

Comparative Medicine, VETM*4480

Fall/Winter 2017-2018

0.75 Credits

Calendar

This course will contribute to students' achievement of selected elements of graduating competency in the context of pet birds, commercial poultry and non-traditional species (fish, amphibians, reptiles, rodents, and ferrets). The primary emphasis is directed towards enhancing the skills, knowledge and attitudes that will permit the entry-level veterinarian to understand the contexts in which these species are encountered and to develop strategies to deal with common and uncommon diagnoses.

Course Co-

Dr. Patricia Turner, Department of Pathobiology, Room 3801, pvturner@uoguelph.ca

Instructo

Dr. John Lumsden, Department of Pathobiology - fish

Dr. Dale Smith, Department of Pathobiology - avian, amphibians, reptiles,

Dr. Leonardo Susta, Department of Pathobiology - poultry

Dr. Patricia Turner, Dept of Pathobiology - small mammals, laboratory animal medicine

Units of

1. Diseases of fish
2. Pet avian medicine and poultry health
3. Health issues relating to pet amphibians and reptiles
5. Veterinary care of pet small mammals and animals in research

Course Objectives and Learning

Students will gain insights into the roles and responsibilities of veterinarians dealing with fish, amphibians, reptiles, rabbits, rodents and small exotic and avian pets, poultry, and laboratory animals in a variety of contexts in support of the Competency Domains of Phase 3 of the OVC DVM program

(http://ovc.uoguelph.ca/sites/default/files/users/ovcweb/files/PhaseLearningOutcomes_20150717.pdf)

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Upon successful completion of VETM4480, students will be able to:

1. Evaluate the health of an individual or group of animals of these species and distinguish between normal vs abnormal health, welfare or performance.

2. Rationally select, explain the utility of, and interpret results of diagnostic testing, and apply the results of such testing within the context of health and disease of these species.
3. Based on clinical and post mortem findings, diagnose the major diseases and conditions of these species, including developing a prioritized differential list, and diagnostic, treatment, and communication plans.
4. Formulate appropriate advice on management, treatment, and prevention of major diseases and conditions of these species.
5. Apply knowledge of appropriate perioperative care and management (including anesthesia, analgesia, and surgical planning) of these species in the context of pet, breeder, research or captive settings to optimize animal welfare.
6. Diagnose and provide appropriate advice about major zoonoses of these species.

Laboratory

For detailed information regarding the objectives and activities of each laboratory period please refer to information available on Courselink. Please check as to whether it is necessary to bring a copy of a laboratory guide to the activity.

It is the responsibility of each student to attend any safety orientation that is provided. Safety in the laboratory is a priority at all time. Serious accidents can occur if students do not act responsibly or fail to follow the appropriate procedures. In order to ensure safety of all participants, the safety procedures/guidelines provided by the instructor must be followed. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the laboratory session. Any accident or injury must be reported to the instructor at the time of occurrence. It is the responsibility of each student to attend any safety orientation that is provided.

Laboratory coats **must** be worn for all laboratory periods. Gloves and dissection equipment (scalpel handle, thumb forceps, scissors) are required for the labs on Fish Handling and Sampling, Avian Anatomy, and Rabbit Necropsy. Equipment to perform a clinical examination, such as watches, penlights, and stethoscopes, will be helpful for the Avian Handling lab. Students with allergies to birds or small mammals should speak to an instructor regarding any health concerns **in advance** of the relevant laboratory period.

Learning

The information and resource base for this course is its Courselink website; all material on the website is “examinable” unless otherwise specifically stated. Students are expected to complete assigned readings, self-assessment quizzes, and review questions. Some, but not all, portions of the course content will be presented in lecture format, demonstrated or practiced in laboratory sessions, or discussed in case/tutorial sessions. It is the students’ responsibility to read and examine material pertaining to these sessions and to complete any assigned activities in advance of the discussion periods to help them formulate interpretations and opinions. Students must be prepared to present and discuss cases during these periods. The

relevant instructor will outline the format of the case discussions for each unit of study.

Evaluati

To pass this course, students must complete all formal assignments and quizzes in each unit. The final grade for the course is comprised of 30% formative evaluation based on midterms and assignments, and 70% summative evaluation based on the final written examination.

Formative assessment during the fall semester consists of a 1-hour December midterm written evaluation covering fish (4% of final mark), avian medicine and poultry (14% of final mark), and reptiles and amphibians (3% of final mark). A written assignment is required for the small mammal/ab animal module (9% of final mark). Times for the written midterm are in the Phase 3 schedule. Each instructor will explain the format of his/her assessment in advance.

The final examination will be of three hours duration, will take place during the final examination week, and is worth 70% of the final mark. It will be cumulative, covering material from all aspects of the course, including assigned independent activities. The distribution of credit on the final examination for various domains of competency will be approximately 14% fish; 45% avian medicine/poultry; 10% reptiles and amphibians; and 31% small mammals and laboratory animal medicine.

The format for evaluation on the midterm and final examinations may include any of the following types of question: short answer; fill in the blank, matching, multiple choice, and short essay. Questions may be based on assessment of clinical scenarios and laboratory data, and they may involve recognition and interpretation of visual images.

Additional

Students are encouraged to review the document on academic administrative information, particularly sections dealing with academic consideration, absences for academic reasons, and academic misconduct (http://ovc.uoguelph.ca/sites/default/files/users/ovcweb/files/Academic_Administrative_Information-Phases1-3_2010_11.pdf).

Resource

Pertinent resource material will be available for this course through the Courselink site. Students are responsible for printing any materials they wish to have in hard copy format.

It is expected that students will familiarize themselves with the Sources of Information available for the course to determine what reference material they might like to use once in practice. Many of these books are available in the University of Guelph Library, often in on-line format. Students should be capable of accessing information on these species in the library, using major indexing publications and computer databases, and via the World Wide Web on the Internet.

The following books (available in print and electronic formats) provide basic information needed by a veterinarian seeing small mammals in clinical practice. They are highly recommended to provide additional depth to and clarification of materials presented in the Small Mammal section of this course.

- Quesenberry, K.E. and J.W. Carpenter. 2012. *Ferrets, Rabbits, and Rodents*. 3rd ed. Saunders, St Louis, MO.
- Harkness, J., P.V. Turner, S. Vandewoude, C.L. Wheler. 2010. *Harkness and Wagner's Biology and Medicine of Rabbits and Rodents*, 5th ed. Wiley-Blackwell; Ames, IA.

Schedul

Please refer to the Courselink site and the Phase 3 timetable for the detailed schedule of lectures, labs and examinations for this course.