VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY (A.A.S.)

https://colsa.unh.edu/thompson-school-applied-science/program/aas/veterinary-technology

Description

The primary goal of the veterinary technology program is to provide students with exceptional technical and clinical reasoning skills and knowledge in veterinary technology such that graduates will be prepared to pass the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and to be immediate and valuable members of a veterinary medical team. Additionally, the program aims to develop a firm foundation in both farm animal and companion animal veterinary practices. Courses in the program cover basic sciences, veterinary nursing, and veterinary practice management, with a strong focus on hands-on practical knowledge throughout the curriculum. Students gain basic knowledge and skills for the major domestic animal species (dog, cat, horse, and cow). Integration of knowledge in communication, veterinary ethical and legal issues, veterinary practice management, clinical reasoning skills, and hands-on technical skills allow students to become complete veterinary technicians, capable of providing high-quality, compassionate, and expert care to animals both small and large.

Practical learning experience is provided at the PAWS Veterinary Teaching Clinic, the UNH Equine Facilities and the Thomas P. Fairchild Dairy Teaching and Research Center. The program has a number of animal-related educational partnerships, including those with the New Hampshire SPCA in Stratham, N.H., and the Pope Memorial Humane Society of Cochecho Valley in Dover, N.H.

The program is accredited by the AVMA. Students who graduate from an accredited program are eligible to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and pursue credentialing.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 64 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 16 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery Program

Major, Option, and Elective Requirements as indicated. *Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Veterinary Technology Requirements

Students must demonstrate all of the following for retention in and completion of the veterinary technology program:

1. Courses must be completed in proper sequence, according to prerequisites listed in the course catalog.
2. To progress in the program, students must:
   a. Earn a minimum of 70% on their exam average in each VTEC course.
   b. Earn a minimum of 80% on their skills grades in VTEC 579 and VTEC 580.
   c. Receive a minimum grade of C+ (2.33 grade point) or better in all required AAS and VTEC courses.
3. Students who fail to meet retention requirements after 3 semesters will not be allowed to progress further in the program until retention requirements have been met.
   a. Students are allowed to repeat any major course once. If the student does not meet the grade standard on the retake, they must repeat the class again before taking other major courses.
   b. Students are allowed to repeat no more than two major courses.
   c. Students who fail to meet program grade standards in a third course will not be allowed to proceed in the program.
4. Students must maintain a 2.5 GPA in major courses to take additional courses in major.
5. Students must have a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA in major to qualify for graduation from the program.
6. Students must successfully complete all required skills listed in the Veterinary Technology Essential and Recommended Skills List developed by the AVMA (the accrediting body for this program).
7. All coursework in the veterinary technology curriculum should be completed within five years of initial program enrollment. If this cannot be accomplished, the student may be required to reapply to the program for a new admission status and all veterinary technology specific courses may have to be repeated.

Students must show proof of pre-exposure rabies immunization or adequate rabies titer prior to enrollment in practicum and internship coursework. Transportation is provided to students for practicum coursework. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation during internship experiences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAS 421</td>
<td>Large Animal Behavior and Handling Techniques</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AAS 428</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology of Domestic Animals</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 411</td>
<td>Introductory Chemistry for Life Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 424</td>
<td>Introduction to Veterinary Technology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 430</td>
<td>Companion Animal Behavior and Handling Techniques</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 435</td>
<td>Animal Health and Laboratory Diagnostics</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 449</td>
<td>Clinical Animal Nursing Techniques I</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 497</td>
<td>Veterinary Technology Work Experience</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 550</td>
<td>Clinical Animal Nursing Techniques II</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 565</td>
<td>Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 575</td>
<td>Veterinary Anesthesia and Surgical Assisting</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 579</td>
<td>Small Animal Practicum I</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 580</td>
<td>Small Animal Practicum II</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 583</td>
<td>Large Animal Practicum</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 595</td>
<td>Veterinary Technology Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VTEC 599</td>
<td>Comprehensive VTNE Review</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 53

Discovery Program Requirements

Students must complete 20 credits within the Discovery program; with at least one course in the following categories: Writing Skills, Quantitative Reasoning, Biological Science, Physical Science, and Social Science.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 401</td>
<td>First-Year Writing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Biology - Required Course
VTEC 435 Animal Health and Laboratory Diagnostics 4

Physical Science - Required Course
CHEM 411 Introductory Chemistry for Life Sciences 4

Quantitative Reasoning Recommendations
BIOL 528 Applied Biostatistics I (Recommended for students pursuing ANSC 2+2 articulation) 4
MATH 420 Finite Mathematics 4
MATH 439 Statistical Discovery for Everyone 4
PAUL 450 Personal Finance 4
PSYC 402 Statistics in Psychology 4

Social Science Category Recommendations
NURS 535 Death and Dying 4
OT 530 Happy and Healthy at Work: Promoting Wellness, Diversity and Inclusion 4
PSYC 401 Introduction to Psychology 4
SOC 400 Introductory Sociology 4
SOC 450 Contemporary Social Problems 4
SW 444 You’ve Got Your Troubles, I’ve Got Mine 4
SW 544 Human Behavior and Social Environment I 4
SW 551 Human Behavior and Social Environment II 4

Student Learning Outcomes
The primary goal of the veterinary technology program is to provide students with exceptional technical and clinical reasoning skills and knowledge in veterinary technology such that graduates will be prepared to pass the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) and to be immediate and valuable members of a veterinary medical team. Additionally, the program aims to develop a firm foundation in both farm animal and companion animal veterinary practices. Courses in the program cover basic sciences, veterinary nursing, and veterinary practice management, with a strong focus on hands-on practical knowledge throughout the curriculum. Students gain basic knowledge and skills for the major domestic animal species (dog, cat, horse, and cow). Integration of knowledge in communication, veterinary ethical and legal issues, veterinary practice management, clinical reasoning skills, and hands-on technical skills allow students to become complete veterinary technicians, capable of providing high-quality, compassionate, and expert care to animals both small and large.

Specific skills and decision making abilities are outlined by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) accrediting body.