

Introduction to Pre-Veterinary Sciences 1

ANSC 280

Dr. Ashley Whiteside, DVM

a-whiteside@wiu.edu

309-371-7547

Lecture: Mon/Wed 4-5 PM Knobloch 307

Lab: Tues 3-5 PM Knobloch 307

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this introductory course, students will explore the field of veterinary medicine. Students will study the role of veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and veterinary education programs. Students will broaden their knowledge and exposure to basic veterinary terminology, diagnostic tools, and principles of practice. Additionally, non-clinical aspects of veterinary medicine will be explored.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Identify and utilize basic terminology
- Recognize the role and importance of veterinarians in human and animal health
- Describe basic comparative anatomy amongst common species
- Demonstrate basic physical exams and interpret findings
- Discuss and interpret basic small animal medicine concepts and procedures
- Discuss and interpret basic large animal medicine concepts and procedures
- Identify and describe the purpose of basic clinical tools and diagnostics
- Examine the process of applying to professional veterinary programs

COURSE MATERIALS

All materials will be distributed via Western Online prior to class periods. No textbook is required for this course. **A basic calculator will be necessary occasionally; phone calculators and smartwatches will not be allowed during quizzes or exams.**

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

- Expand student knowledge, experience, and exposure within veterinary medicine
- Approach this course with an open mind!
- Attend each lecture/lab period as scheduled
- **SPEND 10 HOURS IN A CLINICAL SETTING OVER THE COURSE OF THE SEMESTER**
 - This will be discussed at length during the first week of the course
- Keep up with Western Online announcements and material; come prepared to class

COURSE POLICIES

- **In order to prepare you for professional programs and your future responsibilities, I will not accept late work of any type. This includes late quiz submissions or missed in class assignments.**
- There may be random class attendance points, in-class quizzes, or lab points acquired via attending class that will count towards your final grade. These points will not be made up outside of class time.
- It is your responsibility to communicate with your instructor or classmates regarding material missed in class or lab periods.

- **Students with disabilities:** In accordance with University values and disability law, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations where there are aspects of a course that result in barriers to inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement. To file an official request for disability related accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center 309-298-2512 or disability@wiu.edu. Their office can be found at 143 Memorial Hall. Please notify your instructor as soon as possible to ensure this course is accessible to you in a timely manner.
- **Code of Student Conduct:** I expect all students to follow and cooperate with the code of student conduct on and off university property. I expect all students to maintain the utmost of professionalism and ethical behavior as a student in my course but also as a person in society and a future veterinary professional.
- Tobacco of any type is prohibited in class. This is a professional course.
- Phone use during class and lab periods is prohibited.
- Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in automatic failure of this course. Please do your own work and cite your sources.
- Students should have major medical, surgery, and emergency expenses covered through either their parents/guardians, or personal health insurance policies. WIU Health Services provides outpatient care to all WIU students.
- **LAB PERIODS:** We will be working with animals (large and small), laboratory tools, diagnostic tools, or biohazardous materials. Please be aware of safety precautions and listen to your instructor at all times. Lab periods will require long pants and close-toed shoes for safety purposes.

ATTENTION AG-ED MAJORS

The changes within the state teaching license require all education majors to receive a grade of “C-” or better in this course to meet Illinois teaching license requirements. With the university +/- grading system, receiving a “D+” or below will require you to retake this course or find a substitute course to meet School of Agriculture graduation requirements.

OFFICE HOURS

For the time being I do not have an office on campus (or set office hours). Due to the nature of my schedule, meetings outside of class time will need to be made by appointment. I am happy to accommodate students via zoom meetings, phone calls, or in-person meetings. Should you schedule a meeting, please come prepared.

COURSE GRADING

40% or 400 points	COMPLETION OF 10 SHADOW HOURS WITH A DVM You will have the duration of the semester to complete 10 hours of shadowing or working in a veterinary clinic setting. The practice and veterinarian choice is up to you, it can be local to Macomb or your hometown. Hours must be signed off by a DVM or office manager. Following completion of these hours a short reflection paper OR discussion with the class regarding your experience is required.
20% or 200 points	Quizzes via Western Online or in class
15% or 150 points	Final Exam – COMPREHENSIVE
10% or 100 points	Attendance – taken at random via class or lab
5% or 50 points	Participation – In class discussion is encouraged. Bring your questions, comments, and concerns. This will not and cannot be a productive course if discussion does not occur.
1000 points	Total Course Value

- Scores will be recorded on Western Online as grades are completed. Final grades will be released after finals week.
- **Please address any concerns or questions regarding grades ASAP. Do NOT wait until dead week.**
- A final exam is required and will be comprehensive.
- If circumstances require you to miss an in-class assignment or quiz, Dr. Whiteside must be notified 24 hours prior to class period. E-mail works best.
- No points will be awarded for missed points (assignments, quizzes, attendance, lab points etc).
- Final grades will not be curved.

What to expect? How to succeed in ANSC 280?

Per 1 credit hour of class expect to spend 3 hours outside of class time reviewing, reading, studying etc. This goes for all courses. It is imperative you understand the concepts in this course to prepare yourself for a professional future in veterinary medicine. Develop and understand your study habits, strengths, and weaknesses now. This 1:3 hour ratio is not set in stone; everyone learns differently. Do what is best for you.

If at any point you feel yourself falling behind, do not hesitate to reach out. You won't succeed without seeking help when necessary. Do not allow yourself to procrastinate or fall behind.

Lab Periods

- We will work with livestock; dress appropriately.
 - Close-toed shoes are required.
 - Long pants are required; no dresses, skirts, or shorts will be tolerated in lab periods.
 - No sleeveless, crop-top, or cut off shirts in lab.
- Your safety is a priority when working around livestock; phones will not be tolerated as this is a common distraction leading to injury.
 - Occasionally, photos will be allowed during lab periods for educational purposes only.
 - **Photos taken in this course are not to be shared on social media. This is a violation of client-patient privacy. This is a professional course.**
 - **If it is brought to my attention photos have been shared on social media, it could result in automatic failure of the course.**
- Be aware of your instructors' directions, your classmates, and yourself while working with animals at all times.

This syllabus is subject to change at any point during the semester at the discretion of the course instructor or under the supervision of the School of Agriculture. You will be notified of any changes.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Tentative Schedule – Dates to be assigned each semester		
WEEK	TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS
1	Course Intro Intro to Vet Med	Syllabus Quiz Pre-Test Assessment
2	Intro to Medical Terminology Relevant Course Terms	Med Term Quiz
3	Comparative Anatomy Cat/Dog Equine/Cattle/Sm Rmt	Anatomy Quiz
4	Physical Exams Lab: Canine PE	Physical Exam Quiz Physical Exam Lab
5	Intro to Diagnostics Lab: Acquiring samples	Samples Checklist
6	Diagnostics cont. Reviewing samples (microscopes)	Diagnostic Quiz
7	Intro to Pharmacology (large animal) Lab: LA drugs/labels/VFDs	LA pharm quiz
8	Small Animal Pharmacology Lab: Interpret drug labels, calculate dosages, legality	SA pharm quiz
9	Usually Spring Break Can adjust as needed	N/A
10	Equine Medicine Lab: White Pine Farms	Equine Quiz Lab checklist
11	Small Animal Medicine Lab: Case reviews	SA Med Quiz
12	Large Animal Medicine Lab: Case reviews	LA Med Quiz
13	Professions as a DVM Lab: bring a laptop	N/A
14	Choosing Vet Schools/Applying Lab: bring a laptop	Final Study Guide – Released
15	DEAD WEEK Review in class	Study Guide Completion
16	FINALS WEEK Final TBD location/time	*COMPREHENSIVE*