

Course Title: Veterinary Medicine

Dates: July 19 – 24, 2009

Instructor Name & Title: Gail Counts, D.V.M., Adjunct Professor

Instructor Qualifications:

Dr. Gail Counts earned a Bachelor's from Ohio Dominican College in Anthropology, a Master's in Animal Nutrition from University of Wyoming, and a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Ohio State University. She worked in the Amish area of Indiana for several years where she gained extensive equine, bovine, and porcine experience, while continuing to add to her small animal skills. She returned to Ohio to build and run her own practice in 1989. She also serves as a district representative to the OVMA Board of Trustees. Dr. Counts has taught the Veterinary Medicine course for the Summer Honors Institute for three years.

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the field of veterinary medicine from a practicing veterinarian. Through a variety of activities including visits to actual clinics and animal shelters, students will get hands-on experience with this exciting field. Students will have opportunity to observe actual medical procedures and surgery at a local clinic. Topics such as animal rights, pet overpopulation, the state of veterinary medicine today, and daily operations of a veterinary clinic will be discussed.

Description of Academic Content:

- Brief history of veterinary medicine and how its changed in recent years to meet challenges of modern medicine and today's consumers.
- Conflict of interest between extreme animal rights groups and the veterinarian, and how this conflict can be resolved so that both groups are satisfied – if possible.
- Current problem of pet overpopulation will be addressed and students will be challenged to come up with appropriate ways to deal with it and how to implement their plan in a small town with limited funds.
- Field trips will be conducted to a local veterinary clinic to observe/assist in surgery, the local animal shelter, and the county pound. Students will discuss their experiences after the field trips.
- Students will learn about the state of veterinary medicine today, the challenges veterinarians face, the daily operations of a veterinary clinic, animal shelter, and local pound.
- Students should also obtain a new appreciation for their pets and the care for animals in general.

Description of Teaching Strategies:

Lecture, small group activities, problem solving, discussion. Example: After presenting the course material, students will be divided into small groups and given a set of circumstances pertaining to the covered material. Groups must develop a viable plan to resolve problem and be able to provide defense for plan.

Description of Facilities:

Students will engage in lecture and classroom activities in a traditional classroom on Shawnee State University's campus. Students will have the opportunity to engage in hands-on, laboratory activities and observe surgical procedures at the instructor's clinic, Shawnee Animal Clinic and Sierra's Haven Animal Shelter. At Shawnee Animal Clinic, students will have the opportunity to observe such services the clinic provides as in-house blood testing, surgery, certified animal acupuncture, holistic alternatives such as Chinese herbology, homeopathy, low-energy photon therapy and veterinary orthopedic manipulation, boarding, and microchip pet identification.

Course and Instructor Evaluation Strategies:

Instructor will evaluate each student individually using the Institute developed "Student Evaluation Form". Instructor will attempt to meet with each student individually to discuss evaluation or mail the evaluation directly to the student after the Institute.

Measures of Student Learning and Growth:

Pre and Post tests will be utilized to measure learning. A culminating project (presentation of research) completed on Friday will showcase growth.

Maximum # of students: 15

