

VM1001: PRE-EMS ANIMAL HANDLING SKILLS

Effective Term

Summer Term 2025

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Pre-EMS Animal Handling Skills

Subject Code

VM - Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

Course Number

1001

Academic Unit

Infectious Diseases and Public Health (PH)

College/School

Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences (VM)

Course Duration

Non-standard Duration

Other Course Duration

2 weeks

Credit Units

0

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

a. Description

Pre-EMS Animal Handling Skills will be taught in an intensive two-week period commencing immediately after the end of Semester B examinations. It will be followed by one clear week before any scheduled Husbandry EMS begins to allow time for remediation and reassessment should any students be judged inadequate in their interactions with some species. Students will be in small groups under close supervision by a Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences staff member and the activities will take place on a farm or in a kennel, cattery, or stables that has the standard handling facilities for the particular species. This will be followed by a practical animal handling examination in the form of directly observed procedure where students are observed by a suitably qualified and experienced assessor.

Pre-EMS Animal Handling Skills will have been preceded by Livestock Husbandry and in that course, sheep handling and the sheep industry more generally will be covered.

The pattern of teaching and learning will be the same for each species. There will be a recap presentation by the staff member about indicators of the temperament of the particular species followed by the students' assessment of the breed and temperament of the animals presented for the class. This is followed by a revision of the animal handling activities which will be demonstrated by the staff member and practiced by each student several times. Animal handling competency will be assessed by means of a Practical Examination in which students are expected to demonstrate they can competently handle and restrain cattle, horses, dogs, and cats to pass. There will be an opportunity in the week following for remedial teaching, learning, and assessment.

b. Skills requirements

PRE-EMS CATTLE HANDLING SKILLS	PRE-EMS HORSE HANDLING SKILLS	PRE-EMS DOG HANDLING SKILLS	PRE-EMS CAT HANDLING SKILLS
Assessment of temperament	Assessment of temperament	Assessment of temperament	Assessment of temperament
Assessment of flight distance	Approaching a horse	Approaching a dog	Approaching a cat
Approaching cattle	Placing a head collar	Placing a slip lead	Removing a cat from cage/carrier
Moving cattle to new enclosure	Placing a bridle (using model)	Leading a dog	Lifting and carrying a cat
Use of cattle crush	Leading a horse	Lifting a small dog (one person)	Wrapping in a towel
Restraint using ropes/halter	Tying up using a quick release knot	Lifting a large dog (two person)	Restraint for physical examination and blood sampling
Use of nose pliers/nose rings (using model)	Grooming a horse	Restraint for physical examination and blood sampling (sitting, standing, lateral)	Restraint for administration of oral medication
Casting a cow (using model)	Restraint with twitch (using model)	Turning a dog into lateral recumbency (two person)	Building and placing a buster/E-collar
	Pick up, clean and examine front and rear hooves	Apply a muzzle and bandage muzzle	Placing a cat in cage/carrier
	Apply a stable bandage (using model)	Building and placing a buster/E-collar	
	Rugging a horse (using model)		

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Handle and restrain cattle in a competent, safe, and ethical manner		x	x	x

2	Handle and restrain horses in a competent, safe, and ethical manner		x	x	x
3	Handle and restrain dogs in a competent, safe, and ethical manner		x	x	x
4	Handle and restrain cats in a competent, safe, and ethical manner		x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Students will engage in a training session on how to properly handle and restrain cattle	Pre-EMS Cattle handling skills	1	
2	Students will engage in a training session on how to properly handle and restrain horses	Pre-EMS Horse handling skills	2	
3	Students will engage in a training session on how to properly handle and restrain dogs	Pre-EMS Dog handling skills	3	
4	Students will engage in a training session on how to properly handle and restrain cats	Pre-EMS Cat handling skills	4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Students will handle and restrain animals under supervision and will be observed and assessed by their instructor on their performance	1, 2, 3, 4	80	

2	Students will write a reflective assignment based on their experiences during the course (in 500 words)	1, 2, 3, 4	10	
3	Students will achieve 100% completion of records for animal handling skills in TrackIt	1, 2, 3, 4	10	

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Additional Information for ATs

Students are required to have demonstrated competency in all Pre-EMS Animal Handling Skills and pass the Practical Examination (directly observed procedure). Students with an unsatisfactory performance are required to repeat the particular category of demonstration.

Students are required to have achieved 100% completion for all animal handling skills in TrackIt before the end of the course, which requires the majority of skills to meet 'level 4 – competency'. Students are also required to complete a written reflective assignment to reflect on their animal handling abilities and future goal setting for further animal handling skills development. This will be marked according to the rubric below.

A PASS grade will be awarded for satisfactory performance of all assessment tasks/activities, whereas an unsatisfactory performance requires that the particular category be repeated.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Additional Information for AR****Reflective Assignment**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Content of work	· Reflection is thorough and includes future goal setting regarding animal handling skills development for a variety of species · Makes meaningful connections to important ideas covered during the BVM Year 1 Curriculum related to animal handling · Is supported with relevant details through use of sensory language, narrative accounts, and personal experiences	· Little or no reflection · Little or no connection to important ideas covered during the BVM Year 1 Curriculum related to animal handling · Little or no support with relevant details
Reflection	· Reflection reveals feelings and thoughts through presentation of the experience · Is thoughtful, convincing, insightful, and explanatory · Analyzes the experience by looking at more than one angle · Makes meaningful and practical suggestions for improvement	· Little or no evidence of feelings or presentation of the experience · Little or no explanations given · Little or no analysis · Little or no suggestions for improvement

Writing strategies	· Uses a variety of writing strategies to make the reflection clear to the reader such as using specific details, comparing, contrasting, naming, describing, reviewing prior knowledge, and explaining possibilities	· Little or no evidence of using multiple writing strategies
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Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

EMS, Pre-EMS, Extra-Mural Studies, Animal Handling, Animal Skills

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Nil