

VM4011: VETERINARY PRACTICE & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES 3

Effective Term

Semester B 2023/24

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Veterinary Practice & Professional Studies 3

Subject Code

VM - Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

Course Number

4011

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 4 courses with C grade or above

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course will prepare the veterinary students for their transition into the profession. Students will discuss issues such as veterinary legislation, code of conduct, rights and obligations arising from legal recognition of the veterinary profession, veterinary certification, professional liability and malpractice, sustainability and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Students will also learn about Continued Professional Development and employability. The course also covers basic veterinary business management, discusses applied animal welfare, and provides opportunities for practicing communication skills in complex or challenging situations.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Apply basic business management principles related to basic veterinary business management to different veterinary practice scenarios.		x		
2	Justify the importance of veterinary teamwork, including working with para-professionals in the veterinary industry.			x	
3	Demonstrate communication skills in difficult or complex situations such as discussing euthanasia and addressing financial concerns of pet owners and when dealing with clients with communication challenges.		x		
4	Describe the veterinary legislative framework in Hong Kong and outline the ethical and legal responsibilities of veterinarians in relation to patients, clients, society and the environment.			x	x
5	Demonstrate an understanding of the regulatory and ethical issues associated with patient referral, as well as best-practice in case-handover to colleagues during referral or in-house scenarios. Discuss practical approaches to animal welfare as a clinician in Hong Kong.		x	x	
6	Describe the principles of certification.		x	x	x
7	Create a curriculum vitae and cover letter and describe your current career aims and goals. Discuss aspects of employability and make personal development plans to enhance professional skills. Critically reflect on areas for improvement and development.				x
8	Discuss other relevant veterinary topics such as the role of vets in client education, sustainability in veterinary practice and the importance of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.		x		
9	Demonstrate an understanding of salary negotiation and how to approach this discussion with employer.		x	x	

10	Understand the principles of diversity, with focus on neurodiversity in vet medicine. Recognize the importance of equity amongst vets pertaining to gender parity, pay gaps, race, age, and socio-economic status. Showcase the importance of inclusivity in Vet Medicine, through case studies and activities that highlight the role of vets in client education, sustainability in veterinary practice and the importance of DEI principles.		x		
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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 business management, legal aspects of the profession, teamwork, employability.	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	18 hours
2	Tutorials*	Writing CVs, career planning, communication workshops.	1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10	18 hours
3	Clinic*	Participation in consultations at VMC	2, 3	3 hours

Additional Information for TLAs

* These are participation and engagement-required TLA sessions. Students can be absent from no more than one of these sessions per course per semester. Additional absence will constitute a course failure.

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Written assignments	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	35	Completing a CV (10%), writing a cover letter (10%), writing a client education sheet (15%)
2	Communication	3, 9	15	Communication skills workshops
3	TrackIt	7		must pass
4	Examination (1 hr)			Weighting: 50%

Continuous Assessment (%)

50

Examination (%)

50

Examination Duration (Hours)

1

Additional Information for ATs

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.

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

Written Assignment - CV and Cover Letter (20%)

Criterion

Write a CV and cover letter for a job suitable for a new graduate.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Clearly describes motivation for applying for specific position, explains why they are a good fit, highlights relevant skills. CV information in reverse chronological order. Relevant placements to job included. Skills well highlighted. Succinct.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Describes motivation for applying for position, explains why they are a good fit, highlights relevant skills but lacking detail or is non-specific (i.e., reads like a generic letter). CV information in reverse chronological order. Relevant placements to job included. Skills well highlighted. May miss some detail OR be too wordy.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Describes motivation for applying for position or explains why they are a good fit (not both), mentions relevant skills but lacking detail or is non-specific (i.e., reads like a generic letter) CV - irrelevant placements to job included. Skills poorly highlighted. May miss some detail OR be too wordy.

Failure (F)

Lacks details, neither comments on motivation nor suitability, generic, non-specific, does not highlight skills. CV incomplete, wrong order. Skills not highlighted, irrelevant details included.

Assessment Task

Written Assignment - Client education sheet (15%)

Criterion

Write a client education sheet on a topic of your choice (e.g., parasite control, puppy training, mastitis management, etc.).

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent coverage of topic to an appropriate level of depth. Excellent choice of illustrations that complement the article well. Excellent style, well-pitched to a general audience. Easy to read and engaging tone. Excellent and logical flow. All use of terminology is appropriate and explained.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good coverage of topic to an appropriate level of depth. Accurate. Good choice of illustrations that complement the article well. Good style, well-pitched to a general audience. Easy to read and engaging tone, good logical flow. Most use of terminology is explained.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Average coverage of topic to an appropriate level of depth. Accurate. Some illustrations but not well chosen. Readable style, but pitched a bit too high or a bit too low for a general audience.

Failure (F)

Poor coverage of topic. Inaccurate. No or entirely inappropriate illustrations. Pitched far too high or too low for a general audience. Poor flow. Terminology inadequately explained.

Assessment Task

Communication

Criterion

Ability to manage mock clients and different situations including the discussion about salary negotiating.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Demonstrates a high level of competence and flexibility in dealing with mock scenarios. Copes with areas where knowledge is lacking in an appropriate way. Able to manage client expectations and interact empathetically. Demonstrates confidence and gives strong arguments when discussing about salary negotiating.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Competent and flexible in dealing with mock scenarios. Copes with areas where knowledge is lacking in an appropriate way. Able to manage client expectations and interact empathetically, but lacks confidence. Demonstrates hesitation or nervousness but gives appropriate arguments when discussing about salary negotiating.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Demonstrates basic competence in dealing with mock scenarios, but may not be flexible. Struggles when knowledge is lacking. Does not set clear limits for client expectations. Is empathetic but lacks confidence. Lacks of confidence and does not give good arguments when discussing about salary negotiating.

Failure (F)

Unable to manage mock clients appropriately even at a basic level; panics, lacks empathy or is rude. Unable to discuss about salary negotiating.

Assessment Task

TrackIt ('Must pass')

Criterion

Completion/sign off of the core competencies listed in TrackIt for completion by the end of Year 5.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Pass: 80% or more completed.

Failure (F)

Less than 80% of core competencies for the module achieved to an appropriate level.

Assessment Task

Examination**Criterion**

Shows competence for the legislative framework governing veterinary practice, basic business management, professional development and practical approaches to ethical and welfare issues.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Excellent grasp of the veterinary legislative framework and basic business management. Excellent understanding of professional development and ethics and welfare.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Good grasp of the veterinary legislative framework and basic business management. Good understanding of professional development and ethics and welfare.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Basic grasp of the veterinary legislative framework and basic business management. Superficial understanding of professional development and ethics and welfare.

Failure (F)

Insufficient knowledge demonstrated.

Additional Information for ARMark 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**

Veterinary profession, ethics, professional associations, registration, state veterinary medicine, continued professional development

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Hong Kong Veterinary Surgeons Board (VSB) (relevant legislation) https://www.vsbhk.org.hk/english/rules/relevant.html
2	HKVSB "CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE GUIDANCE OF REGISTERED VETERINARY SURGEONS"
3	Websites and documents from other relevant jurisdictions

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Nil