COASTAL ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Austin R. Meadows Library

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY

There are several ways to access Coastal Alabama Community College’s Library information. If you are in the area, you may come and visit the Library. You may also access library information via the Coastal Alabama homepage, www.coastalalabama.edu; then, click on the STUDENTS link. Scroll down to find Library and click on the link. Additionally, you can access library information from the Library Services course on Canvas.

ATRIUUM – the Library’s online catalog; helps you to find books on your subject

Log into Canvas and click on Library Services to find all kinds of library information, including our hours of operation. Scroll down to Library Online Catalog, and under that you will find a link to Atrium. Once you check out a book and are a patron in the Atrium database, you will be able to reserve books, renew books, create a book bag, and get the citation for a book. If you reserve a book, it will be held for you for 5 days; you must come in to the Bay Minette campus library and get it or it will be re-shelved. Atrium also has a mobile app.

Remember, spelling counts, as the computer is very sensitive when it comes to spelling errors. The easiest way to find books is by searching for the information you know. If you know the author’s name, you have to type the author’s last name first. If you do not know the author’s name, you can search by the title, subject, or keyword. If you are searching for books in the field of Veterinary Technology, you will need to focus on a particular topic within the field. Vet Tech is one of our newer programs, and we are constantly adding new materials to our collection. If you type veterinary in the search box, you will get 41 results, including a 2012 publication on Career opportunities working with animals. If you type animal rights, you get 62 entries.

If you want to find books on cat health, you can type cats in the search box, and you will get 155 entries. You may notice that these entries are not all about domestic cats. To narrow your search and get only books related to a cat’s health, type health in the “Search Within” box and click on Go. This search results in 6 entries. Scroll down the list and look at #2:

Title: A-Z of cat health and first aid : a practical guide for owners
Author: Gardiner, Andrew.
Age Group: General
Material: Book
Call Numbers: SF 985 .G35 2015
Subject: 1. Cats--Diseases--Treatment--Popular works. 2. First aid for animals. 3. Holistic veterinary medicine--Popular works. 4. Cats--Health. 5. Vet tech.

Notice that subject heading number 5 is Vet tech. On the screen, the subject headings are in red; items in red are clickable links. If you click on Vet tech, there are 71 entries. These are books we have purchased specifically (or peripherally) for the Vet Tech program.
Once you conduct a search, be sure to write down the complete call number of any books you think might have the information you need. Note that this Library uses Library of Congress Call Numbers; most American college libraries use this system. The shelves are labeled with the first part of the call number. Go to the shelves and find the book (ASK for assistance if you need it). Look in the back of the book in the INDEX to see whether your topic is listed. If there is no INDEX, look in the front of the book in the TABLE OF CONTENTS to see if your topic is listed. If the topic is in the book, turn to the page(s) indicated to see if it will be helpful in your research. If so, check the book out (you must have your current Coastal Alabama Student ID to check out books).

**INTERLIBRARY LOAN:** If you need books from the Coastal Alabama Library but are not physically on campus in Bay Minette, you can go to your local public library and ask them to request the books for you on Interlibrary Loan. You will then pick up and return the books to your local public library (they will return the books to us). We cannot send the books to your house.

**VETERINARY EDUCATION IN VIDEO**

The Coastal Alabama Library has purchased *Veterinary Education in Video* by Alexander Street Press to enhance our holdings for veterinary medicine. These videos will often be embedded in your Canvas classes, and you will receive instructions from your instructors on how to access and use them. You can also access *Veterinary Education in Video* on the Library Services course/page on Canvas. There are videos on many different animals and procedures that will be beneficial for your veterinary technology studies. Under each video is a CITE button in case you need to cite your source for a paper or presentation. You should be able to use *Veterinary Education in Video* on Canvas; if you are asked to log-in, your instructors have log-in information. If you have problems using *Veterinary Education in Video*, you should let your instructors know immediately or contact the Coastal Alabama Library.

On the Canvas Library Services course/page under Research Databases, click on *Veterinary Education in Video*. There are many ways to search this page. If you want to find information on giving medications to cats, click on Cats and then scroll down the listing to Administering Medications to Cats and click on the title link. This video is three minutes long and offers good advice and information.

You could also conduct a search for videos that you do not find on the links. If you are looking for a video on urinary blockages in cats, you can click on search and type cats urinary blockages in the Search box and one video is located, Emergency Care Inability to Urinate and Defecate. This video offers very good advice for getting the cat (or dog) to the veterinary clinic immediately.

**ALABAMA VIRTUAL LIBRARY (AVL) - Articles for your research**

**Articles will give you the most current information available.** Articles found within library databases such as the AVL will give you good, scholarly research from credible, valid sources that can be easily cited. Internet search engines, such as Google, MSN, Yahoo, Ask.com, etc., are generally NOT valid for college-level research and certainly do not have citation information.

The AVL is made up of many online databases that help you with your academic research needs. You can also do your research from home using AVL. If the AVL recognizes you as a resident of Alabama, you can search the AVL from home without an AVL card. If the site does not recognize you as being in Alabama or if you are a Coastal Alabama student who lives in another state, you will need an AVL card with a user name and password to access the AVL. You may obtain an AVL card at the Library’s Circulation Desk by
presenting your current Student ID – the AVL card is free and is valid for three years. Check for AVL availability at home before asking for an AVL card.

There are several databases within the AVL that can help you with any assignments you may have. Be sure to ask for library assistance when you need it. Whichever databases you select, be sure to choose “full text.” You can also limit your searches to “academic journals” on some of the databases or to “peer-reviewed” or “scholarly articles” on others. The more you narrow and focus on your topic, the more reliable the sources will be. This improves the quality and validity of your papers.

From the Library Services course/link on Canvas, look under Research Databases and click on Alabama Virtual Library. Next, click on Student Resources and then click on College & University Resources. Click on Academic Search Premiere. Click on Advanced Search. In the search area, type veterinary medicine in the first line and type cats and in the second line. Click on full-text and then click Search. There are 2,042 articles. You can further narrow your search by typing renal failure in the third line, and now there are 29 articles. Look at citation #2. These citations do not always give the exact length of the article, but this one does; it is 3 pages long. This article discusses renal failure in both cats and dogs.


Click on the title of the entry and note the expanded citation information here. This article is available in PDF format only, which means you have to click on the PDF link. The article will look like a photocopy of the original article. To get the AMA citation, you will have to click on the Cite icon on the right. If you need additional articles on this subject, click on Result List at the top left of the page and look through the listing for additional articles. Change your keywords or subject terms as needed to find additional articles on other topics. You can scroll through the article listing to see if additional articles can be helpful in your research.

*Please note: The Library allows you to print articles that are 5 pages in length or shorter. IF the article is longer than 5 pages, but it fits your research purposes, you could select and print only the actual article or parts of the article. You would not need to print such items as Notes and Selected Bibliography.

Click out of Academic Search Premiere and look through the database listing to find Medline Plus. Click on the Medline Plus icon. Click on Continue to Medline Plus, and you are in the database. This is a human medical database, so we will do a very generic search to see what type of information we can find for animals. Type feline in the search box and click on Go. The search results in 14 articles; then, scroll down and click on article #9:

9. Cancer in Animals (American Veterinary Medical Association) ... many lymph nodes in the body. A contagious feline leukemia virus can be the cause of lymphoma ... https://ebusiness.avma.org/.../productdownloads/cancer_brochure.pdf - External Health Links

Note that the citation does not give you a lot of information – you do not know how long the article is or exactly what it is about, so click on the title to see more information. When the article opens, you will find that it is actually a brochure that gives good information about canine and feline cancers. Also, it tells you that the brochure was developed in part by the Veterinary Cancer Society.

To find additional articles, you can click out of the article and continue looking through the listing for other articles or begin a new search.
In addition to having articles on various aspects of medicine, Medline Plus has three major divisions that may be helpful to you: Health Topics, Drugs and Supplements, and Videos & Tools. The links available on Videos & Tools may be especially helpful if you have to take Biology or Anatomy and Physiology classes. Remember, the videos are all on human surgeries, but it is still possible that some of them may be helpful for you.

Click out of Medline Plus, and you are back in the AVL database listing. Scroll down and click on the EBSCOhost Search icon. You will then be on a screen that lists 16 different databases that can all be searched at the same time; however, if you try to search them all at the same time, it may slow your search speed. Scroll through the databases and select only the ones that are medical – and remember, this is intended for humans, not animals, so you may not find a lot of information. Alt HealthWatch, Health Source – Consumer Edition, Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition, and AHFS Consumer Medication Information are medical. Business Source Premiere and Regional Business News may be helpful if you are researching setting up your own business. Professional Development Collection and Vocational and Career Collection may be helpful in learning more about opportunities in your chosen field. You can select any of these databases you want to use, and you search them in the same way you searched Academic Search Premiere in the first search.

**NOTE:** The numbers on these sample searches may change due to updates on Atrium and the Alabama Virtual Library (AVL), but the search strategies used should in finding books and articles on your topics in any database. Contact the Coastal Alabama Library if you need additional assistance.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF NOTE:** Under Research Databases on the Library Services course/page on Canvas, you will also find links to CINAHL, a nursing database, and Academic eBook Collection, an academic e-book database. These databases may be very helpful to you in your Veterinary Technology program.

**PLAGIARISM**

“MLA defines plagiarism as taking another person's language or thoughts and putting them in your own paper without acknowledging they came from another source. Even if you summarize the ideas from elsewhere or put the ideas in your own words, you still need to indicate that you were not the original creator of the concepts. You must enclose information taken verbatim in quotation marks or in block format to indicate that it is a direct quote. Omission of such documentation fits MLA's definition of plagiarism, regardless of your intention.”


**CONTACT THE LIBRARY** if you have questions or need additional library information. You may contact the Coastal Alabama Library by emailing library@faulknerstate.edu or by calling 251-580-2145.

**IF YOU LOSE YOUR STUDENT ID,** you will have to pay a $15 replacement fee in the Business Office. Then, you will need to bring the receipt with you to the Library to have a replacement ID card printed.

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