

# VEM5424 Veterinary Forensic Pathology

SEMESTER: FALL 2021

CREDIT HOURS: 1 CREDIT HOUR

GRADING SYSTEM: A-E GRADING

PHASE: III

## Course Coordinator

Name: Adam W. Stern, DVM, Diplomate ACVP

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Office Hours: By appointment only.

## Course Description

This 1 credit course will explore the field of veterinary forensic pathology and associated forensic fields such as toxicology, entomology and DNA analysis. Students will learn about the forensic postmortem examination (necropsy/autopsy), how to collect samples for DNA analysis and gain an understanding in how DNA samples are analyzed, and learn about presenting this information in a court of law.

## Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Summarize different forensic science disciplines and explain how they can be applied to animal cases
2. Describe the forensic autopsy.
3. Summarize how to identify and process a clandestine animal grave.
4. Describe how to document and collect forensic evidence from an animal.
5. Explain the role of forensic entomology in animal death investigations.
6. Describe radiographic findings that are associated with animal abuse.
7. Compare and contrast the role of the veterinarian as a fact witness and expert witness.

## Course Schedule

This weekly schedule contains topics, assignments, and exams. Please refer to Canvas for updates and announcements to any changes to this schedule.

Class meetings will be held in the Large Animal Auditorium unless noted otherwise.

<i>Date and Time</i>	<i>Topic/Module/Unit</i>	<i>Faculty</i>	<i>SLO # Above</i>	<i>Instructional Hours</i>
09-15-2021 at 10:30-11:20am	The Forensic Autopsy	Stern	1,2	1.0
09-15-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	The Forensic Autopsy/Report Writing	Stern	1,2	1.0
09-16-2021 at 10:30-11:20am	Decomposition and the Postmortem Interval	Stern	4	1.0
09-16-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	Overview of the Criminal Justice and the Expert Witness	Stern	7	1.0
09-17-2021 at 10:30-11:20am	Forensic DNA Analysis	Clark	1	1.0
09-17-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	Forensic Toxicology	Goldberger	1	1.0
09-20-2021 at 10:30-11:20am	Forensic Entomology	Byrd	1,5	1.0
09-20-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	Forensic Anthropology	Stubblefield	1	1.0
09-21-2021 at 10:30-11:20am	Clandestine Graves	Sutton	1,3,4	1.0
09-21-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	Clandestine Grave Demonstration	Sutton	1,3,4	1.0
09-22-2021 at 10:30-11:20am	Postmortem Forensic Radiology 1 ZOOM LECTURE ONLY	Watson	1,6	1.0
09-22-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	Postmortem Forensic Radiology 2 ZOOM LECTURE ONLY	Watson	1,6	1.0
09-23-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	Animal Sexual Abuse	Stern	4	1.0
09-24-2021 at 10:30-11:20am	Fire-related Deaths and Animal Attacks	Stern	1,4	1.0
09-24-2021 at 11:30-12:20pm	Animal Fighting Scene	Stern	1,4	1.0
		Total		15.0

## Required Textbooks and/or Course Materials

None

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Veterinary Forensics: Investigation, Evidence Collections, and Expert Testimony. Rogers ER, Stern AW, eds. CRC Press, 2018. ISBN 9781498763172

Animal Abuse and Unlawful Killing. Munro HMC, Munro R, eds. Saunders Elsevier, 2008. ISBN 0702028789

## Methods of Evaluation

Grades will be calculated based on the following:

Item	Weight
Quiz 1 (opens 9/17/20 @12:30 PM; closes 9/18/20 @11:30 AM)	30 %
Quiz 2 (opens 9/22/20 @12:30 PM; closes 9/23/20 @11:30 AM)	30 %
Final Exam (opens 9/25/20 @12:30 PM; closes 9/27/20 @11:30 AM)	40 %
Total	100 %

Note: Late assignments will not be accepted. All examinations will be given in Canvas and non-proctored (open book).

## Grading Scheme

Course grades will be assigned based on the following grading scheme. This grading scale is **final**.

Letter	Scale
A	100.00 – 94.00
A-	93.99 – 90.00
B+	89.99 – 87.00
B	86.99 – 84.00
B-	83.99 – 80.00
C+	79.99 – 77.00
C	76.99 – 74.00
C-	73.99 – 70.00
D+	69.99 – 67.00
D	66.99 – 64.00
D-	63.99 – 61.00
E	60.99 – 0

## Course Policies

Attendance is required and online roll call will be taken during each session. An unexcused absence will result in a 1/3 grade drop. Excused absences must be consistent with college policies in the Student Handbook (<https://education.vetmed.ufl.edu/dvm-curriculum/student-handbook/>) and require appropriate documentation.

## Curriculum Policies

DVM curriculum policies are consistently held and reinforced across all DVM courses. Please visit the DVM webpage and review the curriculum policies listed within the [Online Student Handbook](#).

## Students with Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting [www.disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started](http://www.disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started). 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. **Students**

**in UF Health Sciences programs should be mindful that unique course accommodations may not be applicable in a clinical, fieldwork or practicum setting. Thus, planning a semester in advance with the DRC Health Sciences Learning Specialist, Lisa Diekow [ldiekow@ufsa.ufl.edu](mailto:ldiekow@ufsa.ufl.edu) , is highly encouraged.**

The DRC is located on the main UF campus. ASA (Office for Academic and Student Affairs) works closely with the DRC to ensure student accommodations are met in the classroom and during exams. Melissa Pett in ASA assists in coordinating exams and meeting recommended disability-related requirements for students with accommodations ([melissacox@ufl.edu](mailto:melissacox@ufl.edu)).

## Course and Instructor 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. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available on the [GatorEvals Webpage](#). 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 the [Online Platform](#). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at the [GatorEvals Public Results Webpage](#).

# Appendix A: Faculty Lecturers

Faculty Name

Email:

Faculty Name

Email:

# Appendix B: Other Information

Could be assignment details, rubrics, etc.