I. **TITLE:**

Veterinary Nursing

II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This is a course designed to teach veterinary technology students the essentials of veterinary nursing as it relates to the appropriate theories, practices, procedures, and skills development utilized in veterinary medicine. Each week there will be two 1-hour lectures and one 2-hour lab. Throughout the semester, there will also be mandatory outside skills building assignments/activities required as part of this class which will result in additional time required outside of class/laboratory. Prerequisites: AGR 310, 322 with a minimum grade of “D”. No exceptions

III. **PURPOSE:**

- To teach veterinary technology students the appropriate knowledge of veterinary nursing procedures and to allow the students opportunities to develop AVMA mandated essential nursing skills as it relates to the field of veterinary medicine.

IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- To teach students the basic theories of veterinary nursing
- To teach students clinical practices of veterinary nursing
- To teach students the appropriate nursing procedures for multiple species
- To allow students hands on opportunities for the development and practice of various animal nursing techniques and skills

V. **CONTENT OUTLINE**

- Restraint techniques review-self study
- Animal behavior review-self study
- Patient medical records
- Expanded patient history, physical exams and SOAP procedures
- Nursing Care
- Wound care and bandaging techniques
- Dental prophylaxis
- Diagnostic sample collection, preparation and storage
- Miscellaneous techniques where applicable
VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

- Lectures
- Demonstrations
- Clinical laboratories
- Mandatory outside assignments and activities
  - Doggie Day Spas
- Each week the labs will correspond with the lecture material as closely as possible; however, the instructors may offer alternative materials and techniques as necessary.
- Students must be prepared for all laboratories; this includes appropriate dress, footwear, and laboratory materials.
- **Failure to comply with laboratory criteria established in AGR-332 Veterinary Nursing Laboratory Procedures Manual Guidelines will result in a dismissal from laboratory and a zero for a grade.**

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:** Laboratory

- McCurnin text book and *Manual of Clinical Procedures in Dogs, Cats, Rabbits and Rodents*—bring to every lab period!
- White lab coat
- Blue scrubs
- Closed toed shoes
- Long hair tied back or put up during labs
- Not hats, caps or bandanas to be worn in lab
- Stethoscope (invest in a good one, you will need it for other classes)
- Calculator (No cell phones will be permitted for calculations)
- Bandage scissors
- Pen light
- Pocket size note pad
- Three ring binder for lab note book that includes:
  - All laboratory reports and supplements must be typed
  - Sheet protectors
  - Table of contents
  - Weekly laboratory reports
  - Must follow format assigned by instructor
    - To be discussed by instructor
- Essential skills booklet
  - Bound Essential Skills Booklet
    - Sheets must be printed from Black Board prior to first laboratory period and turned in to instructor for binding at a minimal cost to student of $5.00.
    - Essential Skills Booklets are mandated by AVMA for accreditation.
    - **Failure to complete essentials skills and have instructor’s signature will result in an “I” for the class. Students will have one semester to complete skill(s) successfully in order to remove the “I”. Any skill(s) to be repeated in order to remove an “I” must be done at the appropriate designated laboratory time during the next semester. There will be no other opportunity to complete the necessary skill(s), which will result in an “E”.”
- Blue ink pen
- Handouts from black board
- Boots/coveralls for large animal laboratories
VII. **FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCES:**
- Clinical and field experiences will be in the areas of animal nursing.
- Attendance at each Doggie Day Spa is required along with a written, detailed, report of activities and essential skills performed. To receive full credit for outside activities, each student must be present for the entire time of the event.
  - Written reports are to be added to Laboratory Procedures Manual
- Dates will be given at the beginning of semester.
- Other outside assignments/activities may be given throughout the semester.

VIII. **RESOURCES:**
- *Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians, 7th* edition, by McCurnin. (required)
- Veterinary Journals
- Veterinary Websites

IX. **GRADING PROCEDURES:**
Grades are determined by weighted average with 70% derived for lecture exams, quizzes and assignments, and 30% derived from laboratory and assignments.
- A final comprehensive lab test will be given the last week of classes. A minimum of three one-hour exams will be given. Due to the amount of material being covered, the number of exam may be adjusted to meet the needs of the class. Exam dates will be discussed in class and notice will be given. Prior arrangements for absences from an exam or quiz must be approved by instructor; otherwise, there will be no makeup of an exam/quiz. Missing an exam or quiz will result in a zero. Pop quizzes will be given periodically. An absence form a pop quiz will result in a zero with no opportunity for makeup. The final exam will be given as scheduled in the bulletin of classes. No early finals will be given. Any homework assignments or other projects are due on the day designated by the instructor.
  - **Late papers or assignments will not be taken. DO NOT EMAIL AN ASSIGNMENT OR PROJECT. ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE TYPED AND TURNED IN IN-PERSON TO INSTRUCTOR AT DESIGNATED TIME.**
- Grading Scale
  - 90 – 100 A
  - 80 - 89 B
  - 70 – 79 C
  - 60 - 69 D
  - Below 60 E
- Students must keep up with grades throughout the semester. *Grades will not be posted on blackboard!*
X. ATTENDANCE POLICY:
- Due to the amount of material and essential skills development in this class, attendance is mandatory.
- Three absences will be allowed (excused or unexcused) in lecture and laboratory combined. After the third absence, a letter grade will be dropped for each additional absence on the final grade.
- No missed laboratory period will be made up.
- Any student absent from a quiz or test must make prior arrangements with instructor to take the quiz/test prior to the absence. Failure to do so will result in a ZERO.

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:
- NOTE: The School of Agriculture Faculty have adopted and implemented an Academic Honesty Policy in addition to the University Honesty Policy, which can be found in the current Undergraduate Bulletin and Graduate Bulletin. The policy sets guidelines regarding acts of dishonesty and the procedure to follow should an event occur. It is each Agriculture student’s responsibility to obtain and read a copy of this document. The School’s Academic Honesty Policy can be obtained by asking for a copy from any Agriculture Faculty member or the Secretary.

XII. TEXT AND REFERENCES:
- Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians, (7th Edition) McCurnin
- Mosby’s Comprehensive Review for Veterinary Technicians, 3rd ed., by Tighe & Brwn

XIII. PREREQUISITES:
- AGR 310 and AGR 322 with a minimum grade of a “D” in each class. No exceptions.

XIV. MSU School of Agriculture Policy on Cell Phone Usage:
- The School of Agriculture recognizes that in today’s world cell phones often a necessary form of communication for students.
- It shall be the policy of the School that no cell phone usage shall be allowed in class and/or labs without the prior consent of the course instructor. This shall include verbal calling, incoming calls, email, text messaging, and use of cell phone calculators on tests and quizzes.
- Cell phones must be kept on vibrate and out of sight and use (i.e. secured to a person’s belt or kept in a bag or purse away from desks and lab counters).
- Should a student’s cell phone be visible, ring, or other form of unauthorized usage that is interruptive to the class or lab, the student may be asked to leave class and not return for that class/lab period.
- Upon prior consent of the instructor, a student may obtain permission to use their phone in case of an emergency or in critical family situations.
XV. STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:

- Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact Sabrina Y. Dial, Director of Equal Opportunity, Murray State University, 103 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071-3318. Telephone: 270-809-3155 (voice), 270-809-3361 (TDD).

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Felecia Jones, M.S., LVT
Office 115A
A. Carman Animal Health Technology Center
College Farm Road
Murray, KY 42071
Office -- 809-7007
felecia.jones@murraystate.edu

Laboratory Instructor

Dean Ann Provine, M.S., LVT
Office 115B
A. Carman Animal Health Technology Center
College Farm Road
Murray, KY 42071
Office – 809-7008
deanann.provine@murraystate.edu