

Semester	Course No.	Course Name	Course Hours	Course Description
<b>Semester 1 (30 hours)</b>	VAC100	Intro to Veterinary Assistant Training	4	Introduction to role of the <i>veterinary assistant</i> , client education & communication, professionalism, as well as role in veterinary team.
	VAC110	Veterinary Medical Terminology	2	Introduction to veterinary medical terminology through instructor-guided study associated word parts and roots. Visual guide as it relates to anatomy also included.
	VAC120	Anatomy & Physiology	7.5	Introduction to basic veterinary anatomy and physiology. Focus will be on the skeletal and digestive systems, as well as the urinary and lymphatic systems. External integument & body condition will also be emphasized for knowledge of the preliminary physical exam.
	VAC130	Restraint & Animal Behavior	16	An introduction to low stress handling of dogs & cats for care & treatment in the veterinary environment.
<b>Semester 2 (41.5 hours)</b>	VAC140	Pharmacy & Nutrition for the Veterinary Assistant	4.5	A basic introduction to dog & cat nutrition and application in veterinary medicine. Introduction to the veterinary pharmacy and stocked medications, as well as controlled substance handling and analysis of prescription labels. Introduction to common vaccines, flea and tick preventatives, and disease transmission.
	VAC150	Lab Techniques for the Veterinary Assistant	31.5	A cumulative course on laboratory skills as it pertains to the veterinary assistant. Focus will be on performing & mastering basic veterinary assistant skills, as well as preparation in assisting the rest of the veterinary staff. Knowledge of common laboratory skills & operation of lab machines and equipment. Understanding of treatment procedures & equipment used. Obtaining & storing samples for patients, along with administering basic prescribed medications to the veterinary patient.
	VAC160	Radiology for the Veterinary Assistant	9	A basic introductory course for the veterinary assistant on veterinary radiology. How the machines work, common radiology tools & safety, taking a "good" radiograph, as well as proper patient positioning & restraint for specific anatomical regions.

Semester	Course No.	Course Name	Course Hours	Course Description
<b>Semester 3 (38 hours)</b>	VAC170	Surgery Machines & Equipment	6	An introduction to surgery machines and equipment for use in the veterinary setting. Students will gain knowledge of how to set up basic equipment, as well as run and troubleshoot any common problems. Various instrument identification, care, and sterilization will also be covered here.
	VAC180	Surgery	20	A comprehensive course on preparation of the surgical suite & patient. Classes will be focus on preparing the patient and environment for surgical procedures from onset to recovery. Knowledge of use of anesthetic & surgical machines will be emphasized, as well as patient care.
	VAC190	Long-Term Patient Care	5	A thorough look at long term patient care, as well as observation & handling of the critical care patient. How to follow a CC plan set up by doctor, and how to aid in preparing for patient discharge following long-term hospitalization.
	VAC200	Emergency Care	4.5	An introductory class on emergency care in the veterinary hospital. How to recognize, set up & assist in emergency situations. Ability to perform & assist in CPR techniques, & how to stock & maintain veterinary crash carts for emergency procedures.
<b>Semester 4 (20 hours)</b>	VAC210	Work Experience	10	Completion of 8 hours shadowing within the veterinary setting observing procedures learned during program. An optional 2-hour class focusing on resume-building, cover letters, and interview skills. 10 volunteer hours at Asheville Humane Society

**Four semesters of classes/labs = 130 hrs (64 lab hrs)**