

Small Animal Abdominal Surgery

VME 6711 30376

Class Periods: Thursday 8:00-9:00 AM

Location: Veterinary Hospital Banfield B (340B), or alternative location based on availability. Labs in the resident teaching lab, RTL.

Academic Term: Fall 2024

Instructor/ Team Leader:

Kathleen Ham, DVM, MS, DACVS

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352-392-2235

Office Hours: by email appointment

Instructor/ Team members:

Dr. Josep Aisa: j.aisaroig@ufl.edu

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Dr. Diego Portela: dportela@ufl.edu

Dr. Rachel Williams: rwilliams@ufl.edu

Course Description

This course will be an intensive review of surgical diseases of the abdominal cavity in cats and dogs. Lectures will focus on the etiology, diagnosis, surgical treatment, and prognosis for each of the conditions or body systems. Surgical approach options will be described and discussed in depth including location, positions, technique, instrumentation and procedural steps. Credit hours: 1.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites

Students with a baccalaureate degree, particularly students who are enrolled in a graduate surgical or clinical or laboratory training program, would likely benefit from this course's content.

Course Objectives

This course is designed for graduate 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 understand physiology of the gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, urinary, and endocrine organs in the abdominal cavity.
- Students will describe surgical disorders of these same body systems with emphasis on the diagnosis and treatment.
- Students will understand the surgical approaches and medical management to these body systems with emphasis on anatomy and decision making; being able to explain advantages and disadvantages of various options.
- Students will understand the post-operative considerations for dogs and cats with disorders affecting these body systems and produce comprehensive post-operative treatment plans based on pertinent patient variables and an understanding of the pathophysiology.
- Students will prognosticate the short- and long-term outcomes for animals affected with the conditions discussed in the course.

Materials and Supply Fees

N/A

Required Textbooks and Software

- Veterinary Surgery: Small Animal
- Johnson and Tobias
- July 13, 2017, 2nd edition
- 978-0323320658

Recommended Materials

N/A

Course Schedule

Week #	Date	Topic	Instructor	Book Chapter
Week 1	August 22	Imaging & Anatomy of the Abdomen	Gallastegui Menovo	
Week 2	Aug 29	GI Physiology & Nutrition	Hill	
Week 3	Sept 5	Upper esophageal sphincter, esophageal hiatus, pyloric outflow obstruction	Ham	85, 90, 91
Week 4	Sept 12	GDV/ mesenteric volvulus/ short bowel syndrome	Williams	91
Week 5	Sept 19	Peritonitis	Case	86
Week 6	Sept 25	LABORATORY - Approach to upper esophageal sphincter, esophageal hiatus, pyloric outflow obstruction	Ham, Williams	
Week 6	Sept 26	Colonic torsion, colorectal anastomosis/ rectal pull through	Bertran	94
Week 7	Oct 3	MID-TERM Covers weeks 1-6	Ham	
Week 8	Oct 9	LABORATORY - Colorectal pull through and perineal hernia	Ham, Williams	
Week 8	Oct 10	Abdominal gastrointestinal neoplasia	Aisa	
Week 9	Oct 17	Regional anesthesia and pain management for abdominal surgery	Portela	
Week 10	Oct 24	NO CLASS		
Week 11	Oct 31	Hepatic surgery and liver tumors	Bertran	94
Week 12	Nov 7	Portal Vasculature Anomalies	Case	96
Week 13	Nov 14	Biliary Surgery	Ham	94
Week 14	Nov 20	LABORATORY - Liver resection and cholecystoenterostomy	Ham, Williams	
Week 14	Nov 21	Abdominal endocrine tumors	Maxwell	97, 120
Week 15	Nov 28	NO CLASS		
Week 16	Dec 5	Urinary neoplasia	Ham	114, 116
Week 16	Dec 5	Distribute take home written final exam. Cumulative.	Ham	
Week 17	Dec 12	FINAL EXAM case based in class	Ham	
Week 17	Dec 12	Take home written final exam due	Ham	

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance is required and will be noted for each class. Leaving lecture or being late is allowed for clinic responsibilities only. If you know you are unable to attend a specific day, contact the team leader and the lecturer the first week of class. If you miss a class on short notice, contact the team leader within 24 hours. In both instances the team leader will determine a make-up plan. Laptops are allowed and encouraged for taking notes.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the [Graduate Catalog](#) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found in [Attendance Policies](#).

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Midterm written exam	200	20%
Assignment	200	20%
Final take-home exam	200	20%
Final practical exam	400	40%
		100%

Midterm written exam: The midterm exam will cover weeks 1-6, is multiple choice or short answer and completed in class.

Assignment: Each student will write 2 exam questions about topics covered in the course. You will be assigned the topic in the first week of class. These questions are due by December 1st 8:00am emailed to hamk@ufl.edu.

Final take-home exam: This exam will be distributed on December 5th and is due December 12th at 8:00am. This exam will be cumulative. Questions may be multiple choice or short answer. This is an open book exam, but you must work alone.

Final practical exam: This exam is comprehensive. Questions may be short answer, fill in the blank or multiple choice.

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
90.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
87.0 - 89.9	A-	3.67
84.0 - 86.9	B+	3.33
81.0 - 83.9	B	3.00
78.0 - 80.9	B-	2.67
75.0 - 79.9	C+	2.33
72.0 - 74.9	C	2.00
69.0 - 71.9	C-	1.67
66.0 - 68.9	D+	1.33
63.0 - 65.9	D	1.00
60.0 - 62.9	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

[UF Graduate Catalog](#)
[Grades and Grading Policies](#)

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#).

University Honesty Policy

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](#) 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 or TAs in this class.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

Student Privacy

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see the [Notification to Students of FERPA Rights](#).

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: counseling.ufl.edu/cwc, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or police.ufl.edu.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.

Library Support, Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints Campus

