

**College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Florida
Course Syllabus**

Name of Course: Small Animal, Soft Tissue, Minimally Invasive Surgery

Course Number: VME 6934

Catalog Description of Course:

- This course will serve as an introduction to the current state of laparoscopy and thoracoscopy in small animal surgery. Lectures will focus on specific procedures and associated case selection considerations. Descriptions of required and recommended instrumentation as well as procedural steps will be presented and basic techniques will be practiced in the laboratory setting on endoscopic trainers.

Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Enforced Prerequisites

- Baccalaureate degree or permission of an academic advisor of a student in a premedical Baccalaureate program such as animal science, biology, or physiology; or enrollment in a graduate clinical or laboratory medicine/surgery program

Maximum enrollment: 15 students

Number of term credits: 1

Weeks duration: Full time, every Tuesday, 6th period (8:00 – 8:50 am)

Lecture room: Veterinary Academic Building, Banfield B Room

Instructors

Dr. J. Brad Case, DVM, MS, Associate Professor
ACVS Founding Fellow MIS-SA
Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences
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Dr. Kathleen Ham, Clinical Associate Professor
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Dr. Penny Regier, DVM, MS, Assistant Professor
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Course organizer/coordinator:

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The best way to contact us is via email. If needed, we are happy set up a time for individual phone calls.

Course Objectives

This course is designed for graduate and professional students whose interest and career objectives are to perform clinical and/or experimental surgery for the treatment of disease in companion animals such as dogs and cats.

- Students will be expected to understand the instrumentation associated with- and the physiologic consequences of abdominal insufflation and pulmonary exclusion in dogs and cats
- Students will be able to describe the case selection considerations for a wide variety of laparoscopic and thoracoscopic procedures in dogs and cats
- Students will be able to describe the major steps required to perform most laparoscopic and thoracoscopic surgeries in dogs and cats
- Students will begin to acquire the basic psychomotor skills needed to safely maneuver common instrumentation used in laparoscopy and thoracoscopy

Lecture Schedule:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Instructor</i>
1	8/25/2022 Thursday 8:00 am	Introduction: Instrumentation & energy	Case
2	9/1/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laparoscopic gastropexy & suturing	Case
3	9/8/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laparoscopic approaches, capnoperitoneum & pulmonary exclusion	Ham
4	9/15/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laparoscopic ovariectomy, ovariohysterectomy & cryptorchidectomy	Ham
5	9/22/22 Tuesday 7:00 am	Laboratory: VALS & intracorporeal suturing	Regier
6	9/29/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laparoscopic cholecystectomy, pancreatectomy & splenectomy	Case
7	10/6/22 Tuesday 7:00 am	Laparoscopic cystotomy & cystoscopy	Regier
8	10/13/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Endoscopic attenuation of EHPSS	Ham
9	10/20/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laboratory: Laparoscopic cholecystectomy	Case
10	10/27/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laparoscopic GI surgery	Regier
11	11/3/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laparoscopic hepatic & diaphragmatic surgery	Case
12	11/10/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Laparoscopic adrenalectomy	Case
13	11/17/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Thoracoscopic mediastinal mass & lymph node resection	Case
14	11/24/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Thoracoscopic pericardectomy & thoracic duct ligation	Case

15	12/1/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Thoracoscopic vascular ring resection	Regier
16	12/8/22 Tuesday 8:00 am	Thoracoscopic lung lobectomy & biopsy	Case

Grading Scale

	<u>Percentage</u>
A	90 or above
A-	87-89
B+	84-86
B	80-83
B-	77-79
C+	74-76
C	70-73
C-	67-69
D+	64-66
D	60-63
D-	57-59
E	56 or below

For more information on grade points and UF grading policies, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Assessment

Laboratory: Two laboratories will be held in which each student will perform a series of tasks as described in the course notes and according to the standards of the Veterinary Assessment of Laparoscopic Skills (VALS). Completion of the laboratories and the tasks associated with the VALS test will be worth 50% (28 points per lab session) of the total course grade. Completing the VALS requirement within the determined time window and with the appropriate accuracy will require independent practice in the Godwin Surgical Training Center and Minimally Invasive Laboratory.

Exam: One final exam will be administered during the semester. The exam is worth 50% of your grade and each lecture hour will generate 2 test questions weighted equally. Specific details regarding the exams and proctoring will be given closer to the exam dates. The exam will be take-home style and you will have the weekend to complete it and turn it in. The cumulative final examination will cover clinically pertinent, evidence-based material from lectures and laboratory. The format will be multiple choice- and short-answer- questions. Each question will be worth 2 points for a total of 56 possible points.

Following the close of the exam window, you have 10 calendar days to contest your exam grade in an email to the instructor. Please note that you can ask a question about or discuss any exam question at any time during the semester for the purposes of understanding and education.

Assessment Breakdown

Laboratory 1	25% (28 points)
Laboratory 2	25% (28 points)
Exam	50% (56 points)
Total	100% (112 points)

Make up and attendance policy: Please contact Dr. Case directly regarding any serious illnesses, family emergencies, or prolonged absences that result in missed work. Any absences will require written verification. As a student, it is your choice to take all exams. If you choose to not take a quiz or exam because of another activity (work, social engagement, etc), then you will earn a zero for the grade. If an exam in this course conflicts with an exam time for another course, please contact Dr. Case as early in the semester as possible to coordinate an alternate exam time.

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Textbook: The recommended textbook for this course is Small Animal Laparoscopy and Thoracoscopy, 2nd Edition, 2022, by Fransson and Mayhew

Course structure: The course is structured into 16 Weeks – one hour each week of the semester.

Office hours: Office hours are available by email appointment with Dr. Case. To set up office hours, contact Dr. Case via email at caseb@ufl.edu

Disability Resource Center

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

Students in need of accommodations should directly contact the DRC to begin the approval and implementation process. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is located on the main UF campus and is available for students who request accommodations. OSI on the CVM campus works closely with the DRC to ensure student accommodations are met as articulated by the DRC. The DRC is able to assist students in receiving accommodations such as extended time for exams, low distraction environment, test reader or scribe and note-taking services. Please contact the DRC for more information on their processes and requirements (352-392-8565).

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> on the final day of the clerkship. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.’” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct->

[honorcode/](#)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575

Contact information for the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.