

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY  
VET 121 - CLINICAL PRACTICES I (3 CR.)**

**Course Description**

Presents advanced clinical techniques commonly performed in veterinary practice. Part I of II. Lecture 2 hours. Laboratory 3 hours. Total 5 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose**

To introduce the student to many of the aspects of veterinary surgical and medical nursing, and animal diagnostics.

**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:

- Utilize aseptic techniques in the operating room as a circulating assistant
- Utilize aseptic techniques in the operating room as a surgical assistant
- Prepare and position patients for surgical procedures
- Identify surgical instruments
- Describe the procedures for cleaning and sterilizing surgical instruments
- Prepare sterile surgical packs
- Prepare and use caps, masks, gowns, gloves, and drapes
- Maintain and use surgical suite equipment
- Identify common suture materials, types, and usage
- Remove sutures and drains
- Explain common surgical procedures in small and large animals
- Perform venipuncture
- Perform intravenous injection techniques
- Place an intravenous catheter
- Explain intravenous catheter care
- Administer fluid therapy
- Describe patient triage and cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques
- Identify urgent care monitoring equipment
- Calculate parenteral fluid requirements and needs
- Describe and evaluate the stages of wound healing
- Apply bandages
- Perform an animal physical assessment
- Evaluate patient needs for nursing care
- Design a nursing care plan for a clinical scenario
- Describe techniques of urine collection
- Identify common urinary catheters

- Explain care of indwelling urinary catheters
- Perform basic fecal flotation techniques
- Identify common intestinal parasites on fecal flotation

### **Major Topics To Be Covered**

- Aseptic techniques
- Preparation of surgical sites
- Care of surgical instruments
- Preparation of sterile surgical packs
- Preparation and use of gowns, masks, gloves, and drapes
- Steam, gas and cold sterilization of instruments and supplies
- Instrument identification and use
- Operation and maintenance of autoclaves
- Operating room sanitation and care
- Common suture materials, types, identification, and usage
- Patient positioning and patient preparation for surgical procedures
- Lighting of the operating room and surgical site
- Maintenance and use of operating room equipment
- Theory of surgical assistance
- Common surgical procedures in large and small animals
- Injection techniques
- IV catheter placement, IV care and fluid therapy
- Wound care and bandaging techniques
- Care of the recumbent patient
- Concepts of physical therapy
- Veterinary Technician practice model
- Patient assessment techniques
- Veterinary nursing care plans of hospitalized patients
- Techniques of urine collection
- Urinary catheterization techniques
- Care of indwelling urinary catheters
- Basic fecal flotation technique and common intestinal parasite identification