

# VM4010: VETERINARY PRACTICE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES 2

---

## Effective Term

Semester B 2023/24

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Veterinary Practice & Professional Studies 2

### Subject Code

VM - Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

### Course Number

4010

### Academic Unit

Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS)

### College/School

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

### Course Duration

One Semester

### Credit Units

3

### Level

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

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

Completion of Year 3 courses with grade C or above

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

Nil

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

This course is divided into three modules.

The "**communication**" module introduces students to information literacy and data management as applied to medical record keeping and to more advanced communication skills and techniques necessary for effective communication with clients.

The "**diagnostic imaging**" module introduces the physics of diagnostic imaging & radiation safety (lectures), the interpretation of diagnostic images in small and large animals (tutorials), the appropriate and safe use of medical imaging equipment in accordance with relevant legislation (practicals).

The "**surgical skills**" module follows the teaching of surgical skills taught in Veterinary Practice & Professional Studies 1 (VM3010). These surgical skills include (but are not limited to) advanced suture patterns, ligation techniques and hand ties. These skills are mandatory prerequisites for learning surgical techniques on live animals.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Demonstrate appropriate communication strategies with simulated clients in mock scenarios in order to be able to take a thorough history, and effectively communicate the findings of physical examination, recommendations for diagnostic investigation and treatment		x	x	x
2	Create patient medical records that include all the minimum data fields in order to demonstrate an understanding of professional written communication and of best-practice in patient medical record keeping		x	x	x
3	Explain the principles of physics that underpin image generation (using different diagnostic imaging modalities) in order to optimize image acquisition		x		
4	Apply appropriate use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and safety techniques of different diagnostic imaging modalities in order to demonstrate an understanding of radiation safety and relevant legislation		x	x	x
5	Perform radiography and/or ultrasonography of small and large animal patients as appropriate in order to procure images of optimal diagnostic quality safely and in accordance with relevant legislation		x	x	x
6	Apply the basic principles of diagnostic imaging and anatomy in order to describe and identify normal and abnormal structures, interpret imaging patterns and make radiographic/ultrasonographic diagnoses (i.e., common diseases in small and large animals)		x	x	x
7	Identify, select and justify the use of surgical instruments, suture materials and suture patterns in order to perform simple surgical procedures in small and large animals		x	x	x

8	Demonstrate hands-on skills in order to perform simple surgical procedures, IV catheter placement and common bandaging techniques in small and large animals		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.

**Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)**

	TLAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lectures	Introduction to all topics, plus deeper lectures on diagnostic imaging and communication	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	9.5 hours total
2	Case discussions and tutorials*	Discussion sessions in small groups for communication skills and diagnostic imaging interpretation	1, 2, 6	7 hours total
3	Practical labs*	Practical sessions to develop surgical and practical imaging skills	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	17.5 hours total
4	Clinics*	Observation of clinical activities, interpersonal interactions and imaging equipment at the veterinary teaching hospital	1, 2, 3, 4	5 hours total

**Additional Information for TLAs**

\*Practical labs, clinics, case discussions and tutorials are COMPULSORY. Students can be absent from no more than one of these sessions per semester. Additional absence(s) from these session(s) constitute a course failure. Permission to make up missed practical labs, clinics, case discussions and tutorials may be granted for excused absences only and only where feasible (i.e., may not be possible for live animal classes). Unexcused absences do not entitle students to any make-up or alternative arrangements.

Unauthorized cell phone use and social media posting are strictly FORBIDDEN during TLAs.

**Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)**

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Quizzes	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	15	
2	Written Assignments	1, 2	20	1) Complete a model medical record 2) Reflect on communication skills
3	Practical Examination (OSCEs)	4, 5, 7, 8	15	"Must-pass" *
4	Written Examination (1.5 hr)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

50

**Examination (%)**

50

**Examination Duration (Hours)**

1.5

**Additional Information for ATs**

\* A failing grade (<50%) in the Practical Examination (OSCEs) will lead to an overall F grade for the entire course. Students must pass the Practical Examination before live animal surgery.

A penalty of 5% of the total marks for the assessment task will be deducted per working day for late submissions, and no marks will be awarded for submissions more than 10 working days late.

Students who are unable to attend an examination or in-course assessment task contributing a weighting of 20% or above to the course assessment scheme due to extenuating circumstances should inform their course leader and the BVM Programme Office and submit a mitigation request with supporting documents via AIMS within 5 working days of the examination or the scheduled date for completing the in-course assessment task. If approved, make-up or alternative assessment arrangements will be provided.

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Assessment Task**

Written Assignments: Clinical record

**Criterion**

Write a complete and accurate clinical record.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

All relevant information included for history, physical examination and plan. Accurately described. Well-structured and clear. Excellent use of appropriate terminology (i.e., no lay terms where professional terms exist).

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Most relevant information included for history, physical examination and plan with minor omissions. Good structure, needing some refinement. Uses appropriate terminology most of the time.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Some relevant information included for history, physical examination and plan with

omissions. Some irrelevant information included. Adequate structure but could be clearer, some confusion about definition of categories. Some use of appropriate terminology but uses too many lay terms.

**Failure (F)**

Insufficient detail of history, physical examination and plan. Significant omissions of important information or lots of irrelevant information included. Poorly structured with very poor use of appropriate terminology, almost entirely lay terms.

---

**Assessment Task**

Written Assignments: Communication skills reflective assignment

**Criterion**

Write a reflective essay on a situation involving face-to-face communication that you have been involved in or observed. Reflect on what was good and what was less good, and how you or the person you were observing could improve their communication strategies in a similar situation in the future.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

The event is described and critically analyzed and reflected upon including analysis of emotional responses and impacts. Personal experience is placed into context and informed by theory, including the consideration of different perspectives. The writer demonstrates the impact of the experience on their personal development and the resulting change or intended change in their own practice.

Excellent structure, very well thought out. References cited, if applicable, no errors.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

The event is described, analysed and reflected upon (this can include any emotional response), including how this emotion may have affected the interaction. Simple improved outcomes are identified with reference to theory, and the writer proposes changes or intended changes to their own practice. (e.g., "I was stressed by this situation and did not communicate well. In future I will use eye contact and open-ended questions..." )

Well thought out structure, easy to follow and logical flow. References cited, if applicable, but with minor errors.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

The event is described, and an emotional response is discussed. Some reflection on the event and how outcomes might be improved upon.

Obvious flow and structure to the essay. References cited, if applicable, but with major errors.

**Failure (F)**

Event very poorly described and no reflection.

Poorly organised and difficult to read. Poor or no reference selection.

---

**Assessment Task**

Practical Examination ("Must-pass")

**Criterion**

Safely and correctly demonstrate clinical procedures (such as sutures, ligation, IV catheter placement, bandaging techniques, radiographic positioning, checking anesthetic equipment, etc.) to a standard considered acceptable to perform such procedures in live animals under direct supervision.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

Demonstrates excellent competence in selected clinical procedures, sufficient to perform procedures in live animals under direct supervision.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Demonstrates good competence in selected clinical procedures, sufficient to perform procedures in live animals under direct supervision.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Demonstrates competence in selected clinical procedures sufficient to perform procedures in live animals under direct supervision.

**Failure (F)**

Demonstrates lack of competence in selected clinical procedures, not competent to progress to performing procedures in live animals under direct supervision.

---

**Assessment Task**

Written Examination and Quizzes

**Criterion**

Demonstrate knowledge of diagnostic imaging, communication and basic surgery.

**Excellent (A+, A, A-)**

Excellent knowledge for stage in course, able to discuss aspects of imaging, communication and basic surgery to a high level.

**Good (B+, B, B-)**

Good knowledge for stage in course, able to discuss aspects of imaging, communication and basic surgery but some minor errors.

**Fair (C+, C, C-)**

Acceptable knowledge for stage in course, able to discuss aspects of imaging, communication and basic surgery but some minor errors.

**Failure (F)**

Poor knowledge, inability to discuss radiation physics, lack of awareness of safety, poor knowledge of communication skills and relevant basic surgical techniques.

---

**Additional Information for AR**

Mark Range

The following is the mark range for each letter grade that must be used for assessment of any examinations or coursework of BVM courses (VM- and GE-coded) offered by PH and VCS.

A+: ≥85%

A: 80-84.99%

A-: 75-79.99%

B+: 70-74.99%

B: 65-69.99%

B-: 60-64.99%

C+: 55-59.99%

C: 50-54.99%

F:<50%

## Part III Other Information

**Keyword Syllabus**

Client communication  
Medical record keeping

Surgical skills  
Diagnostic imaging  
Radiation safety

**Reading List**

**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Lecture materials and accompanying notes provided by lecturers (if applicable)

**Additional Readings**

Title	
1	Nil