Integrating Veterinary Medicine with Shelter Systems

I. Course information

Course Numbers: VEM 5321/VME 6810/VME 6934 all sections

Course Title: Integrating Veterinary Medicine with Shelter Systems

Course credit: 3 Graduate Credit Hours

II. General information

Course Coordinator: Terry Spencer, DVM, MEd

Office location & contact information:
  • Online by email within e-learning. Please allow 48 hours for reply.
  • VS-18D on-campus
  • Contact Julia Alber and/or Ryan Alber for Online Student Support Services

Office phone number: 352-294-4757

Email: sheltermedicine.online@vetmed.ufl.edu

Online Course Instructors:

  Lead Instructor: Terry Spencer, DVM, MEd

  Guest Lecturers: Cynda Crawford, DVM, MS, PhD; Brian DiGangi, DVM, MS, Diplomate ABVP; Brenda Griffin, DVM, MS, Diplomate ACVIM; Kate Hurley, DVM, MVPM; Natalie Isaza, DVM; Julie K. Levy, DVM, PhD, Diplomate ACVIM; Lila Miller, DVM; Denae Wagner, DVM, MVPM.

  • Contact instructors by email within e-learning.
  • Please allow 48 hours for a response to an email by the instructors.
  • Office Hours will be posted by announcement and offered in the Chat Room or via the Adobe Connect tool within e-learning

Website: http://sheltermedicine.vetmed.ufl.edu/

1/14/2014
III. Course objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Use the Association of Shelter Veterinarians (ASV) Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters as a guide for the practice of veterinary medicine in a shelter environment.

2. Use reliable medical information to support best practices within an animal shelter.

3. Recognize common infectious diseases, behavioral problems, and examples of animal cruelty or neglect presented to animal shelters and describe the shelter veterinarian’s role in responding to such issues.

4. Explain the scope of issues related to animal homelessness and interpret recent trends surrounding those issues.

5. Compare and contrast sheltering methods and assess each method for how well it addresses the “Five Freedoms” of animal welfare.

6. Monitor employment opportunities that exist for veterinarians in shelters and compare the training and experience needed for success in such positions.

7. Explain key concepts involved with the practice of Shelter Medicine such as: sanitation, preventive health care, disease outbreak management, behavioral assessments, stress control, population management, cruelty investigations, and high-quality/high-volume sterilization and outline plans for addressing each concept.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 2: Dear Shelter Director Letter</th>
<th>Objective 1</th>
<th>Objective 2</th>
<th>Objective 3</th>
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<th>Objective 5</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chapter 3: Medical Evidence Assignment</td>
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<td>Chapter 4: Common Behavioral Programs/Asilomar Classifications</td>
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<td>Chapter 5: Cat Cam Evidence Assignment</td>
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<td>Chapter 6: Analyze One Monthly Data Report</td>
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<td>Chapter 7: Discuss Various Shelter Missions</td>
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<td>Chapter 7: Debate “No-Kill” Mission</td>
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<td>Chapter 8: Locate and Compare Job Descriptions</td>
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<td>Chapter 9: Discuss Issues, Concerns, and Techniques Involved with HQHV Sterilization</td>
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<td>Infectious Disease Project</td>
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<td>Forensics Project</td>
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<td>Behavior and Welfare Project</td>
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IV. Course Materials

Required Resources:

3. *ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters*

Recommended Additional Resources: (Optional)

1. *Feline Infectious Diseases*, Katrin Hartmann and Julie Levy (editors), Manson Publishing/The Veterinary Press, 2011.
6. Various readings available on UF’s Electronic Reserves, accessible via: [https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu](https://ares.uflib.ufl.edu) and within e-learning Course Reserves area.

Technology Requirements

1. High-speed internet access, a desktop or laptop computer, and multiple internet browsers (Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Safari). Apple iOS and mobile devices (tablets) are not completely compatible with e-learning.
2. A working headset with microphone to participate in optional live chats in Adobe Connect webinar tool.
3. Microsoft Office Software installed and basic skills for using Word and Excel. Students with a UF GatorLink ID have free access to [Lynda.com](http://lynda.com) training and can download discounted software from the UF Computing Help Desk ([UF Software Services](http://www.cit.gatech.edu/software)).

1/14/2014
V. Due Dates, Assignments, and Grading

Dates in BOLD are FIRM and you will lose points if you miss the due date. Other dates can be flexible, HOWEVER, if you expect to submit your work more than 3 days beyond a listed due date, then you MUST notify your Instructor and TA first or you will lose points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 6, 2014</td>
<td>Course opens in e-Learning at: iss.at.ufl.edu</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 13, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 1: Assignments Due</td>
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<td>January 20, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 2 : Assignments Due, <strong>Select topic for Infectious Disease Project</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>February 3, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 3: Assignments Due, <strong>Select topic for Forensics Project</strong></td>
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<td>February 12, 2014</td>
<td>Live Chat with Dr. Cynda Crawford in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</td>
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<td>February 17, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 4: Assignments Due, <strong>Select topic for Animal Behavior and Welfare Project</strong></td>
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<td>February 19, 2014</td>
<td>Live Chat with Dr. Julie Levy in Adobe Connect 9 pm eastern (extra-credit)</td>
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<td>February 25, 2014</td>
<td>Field Trip: Alachua County Animal Services 5:00pm-8:30pm, Meet in VS-18 (on-campus students only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 3, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 5: Assignments Due</td>
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<td>March 17, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 6: Assignments Due</td>
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<td>March 31, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 7: Assignments Due, <strong>THREE PROJECTS DUE</strong></td>
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<td>April 7, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 8: Assignments Due</td>
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<td>April 14, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 9: Assignments Due</td>
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<td>April 23, 2014</td>
<td>Chapter 10: Assignments Due: Project Reviews, Peer-Review minimum of 12 projects submitted by classmates (4 Infectious Disease projects, 4 Forensics projects, and 4 Behavior/Welfare projects</td>
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<td>Course Closes</td>
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1/14/2014
### Weekly Course Schedule and Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Extra-Credit Points</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Jan 6-Jan 13 | **Required Readings for Chapter 1:**  
    ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters  
    - “Forward”  
    - “Introduction, Background, and How To Use This Document”  
    Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff, Second Edition  
    - Chapter 1, pg. 3-12 “Introduction to Animal Sheltering”  
**Assignments for Chapter 1:**  
    - Post Recorded VoiceThread Introduction to Discussion (0.5 points)  
    - Due Submit “Minute Paper” about reading assessment (1 extra-credit point)  
    - Take self-quiz and submit completion code to Assignments (0.5 points) | 1 Point       | 1 Point             |
| Jan 13-Jan 20 | **Required Readings for Chapter 2:**  
    ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters  
    - “Sanitation”  
    - “Population Well-being” and “Response to Disease or Illness”  
    Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff Second Edition  
    - Chapter 4, pg. 37-47 “Sanitation”  
    - Chapter 16, pg. 281-286 “Strategies for Management of Infectious Diseases in a Shelter”  
    - Chapter 20, pg. 343-348 “Treatment Strategies”  
    Infectious Disease Management in Animal Shelters  
    - Chapter 4, pg. 49-60 “Sanitation and Disinfection”  
**RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR PROJECT:** See Recommended (optional) Resources above, as well as papers and e-books in the course Resources folder and Course Reserves)  
**Assignments for Chapter 2:**  
    - Dear Shelter Director Letter Assignment: Write a < 500 word letter that outlines a plan of action for preventing infectious disease outbreaks based on the ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care. (6 points possible; 4 points for letter and 2 points for adding value-added comment to another classmate’s post)  
    - Submit “Minute Paper” about reading assessment (1 extra-credit point)  
**Select topic for Infectious Disease Project**  
**Final Infectious Disease Project Due March 31, 2014** | 6 Points      | 1 Point             |

1/14/2014
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Extra Credit</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 20-Feb 3</td>
<td><strong>Forensic Pathology of Companion Animal Abuse and Neglect</strong>&lt;br&gt;J. A. Gerdin and S. P. McDonough&lt;br&gt;RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR PROJECT: See Recommended (optional)&lt;br&gt;Resources above, as well as papers and e-books in the course Resources folder and Course Reserves)</td>
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<td><strong>Assignments for Chapter 3:</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Medical Evidence Assignment: Post answers to questions posed during the lesson. Discuss differences of opinion with classmates. (6 points possible; 4 points for posting answers and 2 points for adding value-added comments to a classmate’s post)&lt;br&gt;- Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assessment (1 extra-credit point)</td>
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<td>Feb 3-Feb 17</td>
<td><strong>Required Readings for Chapter 4:</strong>&lt;br&gt;ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters&lt;br&gt;- &quot;Behavioral Health and Mental Well-being&quot;&lt;br&gt;Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff Second Edition&lt;br&gt;- Chapter 33, pg. 531-539 “Behavioral Evaluation, Adoption, and Follow-up”&lt;br&gt;- Chapter 34, pg. 541-557 &quot;Behavioral Enrichment&quot;&lt;br&gt;RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR PROJECT: See Recommended (optional)&lt;br&gt;Resources above, as well as papers and e-books in the course Resources folder and Course Reserves)</td>
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<td><strong>Assignments for Chapter 4:</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Common Behavioral Programs/Asilomar Classifications Assignment: Classify common behavior problems of shelter dogs using Asilomar Accord Categories and discuss use of Asilomar Accord categories by shelters for pathway planning. (6 points possible; 4 points for posting answers and 2 points for participation in discussion)&lt;br&gt;- Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assessment (1 extra-credit point)</td>
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| Feb 17-Mar 3 | **Required Readings for Chapter 5:**<br>ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters<br>- Five Freedoms”,<br>- “Facility Design and Environment”,<br>- “Group Housing”<br>- "Animal Handling"
Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff Second Edition<br>- Chapter 3. pg. 26-31 “The Shelter Environment in Shelter Design”<br>- Chapter 7, pg. 83-92 “Quality of Life, Stress, and Emotional Pain in Shelter Animals”<br>- Chapter 9, pg. 133-142 “Housing, Sanitation, and Nutrition in Canine Care in the Animal Shelter”<br>- Chapter 10, pg. 172-179 “Housing, in Feline Care in the Animal Shelter:”<br>Infectious Disease Management in Animal Shelters<br>- Chapter 2, pg. 17-38 “Wellness” | 6      | 1            |

1/14/2014
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignments for Chapter 5:</th>
<th>Required Readings for Chapter 6:</th>
<th>Assignments for Chapter 6:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 3-Mar 17</td>
<td>Cat Cam Evidence Assignment: Classify a set of 5 images by whether they meet the Five Freedoms for animal welfare. Justify answers and propose modifications to improve situations where needed. <em>(6 points possible; 3 points for posting answers and 3 points for participation in three discussions during the chapter)</em></td>
<td>Required Readings for Chapter 6: <em>ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters</em></td>
<td>Assign one Monthly Data Report Assignment: Complete a self-assessment to analyze a monthly data report from a fictional animal shelter and assess the shelter’s capacity for care. In the discussion, propose two strategies a shelter might use to manage a population and increase its capacity for care. <em>(5 points possible; 4 points for completion of self-assessment and 1 point for posting and adding value-added comments to discussion)</em></td>
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<td>Mar 3-Mar 17</td>
<td>Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assignment <em>(1 extra-credit point)</em></td>
<td><em>“Population Management”</em></td>
<td>Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assignment <em>(1 extra-credit point)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 3-Mar 17</td>
<td>Continue working on major projects. <em>Infectious Disease, Forensics, and Animal Behavior and Welfare Projects Due March 31, 2014</em></td>
<td>Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff Second Edition</td>
<td>Continue working on major projects. <em>Infectious Disease, Forensics, and Animal Behavior and Welfare Projects Due March 31, 2014</em></td>
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**Note:**

- Mar 3-Mar 17
- Assignments for Chapter 5:
- Cat Cam Evidence Assignment: Classify a set of 5 images by whether they meet the Five Freedoms for animal welfare. Justify answers and propose modifications to improve situations where needed. *(6 points possible; 3 points for posting answers and 3 points for participation in three discussions during the chapter)*
- Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assignment *(1 extra-credit point)*
- Continue working on major projects. *Infectious Disease, Forensics, and Animal Behavior and Welfare Projects Due March 31, 2014*

- Mar 3-Mar 17
- **Required Readings for Chapter 6:**
  - *ASV Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters*
  - *“Population Management”*
  - Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff Second Edition
  - Chapter 8, pg. 93-113 "Population Management"
  - Chapter 41, pg. 669-679 "Management of Stray and Feral Community Cats"
- **PDFs from Animal Sheltering**
  - “Sick to Death.”
  - “Shelter Medicine: A Matter of Measurement”

- Mar 17-Mar 31
- Assignments for Chapter 7:
- Discussion of Various Shelter Missions Assignment: Prepare a brief overview of a shelter. Post the overview to a Zee map. In the overview, include facts about the shelter’s mission, data reporting, funding, successes, challenges, and community partnerships. *(2 points for posting overview on Zee map)*
- Debate “No Kill” Mission: Post a 250 word opinion about whether a “no-kill” nation is an achievable goal. *(3 points possible: 2 points for posting, 1 point for adding value-added comment to discussion)*
- Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assignment *(1 extra-credit point)*
- **FINAL projects DUE MARCH 31:** *Infectious Disease, Forensics, and Animal Behavior and Welfare Projects, 16 points per project*
### Required Readings for Chapter 8:
Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff Second Edition
- Chapter 5, pg. 49-58 “Administrative Issues”
- Chapter 6, pg. 59-79 “Legal Issues for Shelters”
- PDF from Animal Sheltering
- "Shelter Medicine: A Blend of Science and Art"

### Assignments for Chapter 8:
- Locate and Compare Job Descriptions Assignment: Write the “perfect” job description for a Shelter Veterinarian, limited to qe-typed page or less. Discuss how postings compare to currently available job listings. (4 points possible; 3 points for posting and 1 point for adding value-added comment to discussion)
- Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assignment (1 extra-credit point)

### Required Readings for Chapter 9:
Shelter Medicine for Veterinarians and Staff Second Edition
- Chapter 37, pg. 579-591 “Spay/Neuter Services for Shelter and Community Animals”
- Chapter 39, pg. 625-636 “Surgical Techniques for Spay/Neuter”
- Chapter 40, pg. 659-664 “Techniques for Pediatric Spay/Neuter, in Pediatric Neutering”
- Chapter 42, pg. 689-694 “Nonsurgical Sterilization of Cats and Dogs”
- PDF from JAVMA
- Special Report: ASV Guideline for Spay/Neuter

### Assignments for Chapter 9:
- Discuss Issues, Concerns, and Techniques Involved with HQHV Sterilization Assignment: Choose one topic from a list to discuss with classmates. (1 point for posting and adding value added comment to discussion)
- Submit a “Minute Paper” about reading assignment (1 extra-credit point)

### Course Closes, Grades Released
Apr- 14-Apr 23 Review Projects
- Peer Review at least 4 Infectious Disease projects
- Peer Review at least 4 Forensics projects
- Peer Review at least 4 Behavior/Welfare projects
- Respond to questions and comments left on your own projects

Participate in AMAA Live Chat sessions and/or field trips as scheduled throughout the semester (EXTRA-CREDIT ONLY)

| Total Points | 100 points | 12 Points |