

Veterinary Technology

Careers & Technology

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DEGREE

A.S.—Veterinary Technology

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Veterinary Technology

Program Description

CRC's Veterinary Technology program is designed to provide the student with the skills and knowledge necessary to pursue a career as a Registered Veterinary Technician. The program offers a rigorous yet rewarding academic curriculum while simultaneously providing ample hands-on experience. The student will gain a working knowledge of animal behavior, restraint, nutrition and nursing. The curriculum will include, but not be restricted to, the performance of emergency care, anesthesia, dental care, surgical assistance and laboratory procedures.

Registered Veterinary Technicians (RVTs) (previously known as Animal Health Technicians) are trained professionals who work as highly skilled assistants to veterinarians and researchers. Their knowledge and skills have led to their being desirable employees in a variety of related fields.

Most states (including California) require official licensing or certification of RVTs. In California certification is accomplished by:

- completion of an educational curriculum
- achievement of a passing score on a state board exam

Career Opportunities

Private Veterinary Practice	Zoos/Wild Animal Parks
Pharmaceutical Industry	Veterinary Supplies Sales
Diagnostic Laboratories	Military Service
Education	Biomedical Research
Humane Societies/Animal Control	Regulatory Veterinary Medicine
Livestock Health Management	

Highlights

- One of only six programs in California that has earned accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association
- Acceptance of degree by examining boards in states other than California
- High-quality training recognized by local employers
- Excellent record of students passing state board exams
- On-the-job training and future job placement opportunities

For information about the student learning outcomes for this program, see <http://www.crc.losrios.edu/pslo>

DEGREE

A.S.—Veterinary Technology

CODE #1017

Enrollment Eligibility:

To be eligible for enrollment in the program, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Completion of BIOL 400 or BIOL 401 with a grade of "C" or better.
- Completion of CHEM 305 or CHEM 307 with a grade of "C" or better.
- Completion of a pre-enrollment form (includes official copies of a college transcripts) received by May 15 for the following Fall Semester.
Forms are available from the Careers and Technology Division office or apply online at http://crc.losrios.edu/Academic_Depts/Careers_and_Technology/Veterinary_Technology/Application.htm
Only completed application packets will be considered. Completed applications must include all official college transcripts. Grades in progress will be accepted. Transcripts must be submitted as soon as they are available. Refer to current information sheet.
- AVMA requires that all applicants for enrollment must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.

Enrollment Process:

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

- Only students who meet the pre-enrollment requirements will be considered for the program.
- Selection will be based on a random lottery process, should the number of qualified applicants exceed available spaces in the program.

Upon completion of an A.S. degree in this field, the student will be fully eligible to take the State Board examination to become registered as a Veterinary Technician.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO STUDENTS

In order to ensure that prerequisites for subsequent courses are met and to allow completion of course work in four semesters, the student must adhere to the following schedule.

NOTE: VT courses are offered only once per year - spring or fall semester.

REQUIRED PROGRAM.....Units

First Year (Fall)

BIOL 440*	General Microbiology	4
VT 100	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	3
VT 111	Anatomy-Physiology of Animals	4

First Year (Spring)

VT 152	Introduction to Laboratory Animals and Caged Birds	2
VT 110	Veterinary Office Practice	3
VT 113	Clinical Laboratory Techniques for Veterinary Technicians	4

(continued on next page)

A.S.—Veterinary Technology continued

REQUIRED PROGRAM..... Units

Second Year (Fall)

VT 120	Pharmacology and Anesthesiology for the Veterinary Technician	4
VT 122	Animal Disease: Pathology	3
VT 126	Dentistry for the Veterinary Technician	1.5

Second Year (Spring)

VT 298	Work Experience in Veterinary Technology	2
VT 130	Advanced Veterinary Technology	4
VT 131	Introduction to Diagnostic Imaging	3
VT 134	Large Animal Nursing	1.5

TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED39

Suggested Electives:

AH 10; NUTRI 300; PSYC 300

G.E. Graduation Requirements for this degree - see pages 20-21

* BIOL 440 may be taken Fall or Spring semester of the first year.

With the exception of VT 110, all courses are pre- or co-requisites for the subsequent semester's courses. Failure to complete a course successfully will therefore delay progress through the program. VT 298, Work Experience, can be taken any semester after completion of VT 113.

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Completed applications must include all official college transcripts. Grades in progress will be accepted. Transcripts must be submitted as soon as they are available. Refer to current information sheet.

- AVMA requires that all applicants for enrollment must have a high school diploma or G.E.D.

Enrollment Process:

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

- Only students who meet the pre-enrollment requirements will be considered for the program.
- Selection will be based on a random lottery process, should the number of qualified applicants exceed available spaces in the program.

This certificate is designed for students with three years of verifiable full-time experience working as an unregistered veterinary assistant. Upon completion of this certificate program, and three years clinical experience, the student will be fully eligible to take the State Board examination to become registered as a Veterinary Technician.

REQUIRED PROGRAM..... Units

First Year (Fall)

VT 100	Introduction to Veterinary Technology	3
VT 111	Anatomy-Physiology of Animals	4
BIOL 440	General Microbiology	4

First Year (Spring)

VT 110	Veterinary Office Practice	3
VT 113	Clinical Laboratory Techniques for Veterinary Technicians	4
VT 152	Intro to Laboratory Animals and Caged Birds	2

Second year (Fall)

VT 120	Pharmacology and Anesthesiology for the Veterinary Technician	4
VT 122	Animal Disease: Pathology	3
VT 126	Dentistry for the Veterinary Technician	1.5

Second Year (Spring)

VT 130	Advanced Veterinary Technology	4
VT 131	Introduction to Diagnostic Imaging	3
VT 134	Large Animal Nursing	1.5

TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED37

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY (VT)

VT 100

Introduction to Veterinary Technology 3 Units

Prerequisite: None

Enrollment Limitation: Students must complete the pre-enrollment process

Hours: 36 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB

This is an orientation course which reviews the history, training and career opportunities pertaining to Registered Veterinary Technicians. Animal behavior, handling, training and restraint will be thoroughly presented and discussed in the lecture periods. Laboratories will provide opportunities for students to gain hands-on experience with domestic, farm, laboratory and non-domestic animal species (when they are available). Students will be introduced to the medical terminology common to the animal health care field. Enrollment in this course limited to students admitted through the pre-enrollment process.

VT 110

Veterinary Office Practice 3 Units

Prerequisite: None

Advisory: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in CISC 302

Enrollment Limitation: Student must complete pre-enrollment process

Hours: 36 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB

A practice-oriented course that includes hospital and clinic management procedures, business and professional aspects of practice, ethical and legal considerations for the Registered Veterinary Technician and his/her employer. Students will be introduced to OSHA requirements and regulations as they pertain to veterinary hospitals. Assignments in medical terminology will be given. Enrollment in this course limited to students admitted through the pre-enrollment process.

VT 111

Anatomy-Physiology of Animals 4 Units

Prerequisite: BIOL 400 or 401, AND CHEM 305 or 307 with grades of "C" or better

Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in VT 100 (may be taken previously)

Hours: 54 hours LEC ; 72 hours LAB

This course is a study of the basic anatomy and physiology of common domestic animals, specifically dogs, cats, horses, swine and ruminants. The information will be organized according to body systems. Within each system, the variation between species will be explored. Whenever possible, topics will be related to pertinent veterinary situations. (Note: Laboratory periods will include dissection of cadavers) Students will also be required to spend 2-6hrs /week during assigned times in the care of the colony animals. Time may include weekends and holidays as well as semester break.

VT 113

Clinical Laboratory Techniques for Veterinary Technicians 4 Units

Prerequisite: VT 111 with a grade of "C" or better

Hours: 54 hours LEC ; 72 hours LAB

This course will cover the basic clinical laboratory skills needed by Registered Veterinary Technicians. Subjects included will be parasitology, cytology, urinalysis, bacteriology and an introduction to hematology. Both normal and abnormal values for various species of animals will be covered. Students will gain additional hands-on experience as they learn to restrain the animals for specimen collection procedures. Office procedures as they pertain to clinical laboratory work will be included: filing, recordkeeping, telephone reports, etc. Students will be required to spend 2-6 hrs/week during assigned times in the care of the colony animals. Time may include weekends and holidays as well as semester break.

VT 120

Pharmacology and Anesthesiology for the Veterinary Technician 4 Units

Prerequisite: VT 111 and 113 with grades of "C" or better

Hours: 54 hours LEC ; 72 hours LAB

This course will lay the foundation for the students' understanding of pharmacological agents. Drugs will be discussed according to classification, action, method of administration and dispensing (including procedures for scheduled drugs). Injectable and inhalation anesthetic agents will be discussed and demonstrated during surgical laboratory exercises. Students will have an opportunity to work with two types of inhalation anesthetic agents. All students will rotate through various surgical positions where they will enhance their knowledge of equipment and job tasks required of the surgical assistant and anesthesia monitor. Students will learn intravenous catheterization and fluid therapy. Students will be required to spend 2-6hrs /week during assigned times in the care of the colony animals. Time may include weekends and holidays as well as semester break. Students will also be assigned a dog and cat which will require an additional 140 min/wk for obedience training, socialization and grooming.

VT 122

Animal Disease: Pathology 3 Units

Prerequisite: VT 111 and 113 with grades of "C" or better

Corequisite: BIOL 400 (may be taken previously)

Hours: 54 hours LEC

A course of study designed to acquaint the Veterinary Technician trainee with the many varied disease entities seen in the animal health field. While most of the diseases discussed will be those of the common small animals, some problems of exotic and laboratory animal species will also be investigated. There will be exposure to such areas of study as etiology, pathogenesis, symptomatology and control of disease. Necropsy demonstrations will be provided as visual aids to the textbook study.

VT 123**Large Animal Disease: Pathology****3 Units***Prerequisite: VT 111 and 113 with grades of "C" or better**Corequisite: BIOL 400 and 440 (may be taken previously)**Hours: 54 hours LEC*

A course of study designed to acquaint the Veterinary Technician trainee with the many varied large animal disease entities seen in the animal health field. While most of the diseases discussed will be those of the common large domestic animals, some emerging and foreign animal diseases will be investigated with an emphasis on public health concerns. There will be exposure to such areas of study as etiology, pathogenesis, symptomatology and control of disease. Course will cover mechanisms of protecting the nation's food supply through herd health disease prevention and control programs for zoonotic diseases.

VT 126**Dentistry for the Veterinary Technician****1.5 Units***Prerequisite: None**Corequisite: VT 120**Hours: 18 hours LEC ; 27 hours LAB*

This course will prepare the student for all aspects of veterinary diagnostics and prophylaxis in dogs and cats appropriate to the veterinary technician. It will include instruction in dental charting, radiography, prophylaxis and extractions. Students will perform dental radiography and prophylaxis on anesthetized animals.

VT 130**Advanced Veterinary Technology****4 Units***Prerequisite: VT 120 with a grade of "C" or better**Hours: 54 hours LEC ; 72 hours LAB*

This course includes instruction in abnormal hematology, an introduction to bone marrow evaluation, veterinary nutrition, dentistry, and emergency patient care. The student is also instructed in multiple aspects of small animal, laboratory animal, and non-domestic animal nursing techniques. Students will be required to spend 2-6 hrs/week during assigned times in the care of the colony animals. Time may include weekends and holidays as well as semester break. Students will also be assigned a dog and cat which will require an additional 140 min/week for obedience training, socialization and grooming.

VT 131**Introduction to Diagnostic Imaging****3 Units***Prerequisite: VT 120 and 122 with a grade of "C" or better**Hours: 36 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB*

This course is designed to meet the needs of the Registered Veterinary Technician who will be working for veterinarians in private practice, animal research laboratories, private and state industrial or educational institutions. The course covers safety procedures, rules, regulations, x-ray production and theory and specific techniques associated with the use of x-ray equipment. It includes positioning techniques for various animal species as well as radiograph developing techniques and basic x-ray theory. Alternate imaging modalities are introduced and their use in veterinary medicine described. Emphasis is placed on the theory of diagnostic ultrasound and its use in veterinary medicine.

VT 134**Large Animal Nursing****1.5 Units***Prerequisite: VT 111 and 113 with a grade of "C" or better**Hours: 18 hours LEC ; 27 hours LAB*

A course in restraint, behavior, anesthesia and nursing care of ruminant and equine animals, including hands-on experience with these species. Some routine medically-oriented management procedures, such as ruminant dehorning, will also be covered. In addition to lecture presentations, students will train at off-campus sites in procedures such as venipuncture, tail and leg wrapping, administration of injectable and oral medication and intravenous catheterization. The student will also receive instruction in the use of restraint equipment and techniques in the use of equipment for obstetrical examination, and in the administration of anesthesia.

VT 152**Introduction to Laboratory Animals and Caged Birds****2 Units***Prerequisite: None**Corequisite: VT 100 (may be taken previously)**Hours: 27 hours LEC ; 27 hours LAB*

This course is designed to expand upon the brief introduction the veterinary technology student has had to caged birds and laboratory animals. The student will have more hands-on exposure to laboratory animals and caged birds (e.g. specimen collection, anesthesia, etc.) thereby increasing their understanding of laboratory animal care maintenance requirements. Greater emphasis will be placed on obtaining handling skills. This course will provide information and handling skills which will help the student prepare for AALAS certification.

VT 295**Independent Studies in Veterinary Technology****1-3 Units***Prerequisite: None**Hours: 18 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB***VT 298****Work Experience in Veterinary Technology****1-4 Units***Prerequisite: None**General Education: AA/AS Area III(b)**Hours: 300 hours LAB*

This course provides students with opportunities to develop marketable skills in preparation for employment or advancement within their current job. Course content will include understanding the application of education to the workforce; completion of required forms, which document the student's progress and hours spent at the work site; and developing workplace skills and competencies. During the course of the semester, the student is required to fulfill an 18 hour orientation and 75 hours of related paid work experience, or 60 hours of unpaid work experience for one unit. An additional 75 or 60 hours of related work experience is required for each additional unit. The course may be taken again when there is new or expanded learning on the job for a maximum of 16 units.

VT 299**Experimental Offering in Veterinary Technology****.5-4 Units***Prerequisite: None**Hours: 18 hours LEC ; 54 hours LAB*