

# VM1002: ANIMAL HUSBANDRY EXTRA-MURAL STUDIES

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

## Part I Course Overview

### Course Title

Animal Husbandry Extra-mural Studies

### Subject Code

VM - Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences

### Course Number

1002

### Academic Unit

Infectious Diseases and Public Health (PH)

### College/School

Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences (VM)

### Course Duration

Non-standard Duration

### Other Course Duration

10 weeks in vacations of Years 1, 2 and 3

### Credit Units

0

### Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

### Medium of Instruction

English

### Medium of Assessment

English

### Prerequisites

VM 1001 Pre-EMS Animal Handling Skills

### Precursors

Nil

### Equivalent Courses

Nil

### Exclusive Courses

Nil

## Part II Course Details

### Abstract

The purpose of the Animal Husbandry EMS is to develop students' communication skills, professionalism, and abilities in animal handling and husbandry of common domestic species, including companion animals and production animals, in authentic working environments under the guidance of farm/establishment managers. The EMS requires 10 weeks of satisfactory performance, which can be fulfilled through placements at operating farms, stables and animal shelters. Students have the flexibility to choose their placements in Hong Kong or overseas, and their individual intended learning outcomes (ILOs) for each placement. At least 3 weeks must take place in each of the following core animals' settings: companion animals, production animals and equine. The remaining 7 weeks are called elective placements, since students can pursue any preferred areas/ species that would interest them the most. To complement their studies, students are encouraged to complete placements which offer them a broad range of experience across different animal species and/or establishments.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

| CILOs  | Weighting (if app.) | DEC-A1 | DEC-A2 | DEC-A3 |
|--|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1<br>Set three clear and achievable individual ILOs for each placement, focusing on animal handling and areas of animal husbandry such as nutrition, housing, preventive health and welfare. |                     | x      | x      | x      |
| 2<br>Acquire confidence and skills to safely handle and restrain animals.  |                     |        | x      | x      |
| 3<br>Develop competence in animal husbandry by participating in daily operational activities to care for and maintain the nutritional status, health and welfare of animals.                 |                     | x      | x      | x      |
| 4<br>Demonstrate professional behaviors expected of veterinarians, including punctuality, accepting responsibility for assigned duties and empathetic behavior towards animals and people.   |                     | x      | x      |        |
| 5<br>Demonstrate effective communication skills to achieve clear and respectful interactions with supervisors, facility staff, peers and members of the community.                           |                     | x      | x      |        |

#### A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

#### A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

#### A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

### Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

| LTAs |                          | Brief Description  | CILO No.      | Hours/week (if applicable)        |
|------|--------------------------|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1    | Training and observation | Handle animals safely, recognize key animal behaviours, perform routine husbandry tasks (cleaning, nutrition, health checks); demonstrate professionalism and effective communication and teamwork with different stakeholders | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | Minimum 1 week ( $\geq 35$ hours) |

### Additional Information for LTAs

#### Placement requirements

| Category      | Placement         | Duration (week) | Year of Program |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|               |                   | Minimum         |                 |
| Husbandry EMS | Companion animals | $\geq 1$        | 1, 2 or 3       |
|               | Production animal | $\geq 1$        | 1, 2 or 3       |
|               | Equine            | $\geq 1$        | 1, 2 or 3       |
|               | Electives         | $\leq 7$        | 1, 2 or 3       |

#### Exemption of Animal Husbandry EMS requirement

Exemption of up to a total of 3 weeks of Animal Husbandry EMS may be granted in recognition of recent prior learning e.g., for students who have considerable animal handling experience gained on a previous course at a tertiary level, or through directly relevant employment or other professional experience. In such cases, students should make a formal request to the AHEMS Coordinator, by the end of Semester A of their first year of studies, with supporting documents for evaluation. Each request will be reviewed and approved by the course leader, the course offering department and the BVM Programme Leader.

#### Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

| ATs |                            | CILO No.   | Weighting (%) | Remarks ("-" for nil entry)  | Allow Use of GenAI? |
|-----|----------------------------|------------|---------------|--|---------------------|
| 1   | Formal supervisor feedback | 2, 3, 4, 5 | 90            | Students will obtain a satisfactory evaluation in the supervisor feedback on their performance, professionalism, and punctuality during the placements | No                  |

|   |                                   |         |    |  |    |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------|----|--|----|
| 2 | Reflective Assignment (700 words) | 2, 4, 5 | 10 | Students will compose a reflective assignment (700 words) that analyzes the placement's experiences, intended learning outcomes, and plans for improvement | No |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------|----|--|----|

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Examination (%)**

0

**Additional Information for ATs**

Each AHEMS placement provider will assess the performance of each student as satisfactory or unsatisfactory in four areas: animal handling, husbandry management, professionalism, communication skills. In addition, by the end of the Course, students must complete a reflective assignment based on one AHEMS placement of their choice, focusing on their individual ILOs as well as on the management, husbandry and welfare of the animals. The placement manager/supervisor will evaluate student's performance during each placement according to the "Formal Supervisor Feedback assessment rubric". The AHEMS Coordinator will evaluate the Reflective assignment according to the "Reflective Assignment assessment rubric". The AHEMS Coordinator will consider the Supervisor's feedback and comments, and the contents of the reflective assignment to determine whether the student has satisfied the course requirements. A PASS grade will be awarded for satisfactory performance, whereas an unsatisfactory performance requires that the particular placement is repeated in full.

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Additional Information for AR****Formal Supervisor Feedback assessment rubric**

|                         | Satisfactory   | Unsatisfactory   |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Animal Handling      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Handles animals safely, with appropriate restraint techniques and recognition of key behavior signals</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shows unsafe handling practices that increase the risk of stress or harm to animals or humans</li> </ul>                                    |
| 2. Husbandry Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performs routine husbandry tasks correctly, maintaining required hygiene standards and in accordance with standard operating protocols</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performs routine husbandry tasks incompletely or incorrectly, risking animal health or welfare</li> </ul>                                   |
| 3. Professionalism      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is consistently punctual, prepared, and demonstrates courteous, professional and respectful behavior during the placement</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is frequently late, unprepared, or shows unprofessional conduct during the placement</li> </ul>   |
| 4. Communication skills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has good communication skills as evidenced by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-is able to initiate communication with supervisors, staff and peers</li> <li>- respectful, effective and responsive communication with supervisors, staff and peers</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disrespectful, infrequent or unclear communication with supervisors, staff and/or peers that hinders teamwork or task completion</li> </ul> |

**Reflective Assignment assessment rubric**

|                 | Satisfactory  | Unsatisfactory  |
|-----------------|---|---|
| Content of work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Links their individual ILOs to their practical experiences</li> <li>· Articulates meaningful connections to relevant ideas covered during the BVM Year 1 Curriculum</li> <li>· Is supported with relevant details through personal experiences and observations</li> </ul>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Little or no link to individual ILOs</li> <li>· Little or no link to ideas covered during the BVM Year 1 Curriculum</li> <li>· Little or no support with relevant details</li> </ul> |
| Reflection      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Reflection reveals feelings and thoughts through insightful presentation of the actual experience</li> <li>· Analyses the experience from different angles, and describes its value to self or others</li> <li>· Makes meaningful and practical suggestions for improvement</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Little or no evidence of reflection in presenting the experience</li> <li>· Little or no analysis</li> <li>· Little or no suggestions for improvement</li> </ul>                     |

**Part III Other Information****Keyword Syllabus**

EMS, Husbandry, Extra-Mural Studies

**Reading List****Compulsory Readings**

| Title |     |
|-------|-----|
| 1     | Nil |

**Additional Readings**

| Title |     |
|-------|-----|
| 1     | Nil |