

The University of Findlay

College of Sciences

Spring 2026

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

Course Number: ASLA 441-01 Veterinary Surgical Nursing: Thailand

Credit Hours: 2 credit hours

Class Time/Place: Spring 2026 Loop Abroad Thailand TVSA

Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Course Description:

During this course, students work with veterinarians to provide spay/neuter and vaccination services to local companion animals. The setting allows students to gain hands-on practice and observation and will expose them to the skills and concepts of working as a veterinary technician or veterinary assistant in a surgical setting. The course is repeatable with a maximum of 9 total credits provided the topics are unique.

Instructor: Erica Ward, DVM

Instructor Contact Information: erica@loopabroad.com

Office Hours: upon request

Course Objectives:

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

- **Remember** and recall the specific steps in performing patient preparation, surgical anesthesia, and recovery during veterinary surgical procedures.
- **Remember** normal ranges for physical exam findings and patient monitoring values for dogs and cats.
- **Understand** the steps in emergency resuscitation and emergency protocols during anesthesia.
- **Apply** knowledge of anatomy and physiology to place catheters, intubate patients, and monitor anesthesia.
- **Apply** knowledge gained to provide post-operative care for dogs and cats recovering from a procedure.
- **Apply** information and knowledge gathered to complete anesthetic records.
- **Analyze** problems that were encountered each day to identify ways to detect, prevent, and manage them in a safe way.

- **Evaluate** information gathered during patient monitoring to determine the plane of anesthesia for the patient and adjust accordingly.
- **Create** anesthetic plans for healthy, aggressive, compromised companion animals.
- **Create** a fluid plan and calculate and administer drug doses to patients before, during and after surgery.

Required Textbooks and Other Materials:

Students are not required to purchase textbooks for this course. All required texts, research articles and information will be provided in class.

- Optional: Small Animal Surgical Nursing, 2nd ed. Tear, Mosby, 2011.
- Each day, students will bring the following materials in a day pack, backpack, or tote bag: scrubs, close-toed shoes, class session materials (case log, notes, notebook and/or laptop, writing utensils, etc.), wristwatch, snacks, refillable water bottle, and insect repellent.
- Students should wear closed-toed shoes and scrubs each day. Clothes may get dirty or ripped. Students must keep fingernails short enough to safely wear gloves and avoid rings and bracelets (or plan to take them off each day).

Instructional Strategies:

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

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

Abstracts		Participation	x
Attendance	x	Peer Evaluation	

Capstone Project		Portfolio	
Case Study		Portfolio Lab Performance	
Exams		Presentations	
Group Projects		Professional Evaluation	x
Homework Assignments	x	Quizzes	
Internet Research		Research project	
Journaling		Other	
Lab Performance	x		
Oral/written review of literature			

Grading: Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Homework Assignments: 20%

Medical Record Keeping: 35%

Class Attendance, Participation, and Performance: 45%

Grading Scale/Distribution:

Grade	Points	Grading Scale
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: No final exam

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) 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.

Tentative Course Outline:

Based on the program location, these are possible lecture and lab topics.

Possible Lectures

- Orientation and Introduction to Anesthesiology
- Forms, Standard Operating Procedures, and Record-Keeping
- Physical Exams, Patient Preparation, and Handling
- Anesthetic Monitoring
- Mechanics of an Anesthesia Machine
- Post-Operative Care and Complications
- Respiratory Physiology
- Drugs and Pharmacology of Anesthesia
- Making an Anesthetic Plan (including fluids and pain management)
- Emergency Resuscitation and Emergency Protocols

Possible Labs/Rotations During Spay/Neuter Clinic

- Patient Registration and Client Communications
- Intake Surgical Patients and Perform Initial Physical Exams and Problems List
- Surgical Preparation of Patients Including Drug Calculations, Administration, Catheter Placement, and Intubation
- Anesthetic Monitoring Including Administering Fluids and Anesthetic Drugs
- Patient Recovery
- Surgical Assistance
- Clinic Setup and Clean Up