

# VM1002: ANIMAL HUSBANDRY EXTRA-MURAL STUDIES

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## Effective Term

Semester A 2024/25

## 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 further develop students' communication skills, professionalism, and abilities in animal handling and husbandry of common domestic species, including companion animals (cats, dogs, horses) and production animals (dairy cattle, small ruminants, pigs, poultry, and fish). Students will apply their knowledge and skills in the routine management of herds, flocks, and kennels under the guidance of farm/establishment managers. The EMS requires 10 weeks of satisfactory performance, which can be fulfilled through one- or two-week placements in different farms or animal establishments. Students have the flexibility to work on weekends for an extended duration to achieve the required hours.

Placements take place in active commercial or charitable settings that have a partnership with the Jockey Club College of Veterinary Medicine and Life Sciences. Students also have the opportunity to select elective placements in Hong Kong or overseas, subject to approval. It is crucial to consider the language match between the student and the farm/establishment staff when planning placements.

During the placements, students will demonstrate professionalism, communication skills, and a strong work ethic. They will actively participate in diverse animal husbandry tasks, including manual labor, to cultivate team building, leadership, and understanding of animal management essentials. Students will also observe and analyze the structure of animal holding facilities, the impact of weather events, and the management of food, water, and waste.

### Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Develop skills in animal handling and assessing the physical condition and nutritional status of animals across a range of common domestic species.		x		
2	Demonstrate competence in animal husbandry across a range of common domestic species by participating in the daily operational activities to care for and main the health and welfare of companion and production animals.		x	x	x
3	Analyze the practice and economics of animal management and farming systems.		x		
4	Appraise the importance of herd health, animal welfare and ethical veterinary practices in animal management systems.		x	x	
5	Consolidate the understanding of the nutritional requirements of animals and of factors that determine the choice and amount of feed offered in production animal and companion animal settings for best practice.		x	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	Students will participate in training, observation, and operational placements at diverse farms/facilities; collaborate with managers to develop communication and teamwork; analyze animal housing, feed/water/waste management; consolidate nutrition knowledge; demonstrate professionalism; and pursue approved elective placements.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Typically 40 hr/wk

### Additional Information for LTAs

#### Placement requirements

Category	Placement	Duration (week)		Year of Program
		Minimum	Maximum	
Husbandry EMS	Companion animals	2	4	1, 2 or 3
	Production animal	2	4	1, 2 or 3
	Equine	2	4	1, 2 or 3
	Electives	4	8	1, 2 or 3

### Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks (e.g. Parameter for GenAI use)
1	Formal Supervisor feedback - Students will obtain formal supervisor feedback on their performance, professionalism, and development during the placements.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	90	
2	Reflective Assignment (700 words) - Students will compose a reflective assignment (700 words) that analyzes their experiences, key learning points, and plans for continuous improvement.	1, 3, 4, 5	10	

**Continuous Assessment (%)**

100

**Examination (%)**

0

**Additional Information for ATs**

Students will receive formal supervisor feedback using a Likert scale to assess their attitude, professional appearance, communication skills, animal handling abilities, and understanding of animal management. They will compose a reflective assignment based on a placement of their choice, reflecting on the management system, husbandry, and welfare of the animals, which will be marked according to the provided rubric. Additionally, students will complete a questionnaire as part of a survey to self-assess their animal handling and husbandry skills upon completion of their 10 weeks of husbandry EMS placements. The EMS Coordinator will consider the Supervisor's assessment, the contents of the reflective assignment, and the completion of the questionnaire to determine whether the student has satisfied the course requirements. A PASS grade will be awarded for satisfactory performance, while an unsatisfactory performance requires the student to repeat the particular required task/activity of the placement.

**Assessment Rubrics (AR)****Additional Information for AR****Exemption of Animal Husbandry EMS requirement**

Students may receive exemption up to a total of 2 weeks of the Animal Husbandry EMS in recognition of recent prior learning, such as 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. Students seeking exemption should make a formal request to the course leader, by the end of Semester A of their first year of studies, with supporting documents for evaluation. Each request will have to be reviewed and approved by the course leader, the course offering department, and the BVM Programme Leader.

**Formal Supervisor Feedback**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Attain the expected level of progress for achieving competence in the following criteria by the end of each placement: Attitude, Professional Appearance, Communication Skills, Animal Handling Abilities, Relevant Knowledge, Problem Solving Abilities, Manual Skills, Contributions to Discussion, Understanding of Facility Management.	Received an overall proficient or satisfactory grade in the Supervisor Report Form.	Received an overall unsatisfactory grade in the Supervisor Report Form.

**Reflective Assignment**

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Content of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Reflection is thorough.</li> <li>· Makes meaningful connections to important ideas covered during the BVM Year 1 Curriculum.</li> <li>· Is supported with relevant details through use of sensory language, narrative accounts, and personal experiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Little or no reflection</li> <li>· Little or no connection to important 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 presentation of the experience.</li> <li>· Is thoughtful, convincing, insightful, and explanatory</li> <li>· Analyzes the experience by looking at more than one angle</li> <li>· Makes meaningful and practical suggestions for improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Little or no evidence of feelings or presentation of the experience</li> <li>· Little or no explanations given</li> <li>· Little or no analysis</li> <li>· Little or no suggestions for improvement</li> </ul>
Writing strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Uses a variety of writing strategies make the reflection clear to the reader such as using specific details, comparing, contrasting, naming, describing, reviewing prior knowledge, explaining possibilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Little or no evidence of using multiple writing strategies</li> </ul>
<b>Questionnaire</b>		
Complete the questionnaire (survey)	<p>Satisfactory</p> <p>Students have achieved sufficient animal handling and husbandry skills (self-assessment)</p>	<p>Unsatisfactory</p> <p>Students are not confident in their animal handling and husbandry skills (self-assessment)</p>

## Part III Other Information

### Keyword Syllabus

EMS, Husbandry, Extra-Mural Studies

### Reading List

#### Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

#### Additional Readings

Title	
1	Nil