

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2026

AH 445 Pharmacy and Pharmacology – 3 (5-0-0) 60 Hours 12 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic (NWP) acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR:	Kyla Dahms, RVT	PHONE:	780-835-6707 (Office)
OFFICE:	AS 141	E-MAIL:	kdahms@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	As posted or please make an appointment.		

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

Students are taught basic pharmacological principles and will learn to recognize different groups of drugs and their basic actions. In the pharmacy, the student will become familiar with common veterinary drugs and their indications, administration and side effects or toxic actions. Legal implications of dispensing drugs and risks associated with off label or improper use are discussed. Students learn to prepare and dispense veterinary preparations and educate clients about their use.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:

- Must be registered in the NWP Veterinary Technology Program
- Prerequisites: AH340, AH342, AH344 and AH348
- Co Requisite: AH442

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

- *Optional: Applied Pharmacology for Veterinary Technicians*, Wannamaker & Massey, current edition

DELIVERY MODE:

Lecture. High Flex. Class will delivered in-person and may be delivered remotely via Zoom. Quizzes, midterm and final exams will occur in-person. Students must have a computer with a webcam and reliable internet connection. Technological support is available through helpdesk@nwpolytech.ca.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Introduction to Pharmacology & Drugs

Students will be able to describe and discuss definitions relating to pharmacology, drug sources, drug actions and effects, drug stability, drug distribution, metabolism, and excretion, and dosage forms of drugs.

Drugs Commonly Used in Veterinary Medicine in various categories

Students will be able to define and discuss the various classes of drugs and the drugs within each class which are commonly used in veterinary medicine. This includes identification of individual drugs and their effects and side effects.

Drug Regulations & Pharmacy Management

Students will be able to describe and discuss veterinary drug regulations and management of the veterinary pharmacy.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca>.

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Quizzes can be held without prior notification. All quizzes, midterms and final exams are to be written in person in the designated area outlined by your instructor.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

OVERALL GRADE POINT AVERAGE HAS TO BE 2.0 OR HIGHER TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE VT PROGRAM.

<u>Mark Distribution</u>	
A. Quizzes & Assignments	31%
B. Midterm Exam	30%
C. Final Exam	39%
	100%

*A minimum of 60% must be obtained in order to successfully pass AH 445.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

See course objectives for tentative timeline.

See posted lab schedule.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Enrolment at NWP assumes that the student will become a responsible citizen of the Institute. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, take pride in and assist in the maintenance and preservation of Institute property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting instructor expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

Veterinary Technology Program Attendance & Conduct Summary

- **Zero Tolerance for Impairment:** Attending labs, exams/quizzes, lectures, or guest speaker events under the influence of alcohol or impairing substances (including certain medications) is strictly prohibited. Violations result in unexcused absences and a mark of zero.
- **Mandatory Attendance:** Attendance is required for all exams, guest speakers and labs. Arriving late to labs, lectures, quizzes/exams will be

considered an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences (at the instructor's discretion) result in:

- **5% deduction** from the final course grade (labs/guest speakers)
- **Absence Approval:** Absences must be approved in advance or as soon as possible afterward with valid written documentation (e.g., doctor's note). Employment conflicts are not considered valid excuses.
- **Make-Up Policy:** Labs, lectures, and guest speakers cannot be made up. Missed assessments due to unexcused absences receive a grade of zero. Excused absences do not exempt students from required work or deadlines.
- **Exam Conduct:** No electronic devices (phones, smartwatches, headphones, tablets etc) are permitted during exams or evaluations. Having one present will result in immediate dismissal and a grade of 0%.
- **Further Guidelines:**
 - Spelling errors in exams/quizzes, assignments and medical records will result in a 0.5% deduction for each occurrence.
 - All handwritten materials that are submitted to the instructor must be using blue or black pen, no white out and using appropriate medical corrections.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

NWP servers may be monitored. Student accounts are visible via ABTutor and student activity on NWP networks may be monitored during supervised exams and/or anytime students are on NWP networks. The collection of and access to the personal information listed above as permitted by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

Additional Information

Attendance will not be assigned a mark in this class, but if a student misses a class (including quizzes and exams), any assignments and/or quizzes and/or exams and/or handouts, whether scheduled or

not, that occur or are distributed in the class or lab that was missed, will not be provided to the student or made up in any way. The student will be assigned a mark of zero for those assignments/exams/etc. missed. If the student contacts the instructor PRIOR to missing a class/lab/exam/etc., and if the student has an acceptable excuse (the validity of the excuse is at the discretion of the instructor and will require documentation such as a note from a doctor), the student may be excused without penalty and may be given access to the missed material. Overall excessive absence, coming to class late, or leaving during class, may result in mark deductions at the instructor's discretion.

A supplemental final exam will not be available for this course.