

**The University of Findlay**

**College of Sciences**

**Summer 2026**

**The mission of The University of Findlay is to equip our students for meaningful lives and productive careers.**

**Course Number:** ASLA 440-71 Companion Animal Veterinary Medicine: Online

**Credit Hours:** 1.5 credit hours

**Class Time/Place:** Online

**Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Course Description:**

This course will prepare students to manage companion animals in a veterinary setting throughout their academic and professional career. Students will learn about safety in the veterinary workplace, proper handling, physical exams, eye and ear care, skin diseases, common diseases and conditions and their treatments, diagnostics and therapeutic techniques, spay/neuter techniques, and anesthetic monitoring. The course is repeatable with a maximum of 9 total credits provided the topics are unique.

**Instructor:** Erica Ward, DVM; Kristina Perez, DVM

**Instructor Contact Information:** [Erica@loopabroad.com](mailto:Erica@loopabroad.com); [Kristina@loopabroad.com](mailto:Kristina@loopabroad.com)

**Office Hours:** upon request

**Course Objectives:**

The following Learning Objectives will be addressed or assessed as part of the course:

- **Remember** basic veterinary terminology including anatomy and directional terminology
- **Understand** basic care, treatment, and management of companion animals
- **Understand** adequate husbandry, handling, and restraint of companion animals
- **Understand** and **Apply** knowledge gained to demonstrate proficiency in physical examinations, injections, venipuncture, and medical specimen collection procedures
- **Analyze** US standards of care and adjustments made in resource restricted settings.
- **Analyze** many of the commonly encountered medical conditions in companion animals
- **Evaluate** the health of companion animal patients through interpreting diagnostic results such as physical exam findings, blood work, and fecal examination.
- **Create** treatment plans and calculate drug doses for patients

**Required Textbooks and Other Materials:** All textbooks and readings will be provided during the course. On the first day of the course, students will be provided with a specialized coursepack.

- Loop Abroad’s Companion Animal Course Pack
- Optional: Clinical Textbook for Veterinary Technicians, 8th ed. McCurmin, Saunders, 2013.
- Optional: Saunders Comprehensive Veterinary Dictionary, 4th ed. Blood and Studdert, Saunders, 2012.
- Each day, students will bring the following materials with them in a day pack, backpack, or tote bag: class session materials (textbook(s) if required, notes, notebook, writing utensils, etc.), refillable water bottle, snacks, wrist watch, scrubs (if necessary), insect repellent, sunscreen, hiking boots and/or closed toed shoes. Clothing may get dirty or ripped.

**Instructional Strategies:**

Case Analysis	x	Library and Internet Research	
Debate		Practice/drill	
Discovery/Independent Research		Problem-solving	x
Discussion/Questioning/Interviewing		Reading assignments	
Experiential Learning		Role-playing/simulation games	
Field Experience		Service Learning	
Group Presentation		Video/Audio Review and Critique	
Laboratory Experiences		Other	
Lecture	x		

**Methods of Assessment:** Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Abstracts		Participation	
Attendance		Peer Evaluation	
Capstone Project		Portfolio	
Case Study		Portfolio Lab Performance	
Exams	x	Presentations	
Group Projects		Professional Evaluation	

Homework Assignments	x	Quizzes	x
Internet Research		Research project	
Journaling		Other	
Lab Performance			
Oral/written review of literature			

**Grading:** Your course grade will be determined as follows:

This course is composed of multiple lessons in the form of modules. At the end of each lesson there will be a multiple choice quiz. There is also a final exam and final project due at the end of the course.

Exams: 40%

Quizzes: 40%

Final Project: 20%

**Grading Scale/Distribution:**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
A	4.00	93-100
A-	3.67	90-92
B+	3.33	87-89
B	3.00	83-86
B-	2.67	80-82
C+	2.33	77-79
C	2.00	73-76
C-	1.67	70-72
D+	1.33	67-69
D	1.00	63-66
D-	0.67	62-60
F	0.00	below 60
U	0.00	

**University Honor Code:**

Each and every student of the University will adhere to the following Honor Code:

“I will not knowingly engage in any dishonorable behavior, cheat, steal, lie, or commit any act of plagiarism during any academic work, course, or endeavor. If I observe an act which I believe violates the University’s Honor Code, I may, at my discretion, report it to the appropriate personnel.”

**Student Acknowledgement of University Honor Code:**

“I acknowledge that I have fully complied or will comply with all aspects of the University’s Honor Code in submitting this work.”

**Student Rights and Responsibilities Statement, Article VIII-Academic Integrity:**

<http://catalog.findlay.edu/en/current/Undergraduate-Catalog/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities-Statement/VIII-Academic-Integrity>

**University Diversity Statement:**

As part of our commitment to achieve excellence, the University of Findlay values and actively promotes a welcoming and supportive environment that honors the many aspects of diversity. We aspire to foster acceptance of, respect for, and appreciation of all persons in our campus community. We celebrate our commonalities and unique differences, and we acknowledge that diversity broadens learning, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and prepares our students for meaningful lives and productive careers.

**Course Policies and Practices:****Attendance and Participation Policy**

Students are expected to attend all class meetings for which they are registered. This is regarded as a matter of individual student responsibility. The only excused reasons for absences will be illness that impairs the ability to attend and function within the classroom setting or an unavoidable personal emergency.

Students are expected to attend all class sessions on all days of class. It will be the responsibility of the student to contact the course instructor or site director, preferably before the absence, to provide the appropriate documentation and verification for the reason for the absence, and to make arrangements with the course instructor for missed work. Students are responsible for all missed class material. Students may be subject to limited participation in hands-on practice at the instructor’s discretion if they have missed the underlying material needed to safely perform the task at hand.

**Final Exam Date:** TBD

**Special Services:** If you are a student with a disability, it is your responsibility to inform your instructor and register with the Office of Disability Services ([ods@findlay.edu](mailto:ods@findlay.edu)) at least one week prior to a needed service so reasonable accommodations can be made.

**Course and Instructor Evaluation:** Each student is expected to complete the course and instructor evaluation which is sent electronically to the student by the Office of the Registrar. The electronic notification comes in the form of an e-mail from the UF Registrar's Office with the following subject line: Online survey for the designated course (e.g., BIOL 102).

**Last Date of Attendance Policy:** Instructors are required to indicate the last known date of attendance when a final grade of "F" or "U" is assigned to a student.

**Course Modules:**

1. Canine and Feline Behavior, Restraint, and Anatomy
2. Canine and Feline Physical Examination and Directional Terminology
3. Wellness Visits, Medical Record Keeping and SOAP
4. Diseases of the Head
5. Diseases of the Skin and Musculoskeletal Systems
6. Diseases of the Gastrointestinal and Urogenital Systems
7. Diseases of the Endocrine, Hemolympatic, and Immune Systems
8. Cardiac Anatomy and Diseases of the Cardiovascular System
9. Diseases of the Neurologic and Respiratory Systems
10. Internal Parasites, How to Perform Fecal Exam, Basics of Parasite ID
11. Diagnostic Sampling and Therapeutic Techniques
12. Anesthesia and CPR
13. Introduction to Shelters; Suture and Sterile Technique, Spay/Neuter Anatomy and Technique
14. Nutrition