

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

<b>Academic Year</b>	2024 - 2025
<b>Credential</b>	Advanced Diploma
<b>Program Delivery</b>	Full - Time
<b>Duration</b>	3 Years
<b>Length</b>	6 Semesters (2 semesters if applying after completion of a Veterinary Technician diploma)
<b>Program Codes</b>	H134 (HL) – Haileybury Campus

## DESCRIPTION

The only one of its kind in Canada, Northern College's Veterinary Technology Wildlife Rehabilitation program is a three-year advanced diploma that will transform your passion for animals into a career helping orphaned, injured, and sick wildlife successfully return to their natural habitat.

After two years of the Veterinary Technician program, you'll specialize in applying the principles and practices essential for the care and rehabilitation of birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Also, in the third year, you'll deepen your knowledge of how to establish a functional facility, including all aspects of care pertaining to the wildlife within the facility.

The advanced diploma allows the students to graduate with a Veterinary Technologist title, providing additional employment opportunities in places such as wildlife rehabilitation centers, zoos, and within traditional or exotic veterinary practices. Northern College is an approved administrator of the Ontario Wildlife Rehabilitation Exam for students in the program. This exam is a pre-requisite to apply for a Wildlife Custodian Authorization. For more information, please visit [Ontario's wildlife rehabilitation webpage](#)

**Please apply by February 1st.** This program is oversubscribed and receives more than enough qualified applicants to fill available seats. It is recommended that applicants accepted into oversubscribed programs confirm their offer with OCAS and pay their fees to the college early to reserve a place in the program.

### Why Study Wildlife Rehabilitation?

- You have a passion for animals and preserving their natural ecosystem.
- You want to help reduce mortality and suffering in orphaned, injured, and sick wild animals.
- You want to add to your employability credentials and career path options, making your resume stand out with a Veterinary Technologist designation and also by broadening your skill sets beyond the usual focus on small animal private practice veterinary clinics
- You wish to draw upon, widen, and deepen your Veterinary Technician animal nursing skills and knowledge.
- You want to educate the public on safe human/animal interactions

### Why Study Wildlife Rehabilitation at Northern College?

- Learn the specific knowledge involved in rehabilitating wildlife
- Faculty are experienced in this specialized field.

- Prepares you for the Ontario Wildlife Rehabilitation Exam when applying for a Wildlife Custodian Authorization status.
- Curriculum covers the National Wildlife Rehabilitator's Association (NWRA) standards.
- Incorporates the Wildlife Custodians Code of Ethics.
- 4-week placement gives you real-world practice applying what you've learned.
- Only program of its kind in Canada

Applicants who already have a Veterinary Technician diploma may apply directly into the 3rd year. Please apply via OCAS into Semester 5. The OAVT accredits this program for 20 continuing education credits in Category 1 (Medical/scientific). Our Veterinary Technician program is accredited by:



## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Veterinary Technologist
- Employed in veterinary clinics, animal hospitals and shelters, humane societies, zoos, and research laboratories

## VOCATIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Communicate in a professional manner in all formats - written, oral, non-verbal and electronic.
2. Maintain high ethical standards in order to provide quality care to patients, the public, the veterinary profession and governing bodies, by recognizing and upholding laws associated with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act and the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians (OAVT) code of ethics.
3. Demonstrate, perform or explain patient assessment techniques with minimum stress and maximum safety in a variety of animal species, so that objective and subjective data is accurately obtained.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of proper handling, packaging and storage of specimens for laboratory analysis to ensure safety of patients, public and staff.
5. Identify physical, behavioural, social, and natural historical features of various animal species, along with recognizing their basic underlying physiological processes.
6. Accurately calculate the basal metabolic rate, caloric requirements, vitamin and mineral supplementation, medications and fluids for a variety of animal species and administer them safely and effectively.
7. Apply knowledge of appropriate husbandry practices, habitat components, nutritional requirements, therapeutic, release and restraint techniques to various animal species in order to enhance wellness and achieve maximum health benefits.
8. Create a working proposal, along with appropriate advertising materials to promote projects or products and assess their feasibility or interest within the community through outreach and community networking.
9. Recognize the role of a wildlife custodian by demonstrating the principles of evidence gathering and investigation in preparation for judicial proceedings for offences against wildlife.
10. Demonstrate knowledge for safe and effective work in the outdoors, including selection and use of appropriate clothing and gear.
11. Design and prepare operational plans, policies, procedures and enrichment items in a manner to maintain a secure, quality environment for the animals, public and staff.

12. Demonstrate knowledge of how non-profit organizations raise money, organize human and other resources and how all of these are used to achieve the organization's goals

## PROGRAM COURSES

The following reflects the planned course sequence for full-time offerings of the program. Programs at Northern College are delivered using a variety of instruction modes. Courses may be offered in the classroom or lab, entirely online, or in a hybrid mode which combines classroom sessions with virtual learning activities.

NOTE: Semesters 1 through 4 are the program of study for the Veterinary Technician diploma, required before proceeding into the third-year Wildlife Rehabilitation specialization courses in Semesters 5 & 6.

<b>Semester 1</b>		<b>Hours</b>
GN1083	Managing for Success	42
VA1001	Animal Behaviour	14
VA1043	Client Relations	42
VT1002	Clinical Calculations I	28
VT1005	Laboratory Procedures and Techniques	70
VT1011	Kennel Duty I	14
VT1013	Clinical Studies I	42
VT1032	Necropsy Lab (A&PI)	14
VT1034	Animal Anatomy and Physiology I	56
VT2032	Clinical Exercises I	28
<b>Semester 2</b>		
GN1443	Indigenous Culture and Awareness	42
VT1012	Animal Nutrition and Digestion	28
VT2002	Clinical Calculations II	28
VT2005	Laboratory Procedures and Techniques II	70
VT2011	Kennel Duty II	14
VT2033	Clinical Studies II	42
VT2034	Animal Anatomy and Physiology II	56
VT2051	Field Placement I	80
VT2052	Clinical Exercises II	28
VT2062	Necropsy Lab II	14
VT2083	Radiology I	42
VT4093	Dentistry I	42
<b>Semester 3</b>		
General Education Elective		-
GN1011	Employment Preparation	14
VT1001	Registered Veterinary Technician Prep I	14
VT2042	Management Technology	28
VT3005	Laboratory Procedures and Techniques III	70
VT3022	Laboratory Animal	28
VT3031	Kennel Duty III	14
VT3032	Clinical Exercises III	28

VT3053	Surgical Exercises I	42
VT3063	Pharmaceutical Principles I	42
VT3083	Radiology II	42
VT3093	Clinical Studies III	42
VT3133	Veterinary Technician Surgery	42
VT4075	Large Animal Medicine	70

## Semester 4

VT4000	Field Placement II	160
VT4005	Laboratory Procedures and Techniques IV	55
VT4011	Kennel Duty IV	11
VT4021	Registered Veterinary Technician Prep II	11
VT4033	Surgical Exercises II	33
VT4042	Clinical Exercises IV	22
VT4063	Pharmaceutical Principles II	33
VT4113	Radiology III	33
VT4123	Dentistry II	33
VT4143	Clinical Studies IV	33
VT4153	Wildlife and Exotics	33

## Semester 5

WR1012	Avian Studies	28
WR1022	Mammalian Studies	28
WR1024	Habitat and It's Relation to Wildlife	56
WR2022	Reptilian and Amphibian Husbandry	28
WR4003	Wildlife Care I	42
WR5001	Facilities Operations	14
WR5006	Field Techniques	42
WR5022	Legislation and Wildlife	28
WR5032	Biosphere Orientation	28
WR5052	Wildlife Practical Applications I	28
WR6032	Outreach, Programming & Promotion	28

## Semester 6

BU2001	Management of Non-Profit Organizations	28
WR2001	Outreach, Programming and Promotion II	14
WR2032	Laboratory Principles and Practice	28
WR2052	Rehabilitation Management	28
WR2062	Raptor Care	28
WR5062	Wildlife Practical Applications II	28
WR5063	Wildlife Care II	42
WR6001	Field Placement Wildlife Rehab	160
WR6003	Wildlife Nutrition	42
WR6022	Offences Against Wildlife	28

## PROGRAM PROGRESSION

The following reflects the planned progression for full-time offerings of the program.

### Fall Intake

Sem 1: Fall 2024

Sem 2: Winter 2025

Sem 3: Fall 2025

Sem 4: Winter 2026

Sem 5: Fall 2026

Sem 6: Winter 2027

## WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The 4-week field placement course offers additional hands-on opportunities in a wildlife rehabilitation setting. Participants will gain practical experience working directly with young, injured or sick wildlife under the guidance of experienced professionals. Through immersive learning and practical application, participants will develop essential skills in animal care, handling, nutrition, and enrichment. The course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of wildlife rehabilitation practices while emphasizing ethical considerations, species-specific care requirements, and conservation principles. Participants will also engage in discussions on wildlife health assessment, release criteria, and post-release monitoring.

## ARTICULATION/TRANSFER AGREEMENTS

Those who are interested and have obtained their Veterinary Technician diploma outside of Northern College are encouraged to apply to the last year of the Veterinary Technology – Wildlife Rehabilitation program. Please contact the program coordinator for more information.

A number of articulation agreements have been negotiated with universities and other institutions across Canada, North America and internationally. These agreements are assessed, revised and updated on a regular basis. Please contact the program coordinator for specific details if you are interested in pursuing such an option. Additional information can be found at [Articulation Agreements](#).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The OAVT accredits this program for 20 continuing education credits in Category 1 (Medical/scientific).

## PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

[Veterinary Technology – Wildlife Rehabilitation Requirements](#)

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)
- Grade 12 English (C, U)
- Grade 12 Math (C, U) or Grade 11 U or M
- Grade 12 Chemistry (C, U) or Grade 11 U
- Grade 11 Biology (C, U)
- Minimum 60% GPA in all required prerequisite courses
- Or equivalent

Academic prerequisites for this program may be obtained free of charge through [Academic Upgrading](#). Applicants who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent and will have reached the age of 19 years on or before the start of the program must undergo academic testing and may be required to complete [Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) process to demonstrate equivalency of admission requirements prior to admission into a program. For more details, please contact the Admissions Office at 705-235-7222 or [admissions@northern.on.ca](mailto:admissions@northern.on.ca).

### Additional Admissions Requirements

- Proficiency in word processing recommended
- Rabies vaccine series and titre prior to start of program (at student's expense)
- Experience in a veterinary clinic or hospital is considered an asset

We strongly encourage applicants to obtain 20 hours of volunteer work in a veterinary hospital or clinic wherever possible. It is not a firm requirement, but we encourage it since work experience will be an advantage to program applicants. It helps you better understand your own interests and “fit” within our range of veterinary sciences programs and the tasks that graduates are called upon to perform in their duties.

### Information for Applicants:

- This 3-year program is open to high school graduates, who begin by taking the first and second years of our Veterinary Technician program before proceeding into the 3rd year of specialization. Apply via [OCAS](#) to Program H134, Semester 1.
- Applicants who already have a Veterinary Technician diploma may apply directly into the 3rd year. Apply via [OCAS](#) to Program H134 — but specify Entry Level to be Semester 5, not Semester 1

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

21 Wildlife Rehabilitation Specialty Program Courses

### GRADUATION ELIGIBILITY

To graduate from this program, a student must attain a minimum of 60% or a letter grade of CR (Credit) in each course in each semester unless otherwise stated on the course outline. Students should consult departmental policies and manuals for additional detail and exceptions.

## GRADUATION WINDOW

Students unable to adhere to the program duration of three years (as stated above) may take a maximum of six years to complete their credential. After this time, students must be re-admitted into the program, and follow the curriculum in place at the time of re-admission.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about being admitted into the program, please contact Northern College Admissions at [admissions@northern.on.ca](mailto:admissions@northern.on.ca) or by phone at 705-235-3211 ext. 7222. For questions about the content of the program, contact the Program Assistant.

Kellie Broderick  
Program Assistant, School of Veterinary Sciences  
Tel: 705-672-3376 ext. 8854  
Email: [vetsciences@northern.on.ca](mailto:vetsciences@northern.on.ca)

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NOTE: Semesters 1 through 4 are the program of study for the Veterinary Technician diploma, required before proceeding into the third-year Wildlife Rehabilitation specialization courses in Semesters 5 & 6.

### Semester 1

#### **GN1083 Managing for Success**

The course is designed to help students gain insights and skills to promote personal and professional development. Students will develop an understanding of how they manage their lives and incorporate skills to maximize their strengths and reduce the impact of less effective techniques. Students will learn about resources that are available to them and the intelligence of accessing additional support when needed. The content of this course provides students with the opportunity to lay a foundation for lifelong learning; learn to communicate effectively, build and value productive and satisfying diverse relationships and prepare for the challenges and rewards that make life meaningful.

#### **VA1001 Animal Behaviour**

Animal care providers often handle animals with behaviour problems. They must know what advice to give and when to refer the problem to the veterinarian. The technician/assistant/groomer must also know the procedure involved in referral to a behavioural specialist and/or an obedience trainer.

#### **VA1043 Client Relations**

This one semester course is designed for the Animal Grooming, Veterinary Assistant, Veterinary Technician and the Veterinary Technology programs. The course is designed to look at their role in the daily operation of a veterinary practice. The course will include sections on customer service, telephone skills, and welcoming skills, confrontation and conflict resolution. The course will assist students in becoming more comfortable assisting clients through the grief cycle. There will be a component on Client Communication utilizing both oral and written communication in the veterinary practice. This course will have a self-directed on line grammar component. This course will enable the students to practice the skills required for effective work in client relations.

#### **VT1005 Laboratory Procedures and Techniques**

This course is an introduction to laboratory procedures and practice. Students will become familiar with tests commonly and most frequently used in the veterinary laboratory. Students will acquire the proper techniques to perform tests and learn the significance of test results. An understanding of what is considered normal or abnormal will become clear. A large segment of time will be used to become familiar with quality control and the significance of its use. Hematology, sterilization, disinfection and aseptic techniques will be of special focus.

#### **VT1002 Clinical Calculations I**

This first calculations course focuses on mathematical principles, dimensional analysis including unit conversions and the fundamentals of solutions and concentrations. Application from nursing and the veterinary sciences are explored to show where and how mathematical techniques are required in a lab setting.

#### **VT1012 Animal Nutrition and Digestion**

The comparative anatomy and physiology of the digestive systems of domestic animals will be studied. The nutritional requirements of the animal in health and disease with respect to proteins, carbohydrates, fats, water,



vitamins and minerals will be discussed. The course will cover feeding procedures and feeds for dogs, cats, cattle and horses.

### **VT1013 Clinical Studies I**

This course is an introduction to the responsibilities of a veterinary technician working in a clinic. It begins by emphasizing safety for both the animal and handler in applying appropriate physical restraint. Students are alerted to other common hazards of the profession, such as those found in anesthesia, radiology and zoonosis. Further areas of study include: taking the history, conducting a physical examination, keeping medical records, animal identification, skin and coat care, vaccination and parasite control. In this course, students learn veterinary terminology so they can communicate with other members of the veterinary team and understand the literature of the profession. The course delineates the different roles for veterinarians, technicians and assistants on the veterinary team and discusses professional organizations that determine the scope of practice for each. Students are made aware of the continuing education opportunities open to graduate technicians.

### **VT1032 Necropsy Lab (A&PI)**

This course is a practical lab that will allow the students to gain hands on experience enhancing the knowledge that they have acquired in Anatomy and Physiology I. The students will learn why and how necropsies are performed and also have a chance to practice sample collection of specimens. The course will use multiple modalities such as cadavers, individual specimens and necropsy manikins (Synclavers).

### **VT1034 Animal Anatomy and Physiology I**

This introductory course begins with the basic principles of living matter and evolves to consider the mammalian body and how it works. While the focus is on the domestic dog and cat, comparative differences between small animals and livestock are covered. By the end of the course, the student has covered the following body systems- integumentary, skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory and digestive.

### **VT2032 Clinical Exercises I**

This course is designed to give students the practical skills required to function as veterinary technicians in a clinical environment. Each student will be part of a group that has the responsibility of monitoring hospitalized patients on a daily basis.

## **Semester 2**

### **GN1443 Indigenous Culture and Awareness**

This general education course will provide students with an introduction to Canadian Indigenous Nations' history, sovereignty, land titles, cultural history and current critical issues. Topics addressed include the content of Indigenous rights, economic and social development, community and political processes, and business law and policies, justice & social services. Canadian Indigenous History and Relations is a general education course that has been incorporated into all programs at Northern College.

### **VT2002 Clinical Calculations II**

This is the second calculations course focusing on drug dosage calculations. The learner will perform calculations to reconstitute drugs, determine dosages based on body weight and body surface area and in the administration of intravenous drugs. Applications from nursing and the veterinary sciences are explored to show where and how mathematical techniques are required in a lab setting.

## **VT2005 Laboratory Procedures and Techniques II**

This course is a continuation of Laboratory Procedures and Techniques I. Students will study clinical chemistry, urinalysis, and cytology while practicing the techniques taught in the first semester. Special care will be placed on understanding the consequence of failure to report accurate results. Confidence limits will be stressed. The final exam for this semester will include material from the first and second semesters.

## **VT2011 Kennel Duty II**

This course will prepare the student to function in a veterinary environment. Students will provide care for the animals owned by Northern College. The use of Standard Operating Procedures will assist the student. The Veterinary Science facility simulates the professional environment and enables the students to learn the skills necessary to function as a productive team member.

## **VT2033 Clinical Studies II**

The role of veterinary professionals in managing behaviour problems of dogs and cats will be examined. The course includes discussion of ways to prevent and treat behavioural problems, as well as the appropriate procedure for referring clients who desire resolution of their animal's behavioural problems. Common problems such as house training, destructive scratching in cats and destructive chewing in dogs are covered. An in depth discussion of anesthesia and analgesia completes the course.

## **VT2051 Field Placement I**

The field placement course provides a valuable opportunity for students to experience a veterinary practice first hand. The field placement also permits students to demonstrate and practice their theoretical knowledge, values and skills taught in the classroom and to be evaluated on those competencies. This field placement course provides an opportunity for students to apply and consolidate their education from the first and second semesters of their program of study.

## **VT2052 Clinical Exercises II**

In this competency-based course, students build upon previously acquired skills and increase their efficiency and understanding. While functioning as part of a group, students participate in physical examinations, intramuscular, subcutaneous and intravenous injection techniques, restraint of small animal patients, surgical preparations, anal gland expression, enema administration and taking blood. Students are marked on skill and willingness to participate.

## **VT2062 Necropsy Lab II**

This course is a practical lab that will allow the students to gain hands on experience enhancing the knowledge that they have acquired in Anatomy and Physiology II. The students will learn why and how necropsies are performed and also have a chance to practice sample collection of specimens. The course will use multiple modalities such as cadavers, individual specimens and necropsy manikens (Syndavers).

## **VT2034 Animal Anatomy and Physiology II**

The course is a continuation of Animal Anatomy and Physiology I. Together, these courses are designed to give veterinary technician students a fundamental understanding of the parts of the body, how the parts are assembled into body systems and how these systems are controlled and relate to each other. This course completes the study of the body by examining special senses, as well as endocrine, renal, reproductive and immune systems.

## **VT2083 Radiology I**

In this course students study the parts and function of x-ray machines, the formation and properties of x-rays, the principles of image formation, radio graphic techniques and radio graphic processing. Standard views and radio graphic anatomy will be studied. Students will be provided with the knowledge required to obtain quality diagnostic radio graphs of small animals. The dangers of radiation and how to avoid radiation injury will be outlined.

## **VT4093 Dentistry I**

This course is intended to be comprehensive, bringing students from relatively little knowledge in veterinary dentistry to a practical working knowledge. The course will include sections on oral examination and disease recognition, dental instruments and equipment, anesthesia, and pathogens.

## **Semester 3**

### **General Education Elective**

General Education Courses are selected online each semester by the student from a list provided and exposes students to a related area of study outside of their immediate academic discipline. Certain programs have predetermined electives.

### **GN1011 Employment Preparation**

This course will enable the students to become familiar with specific employment requirements for their field of interest. The students will also have the opportunity to learn how to self-market for job finding, as well as how to maximize their potential for success in an interview situation. This course is designed to assist students in obtaining employment. Students will also learn to prepare themselves for varied Fieldwork Placements. This semester will concentrate on incorporating skills from the Client Relations Course to further develop their interpersonal communication skills through their ability to prepare for an employment interview. The course will also discuss work ethics and the role they play in long term employ ability.

### **VT1001 Registered Veterinary Technician Prep I**

This course consists of weekly study sessions to help graduating students prepare to challenge their professional registry examination, the Veterinary Technician National Examination (VTNE). The content reflects the practice domains covered by the VTNE. It is recognized that acquisition of medical vocabulary is essential in answering many VTNE questions, as is proficiency in basic mathematical calculations. Students will review strategies considered helpful in taking multiple choice tests.

### **VT2042 Management Technology**

The purpose of this course is to develop the skills necessary to effectively use computer programs specific to the veterinary environment. This course will give the student practical skills on specialized veterinary software packages such as AVImark and Impromed. Students will be able to set up files for new clients and/or new patients. They will know how to bill for services and products, print appropriate certificates as well as prescription labels. Accepting payments will be practiced.

### **VT3005 Laboratory Procedures and Techniques III**

This course is a continuation of Laboratory Procedures and Techniques I and II. A review of health and safety standards will help to ensure student's well being and safety. Parasitology, virology and immunology will be stressed. Abnormal hematology and chemistry cases will be reviewed to provide continuing development of

laboratory expertise. The final exam for this semester will cover material from the first two semesters as well as the third semester.

### **VT3022 Laboratory Animal**

Students will explore the world of the laboratory animal. Students will learn nursing care and husbandry theory and apply this knowledge to the following species: rats, mice, hamsters, gerbils and guinea pigs.

### **VT3031 Kennel Duty III**

This course is a continuation of Kennel Duty I and II. The student will be responsible for the administration of medications, care and where required, bandaging of the kennel animals.

### **VT3032 Clinical Exercises III**

This course is designed to give students the chance to build on skills already introduced in the first two courses in the Clinical Exercises series.

### **VT3053 Surgical Exercises I**

This course is a practical training session for veterinary technicians to become familiar with anesthesia and surgical procedures. There is a heavy emphasis on supervised hands on experience. The class is divided into small groups for better supervision and learning. Each group is responsible for taking a patient from the preoperative examination and laboratory evaluation through to patient recovery and return to the owner.

### **VT3063 Pharmaceutical Principles I**

This is the first of two courses which together provide a comprehensive review of important groups of drugs used in veterinary medicine. The course begins with general aspects of pharmacology such as the sources of drugs, their modes of action, dosage forms and pharmacokinetics but progresses to discuss in detail those drugs which are used to correct disorders in specific body systems. The student is introduced to specific legislation affecting the storage and dispensing of pharmaceuticals.

### **VT3083 Radiology II**

This course offers students the opportunity to put into practice the knowledge obtained in Radiology I. Students will be placed in small groups and expected to take x-rays using all safety techniques and guidelines as demonstrated by the professor. Students will be evaluated on their professionalism and the quality of the x-rays produced.

### **VT3093 Clinical Studies III**

The veterinary technician student will learn to prepare patients for surgery and describe how to utilize surgical instruments and equipment. The student will understand the theory of setting up and controlling the surgical site and its environment. Students will be introduced to scrubbing in to assist the veterinarian in surgery. The student will learn how to properly open and handle surgical packs, and suture material. The student will learn the theory of maintaining a sterile environment without causing contamination. The student will learn how to carry out postoperative care, monitoring and final client instructions. Students will learn how to assess, treat, and stabilize an emergency situation by telephone or in the clinic. The student will study how to speak to clients and what procedures are to be carried out in specific emergency situations- bandaging procedures, wound care and when to apply splints, casts and other external supports.

**VT3133 Veterinary Technician Surgery**

This course is designed to provide practical training for students to become familiar with surgical procedures and to practice dental prophylaxis and anaesthetics learned in lectures. Students will carry out procedures at a veterinary clinic for one 3-hour period once every third week during the semester. The sessions are set up to mirror the normal procedures the veterinary technician student will encounter after graduation. The surgical procedures performed by the students are in keeping with the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association guidelines.

**VT4075 Large Animal Medicine**

This course considers the basic maintenance and care of large animals. Management techniques for the equine, bovine, ovine and porcine species are considered. The emphasis is on health-related issues. The objective is to introduce the student to the large animal industry production practices. The care of the newborn and common disease prevention protocols is discussed.

**Semester 4****VT4000 Field Placement II**

Students will be expected to spend four weeks at the clinic where they have arranged placement. The clinic must be able to provide the necessary work experiences. It is expected that students will perform the duties regularly expected of a new graduate with the same experience level. This will give students the opportunity to experience clinic life, and then return to school to apply the newly gained knowledge and expertise to their schoolwork.

**VT4005 Laboratory Procedures and Techniques IV**

This is the final course in the Laboratory Procedures and Techniques series. The disciplines of microbiology and mycology will be taught in this semester. Additional time will be allocated to develop student's proficiency in all areas of lab techniques. The final exam in this semester will include material from all four semesters.

**VT4011 Kennel Duty IV**

This course will prepare the student to function in a veterinary environment. Students will provide care for the colony animals housed at Northern College. The use of Standard Operating Procedures will assist the student. The Veterinary Science facility simulates the professional environment and enables the students to learn the skills necessary to function as a productive team member.

**VT4021 Registered Veterinary Technician Prep II**

The course prepares students to challenge their national professional examination and become registered veterinary technicians.

**VT4033 Surgical Exercises II**

This course is a continuation of the practical training for veterinary technicians to become familiar with surgical procedures. Students practice their skills while participant in a surgical team. New procedures that were not previously covered in Surgical Exercises I are added. The class is divided into small working groups to allow an optimum supervisor to student ratio. Each team is responsible for taking a patient from pre-surgical examination and laboratory screening through to patient recovery and return to the owner. Routine veterinary procedures are practiced under anesthesia.

## **VT4042 Clinical Exercises IV**

This is the final course in the Clinical Exercises series. The students will be marked on their willingness to attempt the techniques practices in the course as well as the quality of their performance. Case studies will be introduced and each student will have the opportunity to participate in the investigative processes in an attempt to aid the veterinarian in finding a diagnosis.

## **VT4063 Pharmaceutical Principles II**

This course is a continuation of Pharmaceutical Principles I. Together these courses are designed to give veterinary technician students a fundamental understanding of general aspects of pharmacology, while covering in more detail specific classes of drugs that are important in veterinary medicine such as microbials, anesthetics and antiparasitics.

## **VT4113 Radiology III**

This course is a continuation of Radiology II. Each student will be assigned to a small group and this group will be expected to carry out the x-ray techniques as requested. Students will be marked on the quality of the x-ray film as well as their professional conduct.

## **VT4123 Dentistry II**

This course gives the student the opportunity to practice the skills needed to perform dentistry. The knowledge gained in Dentistry I will be put into practice. Students will be marked on their best knowledge of instruments, techniques, and their willingness to attempt the skills demonstrated by the professor.

## **VT4143 Clinical Studies IV**

This course is a continuation of the series of clinical studies courses which prepare students for work. The course deals with many aspects of small animal nursing care, ranging from the needs of neonatal patients requiring intensive care to the needs of senior patients with chronic conditions such as oncology patients. The course deals with nursing procedures; fluid therapy, blood transfusions, oxygen therapy, nutritional support of hospitalized patients, skin care and physiotherapy. The care and management of caged birds and exotic pets is also examined. There is a brief overview of advanced imaging technologies such as ultrasound and endoscopy.

## **VT4153 Wildlife and Exotics**

This course is designed to introduce students to the world of wildlife rehabilitation and exotic animal care. Students will experience some hands on care to compliment classroom theory.

## **Semester 5**

Third Year Wildlife Rehabilitation Specialization courses in Semesters 5 & 6

## **WR1012 Avian Studies**

This course deals with the biology and behaviour of Ontario's native birds from the rehabilitation perspective. The visual identification of both adult and young birds is covered. The life histories of representative species are reviewed with emphasis on the provision of appropriate rehabilitation care. Adaptations of these species to their environment and ecological niche are discussed, along with their impact on the rehabilitation process.

**WR1022 Mammalian Studies**

This course deals with the biology and behaviour of Ontario's native mammals. The visual identification of both adults and young animals is covered. The life histories of representative species are reviewed with emphasis on the provision of appropriate rehabilitatory care. Adaptations of these species to their environment and ecological niche are discussed.

**WR1024 Habitat and Its Relation to Wildlife**

This course deals with the importance of providing an appropriate environment for a wide range of animals in both short and long-term rehabilitation situations from an ecological viewpoint. The various physical and biological components which comprise habitat are discussed, with an emphasis on their impacts on the health and well-being of the animals. The importance of habitat parameters on the psychology and behaviour of various wild animal species is covered.

**WR2022 Reptiles and Amphibians**

This course deals with the care and management of reptiles and amphibians, emphasis on the rehabilitation of North American species. Topics include taxonomy, biology, handling, housing and diseases.

**WR4003 Wildlife Care I**

This course deals with what is required to provide care in the initial stages for wildlife in need. The perspective direction will focus on the practical aspects and the clerical aspects that need to be dealt with for both mammalian and avian species from their arrival to their release. Additionally, students will be introduced to techniques that relate to wound management, bandaging techniques, initial wound care and how to perform these tasks safely.

**WR5001 Facility Operations**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of what the demands for maintaining and operating a wildlife facility are. The student will be able to explain how to create policies and procedures so as to have a safe and secure working environment. The student will also be able to demonstrate their ability to plan for and execute emergency/disaster protocols.

**WR5006 Field Techniques**

This course deals with techniques used in the field regarding both rescue and/or recovery to the release of wildlife. How to track and deal with or prevent human/wildlife conflicts are discussed. Proper planning to the implementation of a rescue plan is reviewed. Usage of the proper equipment for different species and different handling and release training techniques are reviewed.

**WR5022 Legislation and Wildlife**

This course deals with legislative issues as it relates to wildlife and the role of the student as a Wildlife Custodian. Relevant sections of the Ministry of Natural Resources (Ontario) Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997 will be dealt with. Regulations specific to Wildlife Custodian Authorization will be dealt with in depth. This course will also deal with issues of trespassing upon private and public lands for the purpose of rescuing or recovering wildlife that is in need of assistance. Students will also be introduced to Federal acts and regulation that are relevant to wildlife and wildlife rehabilitation. The course will enlighten the student on the work carried out by provincial and federal committees, who are studying endangered species. Legislative issues relevant to First Nation's people will be addressed.

**WR5032 Biosphere Orientation**

The field of wildlife rehabilitation can involve significant work in the out of doors, both at the rehabilitation facilities and in the field. This course covers the skills and knowledge base which are required for those working in the natural environment to work safely and efficiently.

## **WR5052 Wildlife Practical Applications I**

This course deals with all the practical aspects of wildlife rehabilitation from rescue to release. Students will perform techniques related to rescuing a wild animal, physical examinations, administration of food and medications, venipuncture, feather and keratin care, restraint, and enrichment for both avian and mammalian species.

## **WR6032 Outreach, Programming & Promotion**

Outreach, Programming & Promotion is a one-semester course which builds on the knowledge acquired during your years in the Veterinary Technician Program in addition to some of the skills gained in your first semester Wildlife Rehabilitation courses. There is never enough money to look after all the injured wildlife in the world and there are never too many engaged volunteers and donors supporting wildlife rehabilitation centres. The skills taught in this course help add to the value you can bring to such centres as they manage these challenges. The course presents the theory and practice necessary for the planning and presentation of short business outlines, proposals, and short oral reports. In addition, the course introduces the techniques and dynamics of advertising and media coverage.

## **Semester 6**

### **BU2001 Management of Non-Profit Organizations**

The course will emphasize the importance of skills in the modern workplace. It will provide the student with the perspective and vision needed to participate successfully in the management of a nonprofit organization whether an employed manager, a trustee, or a volunteer. The student will learn how important certain revenue channels are to maintain tax exempt status and how to improve and manage a variety of income channels and control costs. The student will identify with the marketing function, which serves multiple roles such as raising money, marketing the mission, the belief and also the product of the organization.

### **WR2032 Laboratory Principles and Practice**

The student will be given the opportunity to review and practice the skills taught in the first four semesters of the program. New skills will be introduced during the course of the semester; these include but are not limited to avian haematology, urinalysis, formal necropsy, investigative and diagnostic procedures. Emphasis will be placed on safety procedures.

### **WR2052 Rehabilitation Management**

Upon completion of this course the student will possess a working competence and capability as it relates to the designing and building of enrichment devices and enclosure environments that support rehabilitation management. This is accomplished through hands-on build projects.

### **WR2062 Raptor Care**

This course deals with the care and management of flighted avians, with emphasis on the rehabilitation of North American raptors. Building on the knowledge of bird identification, life history and biology learned in Avian Studies, students are exposed to topics such as raptor behaviour, physiotherapy, and flight training.

### **WR5062 Wildlife Practical Applications II**



This course deals with all the practical aspects of wildlife rehabilitation from rescue to release. Students will perform techniques related to rescuing a wild animal, physical examinations, administration of food and medications, venipuncture, feather and keratin care, restraint and enrichment for both avian and mammalian species.

### **WR5063 Wildlife Care II**

Upon completion of this course, the student will know how their contact and interaction with wildlife can influence the eventual release. Students will be introduced to a wide range of diseases as well as disease specimen collection and handling. Additionally, students will be introduced to different toxins that can affect the well-being of wildlife and different pharmaceuticals which are being used in wildlife rehabilitation. They will also have a 2 hour practical hands-on lab where they will be able to practice skills discussed in both Wildlife Care I and II.

### **WR6001 Field Placement Wildlife Rehab**

Students will be expected to spend 4 weeks at the facility where they have arranged placement. The facility must be able to provide the necessary work experiences. Students will perform the duties expected of a student with the knowledge and skills taught in the Wildlife Rehabilitation program. The placement will give students the opportunity to experience life in a facility that houses wildlife and allow them to expand their skills and knowledge with various species.

### **WR6003 Wildlife Nutrition**

Various aspects of feeding and nutrition in wildlife care are addressed in this course; these would include requirements for energy, protein, minerals, vitamins, and hydration. Various diets will be assessed as to the practicality and palatability to the wild animal. Diseases brought on by an incorrect or poor diet will be discussed as well as practical ways to correct the diet.

### **WR6022 Offences Against Wildlife**

This course deals with offences committed against wildlife. As an advocate and care giver of wildlife, a wildlife custodian is often one of the first persons to encounter a wildlife species that may have been victimized through some illegal act. This encounter is usually the first step in an involved process that may bring an offender to justice. This process will bring the custodian into contact with law enforcement agencies and possibly the court, lawyers, and judges. Understanding legal processes, investigative techniques, crime scene processing and presenting the evidence are all crucial aspects of successfully resolving a crime committed against wildlife.

### **WR2001 – Outreach, Programming and Promotion II**

This is a continuation of the Outreach, Programming and Promotion course from Semester 5.