

# **Veterinary Clinical Skills Laboratory at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Jordan University of Science and Technology**

## **A Giant Step Towards Animal-Friendly Veterinary Education**

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The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Jordan University of Science and Technology (FVM-JUST) was the first in the region to establish a Veterinary Clinical Skills Center (CSC). The primary objective of this center was to replace live animals with models and simulators for students to practice essential veterinary hands-on skills. Since then, the center has been offering students an advanced self-directed learning environment, and the opportunity to expand their understanding of the interactions between animal and human health.

Training opportunities are offered in the center to students all day long during the week. Students during their free time attend and perform many skills including identification of different suture materials, suturing techniques, knot tying techniques, identification, handling and care of surgical instruments, hypodermic needles and intravenous catheters. More complex stations are also available including models to practice blood withdrawal from small animals, venous catheterization, preparation and examination of blood smears, and urine and fecal examinations. There are also models to practice basic skills related to fracture repair, using various internal and external fixation techniques, placing distal limb bandages in small and large animals, and a rectal palpation model for bovine and equine reproductive examinations. In the center, students also have the opportunity to practice and gain experience performing surgical scrubbing, gowning and gloving. The center also contains several models of large and small animal inhalational anesthesia machines that students can gain experience in operating and maintaining. Instructional videos are also available for students, through which they can learn about general physical examination, handling of different animals, performing endoscopy, ultrasound, radiology, and biopsy, business management and communication skills. In addition, the center contains many preserved (whole and dissected) animal specimens and multiple bone specimens that students can use to learn veterinary anatomy.

For assessment purposes, in collaboration with experts from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), University of London, and as part of the FVM-JUST/RVC twining project, the Faculty has developed a clinical skills list and associated log book that has to be signed off for all students before graduation. A significant portion of this list will be overseen, and certified, by the CSC supervisor. The CSC supervisor has also developed clear instructions for each skill

station as a guide to the students while performing the skills. These instruction notes are clearly located next to the relevant skill station in the center. Step-by-step illustrations of appropriate ways of execution of some of the skills have also been placed on the wall above each station.

This is regarded as a good model for our region, and we hope that in addition to having a positive impact on our Veterinary School it will be an inspiration and example for others who want to start developing CSLs to enhance competency training and veterinary education in their schools.



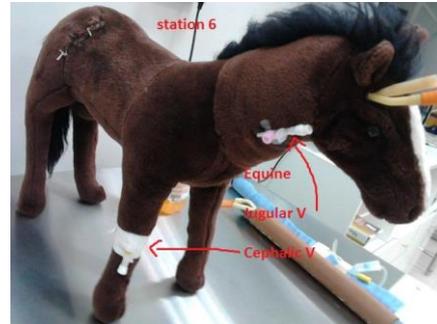
**Breeding Betsy**



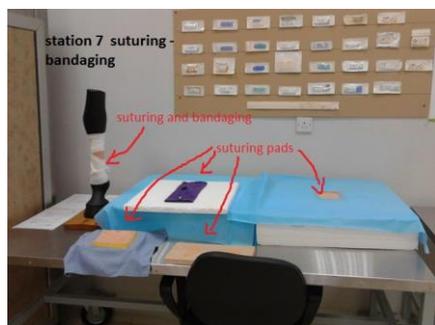
**Obstetrics Model**



**Spay Model**



**Horse IV Catheterization Model**



**Sutures, Suturing and Bandaging Station**



**IV Catheterization Model**



**Group Learning and Practicing**



**Audio-Video Presentation**