

University of Guelph
OVC
Department of Clinical Studies
COURSE OUTLINE
Special Topics: Zoological Medicine
Fall – Winter semesters
0.5 credits

Course description

The course is designed to prepare graduate students in an ACZM (American College of Zoological Medicine) compliant residency program for the certifying examination of the ACZM. It will be based on the ACZM reading list (aczm.org), but also on additional materials that are required to obtain a more complete understanding of the discipline (such as anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology of diseases...). The ACZM day 1 examination is divided into 5 parts: birds, reptiles, aquatic medicine, wildlife medicine, and terrestrial mammals. The course will focus on one of these sub-specialties per semester. Students will read assigned literature-based materials and discussion will take place during schedule times. The discussion on the assigned readings will also focus on critical appraisal of the literature and to extract from the scientific literature what is 1) the most clinically relevant and 2) what is likely important for the ACZM examination. As zoological medicine is a broad field encompassing animal health and ecosystem health but also captive and free-ranging animals, an emphasis, through reading the published scientific literature, will be given to general concepts to promote a global understanding of the field such as epidemiology, evolutionary aspects of anatomy, physiology, and disease susceptibility, comparative medical approaches between various animal taxa, and the impact of climate and ecosystem changes to disease dynamics. A mock examination will be provided on an ACZM sub-specialty as per ACZM recommendations for ACZM compliant residencies.

Course Coordinator

Hugues Beaufrière

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Instructors

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Course schedule

Winter, Spring

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12pm-1:30pm

Course resources

All course resources will be provided directly by the course instructor. They will be based on the current ACZM reading list (www.aczm.org/).

Methods of Assessment

Each week, students will be assigned some course materials including book chapters and scientific articles that focus on one aspect of a subspecialty of the ACZM (birds, reptiles, terrestrial mammals, wildlife medicine, aquatic health) such as anatomy, physiology, surgery, various infectious diseases, non-infectious diseases, or a taxonomic group within a class of animals. Materials will be synthesized by the students in either a powerpoint presentation or an oral presentation from notes. Discussion will then take place between students and the course coordinator.

Attendance and preparation of the assigned reading assignments will form 50% of the final grade, a multiple choice examination (ACZM mock examination) will form the remaining 50% of the final grade.