Course Description

Describes animal health and disease, surgical techniques, and animal behavior. Part I of II. Lecture 2 hours. Total 2 hour per week.

General Course Purpose

This course is a survey of the major infectious and noninfectious diseases affecting companion small animals, the dog and cat. It also covers the veterinary technician's role in management of diseases in veterinary practice.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

Enrollment is limited to those students program-placed in the veterinary technology curriculum or those students with special approval from the program head.

Course Objectives

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

- Summarize the common diseases, by body systems, of canine and feline species
- Describe the etiology, pathology, clinical signs, methods of diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and public health significance of major canine and feline diseases
- Explain the veterinary technician's role in the nursing care management of the diseases presented
- Identify and choose proper handling and restraint techniques for routine medical care
- Distinguish normal and abnormal findings on the physical examination, based on body systems
- Recognize clinical signs and behavior related to specific medical problems and diseases of the various body systems of animals
- Evaluate a vaccination program for the prevention and control of infectious disease in the dog and cat
- Describe and evaluate protocols for infection control in the hospital setting
- Identify signs of pain and distress
- Make recommendations to improve comfort for the recuperating animal patient
- Explain to clients about routine preventative care and medical treatment plans

Major Topics To Be Covered

- Common zoonotic diseases of the dog and cat and their significance to public health, including prevention and control
- Common infectious and noninfectious diseases of the dog and cat
- Control of infectious disease in the hospital setting utilizing sanitation methods and isolation protocols
- Concept of universal precautions
- Review of basic anatomy and physiology of body systems
- Review of physical examination based on body systems
- Vaccination procedure and protocols
- Rabies regulations
- Reportable diseases
- Review of nursing care techniques in the management of disease in the dog and cat
- Role of the veterinary technician in the prevention and control of diseases of the dog and cat
- Role of the veterinary technician in client education