and will come to understand the dangers involved if safety procedures are not followed.

The instructor will inform the students in advance of any planned field trips, and the cost, if any, related to each. The students will be expected to participate in any trips outside the classroom, and to conduct themselves in an adult fashion when visiting outside facilities.

Guest speakers will be scheduled to address the class several times throughout the school term. These visitors will relay valuable information to the students in a variety of topics related to veterinary medicine and animal care. Students will be expected to take notes on the material discussed by the speaker, and to treat the visitors with the same respect as any school faculty. Speakers may bring animals into the classroom for demonstrations and those animals will be treated with respect and kindness as well. Students receive professional outreach credit for attending these lectures.

Adherence to New Horizons Attendance Policy, Dress Code and Student Conduct:

These requirements will be outlined in our NHREC student handbook. All students will be asked to read and comply with these guidelines. Our environment is more like a workplace than a school, so things like proper attire and attendance mean more here than at most home high schools.

iCEV Online Training Program: There will be an online component to our coursework which will help to enhance classroom materials. Students will be given access to these online lessons and will have due dates and assessments associated with this work. This platform integrates nicely with our course competencies, and will be a large part of our learning process. Students will be given the chance to earn the Elanco Veterinary Medical Applications Certification at the end of the course. There is no extra cost to the student for this additional training.

Involvement in Student Organization (CTSO)

All CTE students are required to become involved in a Career and Technical Student Organization. Veterinary Science students will become members of FFA. The level of participation will vary according to the students desire to participate. Details about conferences, activities and competitions will become available later in the school year. Please refer to the FFA website online for more information.

Professional Outreach and Community Service

Students will be required to complete *a minimum* of ten hours of community service work or professional outreach activities during the course of the school year. This volunteer time can be completed in class or during scheduled fund-raising events offered throughout the school year. We will be working to raise awareness and assistance for homeless animals and low-income pet owners in the local community. Student involvement in these events is required.

“Employment” with NHACC

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, once students have been trained in behavior, restraint and basic grooming, we will begin seeing patients by appointment and running **New Horizons Animal Care Center** during class. All students are required to participate in all aspects of this business as part of their educational experience. This will act as a form of “on the job training”. Students will be required to dress for work on these days and share the responsibility for caring for patients, performing physical exams, interacting with clients, cleaning up after themselves and the patients and keeping accurate medical records. Students will answer phone calls, schedule appointments and check clients in and out in a professional manner.

Cell Phones: Use of cell phones will be limited to break times, before class and at the end of class only. Inappropriate use of phones will result in phone being taken and locked away for the remainder of class.

CLASS FEES:

Activity Fee (Student Organization Dues)	\$17.00
Scrubs (Tops and Bottoms, embroidered)	\$40.00
Stethoscope	<u>\$20.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$77.00

FEES ARE DUE PAID IN FULL BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2023. Checks can be made to NHREC and paid through our main office. Students with financial difficulties may make payment arrangements through our principal, Nicole Stephens.

A NOTE FROM MRS. ROSSON:

Welcome to Veterinary Science! It is an exciting and rewarding field, and I am anxious to share with you my passion for the work we do. Please know that because we are often tasked with taking care of other people’s pets, there will be ZERO tolerance for any form of animal abuse, neglect or disrespect. Our area within the building is to be considered an animal care center, and all who enter will behave as such or be asked to leave. We will be working as a team on a daily basis, so tolerance, acceptance, and diversity awareness will be required of all students all the time. This is a peaceful and compassionate environment, and hatred and drama will not be tolerated under any circumstance. The humane treatment of animals and respect for fellow human beings is mandatory. This will be your workplace for the next school term, and you are fortunate to have been chosen to participate. In turn, I reserve the right to contact a parent or guardian if students do not meet my workplace standards.