

VMED 5463 Special Topics: Animal Control

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Objective:

Gain an understanding of shelter medicine and surgery at an open admission shelter.

Expectations:

- Arrive the first day of rotation (typically a Monday unless Monday is a holiday) at 9:00 a.m. at the shelter (Companion Animal Alliance, 2550 Gourrier Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA). Enter the building at the CAA entrance. You will be greeted at the front lobby.
- Topics rounds can include skin diseases, intestinal parasites, dog and cat vaccinations, heartworm disease, euthanasia, rabies laws/quarantine, new concepts in spay and neuters, behavior assessments, and others to be determined.
- The first week will be Monday through Friday at the shelter. Additionally, spay and neuter of feral cats occurs on Sundays. It is highly advised to also attend Sundays.
- Shelter rounds will take place every day at 9:00 a.m. to evaluate conditions of animals in the shelter. Students will prepare appropriate treatments for sick animals in the shelter. Typical days last till 5:00 p.m.
- Daily responsibilities include examinations (plus determining necessary care/treatments), diagnostic tests (heartworm smears/occults, FeLV, FIV, parvo, fecals, ear swabs, skin scrapes, wood's lamp, etc), vaccinations, medicating/treatments, etc.
- Students will be involved in triaging and care of emergency cases brought in by animal control. Students will be responsible for hospitalized patients (in the clinic). Students will be involved in the euthanasia of animals.
- Students will get to perform spays and neuters throughout the week. It is highly recommended to watch the videos provided by Humane Alliance demonstrating pediatric spays and neuters.
- Holidays observed by the LSU VTH&C can be considered as optional days for the students on rotation.

What Is Not Expected:

That you will know everything! Ask questions, but also be prepared if topics have been assigned.

What to Bring:

- Best if you come wearing scrubs (as you will likely get dirty); no need for a white coat
- Comfortable shoes
- Change in scrubs to be left in your car (if you do get dirty so you don't bring things home)
- Stethoscope
- Pen light
- Notepad/notebook for notes
- Drinks and snacks
- A good attitude