

From: [Smith, Randy](#)
To: [Read, Emma](#); [Wisecup, Michelle](#)
Cc: [Sutherland, Sue](#); [Reed, Katie](#); [Smith, Randy](#); [Griffiths, Rob](#); [Duffy, Lisa](#); [Hunt, Ryan](#); [Moore, Rustin](#)
Subject: Proposal to create a Category 3b Spectrum of Care Certificate
Date: Thursday, October 3, 2024 8:27:10 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Emma and Michelle:

The proposal from the College of Veterinary Medicine to create a Category 3b Spectrum of Care Certificate was approved by the Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on October 2, 2024. Thank you for attending the meeting to respond to questions/comments.

No additional level of internal review/approval is necessary. This action will be included in the Council's next [Annual Activities Report](#) to the University Senate (July 2025).

The Office of the University Registrar will work you with any implementation issues.

Please keep a copy of this message for your file on the proposal and I will do the same for the file in the Office of Academic Affairs.

If you have any questions please contact the Chair of the Council, Professor Sue Sutherland (.43), or me.

I wish you success with this important program development.

Randy



W. Randy Smith, Ph.D.

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Re: Spectrum of Care Embedded Certificate
for DVM Program

July 18, 2024

Dear Dr. Smith,

This letter is being sent to you along with a proposal for creating a Spectrum of Care (SOC) Certificate that we plan to embed within our DVM degree. This proposal has been approved at the Council for Professional Education during the 2023-24 academic year and elective courses that will be part of this certificate have been created. We are forwarding this certificate proposal for CAA to review. We are happy to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Emma K. Read, DVM, MVSc, DACVS
Associate Dean for Professional Programs

Certificate in Spectrum of Care – Veterinary Professional Students
Council for Academic Affairs Proposal

I. Well-defined program

A. Title of the program: **Spectrum of Care Certificate (embedded in DVM degree)**

B. Certificate category and justification. Currently, only one category is permitted per certificate program.

1. Professional – Embedded (type 3b?)

We are proposing an embedded certificate program be offered to DVM (veterinary professional) students for them to have additional focus and experience in the ‘Spectrum of Care’ (individualized) career area of emphasis as part of their DVM degree.

C. State purpose of program – why the faculty chose to create the certificate and why the certificate is the best route of delivery of the education to the student

We propose a Certificate in Spectrum of Care for DVM professional students within the College of Veterinary Medicine because approximately 70% of our students go into clinical practice (and of those, approximately 70% go into small animal primary care where learning to practice across a broad spectrum is critically important to their success and longevity in practice. In small animal practice as well as equine and farm animal, spectrum of care is vital for the patient’s and client’s successful outcomes and is key to providing improved access to veterinary care).

This certificate will provide DVM (professional) student training in Spectrum of Care and provides the first formal certificate program for this focus area in the United States. We plan for our DVM students to be able to earn this certificate by taking specific course-work within the framework of the DVM program, that simultaneously fulfills the core requirements for their DVM degree. By offering unique educational opportunities in this area through a variety of delivery modes (see below), this certificate will be appealing to current DVM students, particularly those who wish to practice as primary care practitioners in the future. The certificate experience affords additional exposure and hands on experience with Spectrum of Care, to help expand each individual student’s confidence and competence so they can be responsive to patient and client needs.



[Note – Spectrum of Care is defined by providing a broad range of care options for patients and clients that help meet them where they are at, while not detracting from the practice’s ability to maintain profitability. It is not that high cost advanced care is better or that lower less resource intensive care is worse. There are a range of options between these two extremes and several of them may be suitable in a certain case. The selection of a final care plan is dependent on several factors considered simultaneously including the practitioner’s resources and skills.]

Another benefit of this certificate will be enhancing the reputation of The Ohio State University and the College of Veterinary Medicine as a national leader in Spectrum of Care. This could help to continue to raise our profile at an international level with regards to the clinical education we offer students (within the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges which includes accredited partner institutions across Canada, USA, UK, Ireland, Asia, Australia, New Zealand).

1. Method of delivery (online, in-person, hybrid)

All courses will be offered via hybrid modes of delivery with one exception; the skills-based courses will only be offered in-person and some (ie. the small animal offering) will likely be an intensive two-week rotation block offered at a specified time during the final year of the DVM program. Courses offered in the hybrid learning format will include a combination of synchronous and asynchronous activities.

2. Has the method of delivery been approved in the past, and is it changing?

The use of hybrid delivery with both synchronous and asynchronous activities has been widely used in the professional DVM program coursework in the College of Veterinary Medicine. The individual courses for this certificate have been approved by the CPE (Council for Professional Education) in the College of Veterinary Medicine.

D. Are multiple methods of delivery available concurrently?

Courses will be offered in hybrid mode to OSU CVM professional students and will include synchronous and asynchronous components. We will capture lectures where appropriate to create content for further review.

E. Date the program would become effective, if approved

If approved, we intend for this certificate program to become effective immediately.

F. Program goals

The goal of this certificate program is to offer concentrated training in the Spectrum of Care approach, that is being led by the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine. This training would be targeted towards the professional Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) students and is designed to help them be more confident and competent in SOC ultimately leading to greater primary care employability/longevity in their career.

The certificate would focus on four important areas in SOC training – Example from small animal content area:

1) Enhanced clinical and communication skills

a. Surgical/Dental

- i. Surgical procedures – not spay and neuter (focuses on other procedures that are useful in a primary care environment particularly in non-referral scenarios: splenectomy, GDV, FB, enucleation, amputation, R & A, cystotomy, PU)
- ii. Dental procedures - Root planing, enamel restoration techniques (to repair chipped teeth), jaw fracture repair
- iii. Anesthetic techniques (injectable anesthesia techniques and CRI's to reduce expenses)

b. Diagnostic

- i. Cytology of masses, blood smear evaluation to replace CBC
- ii. Endoscopy, laparoscopy, full thickness bowel biopsy
- iii. In house sampling and urine cultures
- iv. Ultrasound

c. Therapeutics,

- i. Hospitalization in GP setting
- ii. Blood transfusions
- iii. Feeding tube placement and management
- iv. Cost effective alternatives to 'gold standard'
- v. Deep ear flush and myringotomy techniques

d. Communication

- i. Practice communication styles and approaches to SOC conversations
- ii. The importance of client communication and documentation about intentionally practicing SOC

2) Business fundamentals

- a. How to build pet support funds within your office to improve access to care and how to provide unique payment options,
- b. Tax implications,
- c. Business techniques, and guidelines,

- d. Contract negotiation,
- e. SOC equipment purchases - affordability, selection and use
- 3) **Case-based learning**
Featuring SOC cases that allows learners to explore providing options for diagnosis and treatment/management of patients. Allows application of didactic course content.
- 4) **Externships and Rotations**
Externships - Participation in practical applied experiences in SOC practices during the final year.
Rotations – In-house (OSU CVM) clinical rotations that focus on spectrum of care.

G. Expected learning outcomes supporting the program goals (“Upon completion of the certificate, the graduate will be able to”)

Upon completion of the certificate, the DVM graduate “with a certificate in Spectrum of Care” will be able to:

- 1) Demonstrate the clinical skills and communication skills required to confidently and competently practice entry-level SOC in large or small animals,
- 2) Demonstrate entry-level business skills useful as an associate veterinarian,
- 3) Identify key variables of SOC cases and respond to them with adjusting care options in either large or small animals,
- 4) Apply the principles of SOC ‘on the job’ in selected SOC externship practices – large or small animal, as well as in-house OSU CVM rotations focused on SOC.

H. Minimum requirements to complete program, including off-campus field experiences (if applicable)

A minimum of **15 total credit hours** are required to complete the program.

Students in the certificate program will complete a combination of courses, which will also involve collaborating with off-campus, external partners for field externships.

I. Table showing the number of credit hours that can be achieved:

In-person only	Hybrid
2 – SOC Skills (small animal or equine or farm animal)	2 – SOC fundamental entry-level business skills
8 – SOC externships – 4 week x 2 experiences (1 credit/week) (small animal, mixed animal, farm animal)	2 – SOC applied case experiences (small animal, equine or farm animal based)

or equine off-site practice experiences)	
2 – SOC rotation – 2 week x 1 experience (1 credit/week)	

Participants must take at least one of each course offering (SOC Skills, SOC fundamental entry-level business skills, SOC applied case experiences) along with two of the SOC externships (4 weeks each) and one SOC rotation (2 weeks). Species can be consistent for all courses or can be varied (ie. for mixed animal students).

J. For programs in which 50% of the credits may be achieved online, an MOU with ODEE is needed

The fundamental business skills course and SOC applied case experiences courses are planned as hybrid delivery – should not exceed this threshold.

K. List of required courses and elective courses

Required Courses:

Course #	Course Name	Credit Hours
Select <u>one</u> skills-based course, at minimum (2 credits):		
TBD	SOC Skills – Small Animal	2
VETCLIN 7622	SOC Skills – Equine	2
VETPREV 7773	SOC Skills – Farm Animal	2
<u>All</u> students taking the certificate must have business fundamentals (2 credits):		
VETCLIN 7726 and VETCLIN 7130	SOC Business Problem-Solving Skills - All species	2
Select <u>one</u> case-based course at minimum (2 credits):		
TBD	SOC Case Experiences – Equine	2
TBD	SOC Case Experiences – Farm Animal	2
VETCLIN 7729	SOC Case Experiences – Small Animal	2
Select <u>two</u> of the following externship rotations (8 credits):		
VMCOLL 7190.01	SOC Practice Externships – Dr. Emma Read	4 weeks - 1 credit per week

Select at least <u>one</u> Ohio State primary care focused clinical rotation (2 credits):		
VMCOLL 7190.01	<i>Applied Veterinary Medicine: Spectrum of Care</i>	2 weeks – 1 credit per week
VMCOLL 7190.01	<i>Applied Veterinary Medicine: Equine Community Practice</i>	2 weeks – 1 credit per week
VMCOLL 7190.01	<i>Applied Veterinary Medicine: Shelter Medicine and Surgery (Essential Care Clinic - Columbus Humane)</i>	2 weeks – 1 credit per week
VMCOLL 7190.01	<i>Applied Veterinary Medicine: Large Animal Field Services (Marysville)</i>	2 weeks – 1 credit per week

L. Length of program compared to similar programs

This certificate would require a minimum total of 15 credit hours to be completed from the above list of courses. The certificate coursework must be completed within the participant’s DVM degree timeframe, primarily focused on the junior and senior years of the program. There are no other SOC certificate offerings in the United States – OSU CVM is the first college to develop and formally deliver SOC pedagogy programming. Other colleges are following our lead but have not developed much SOC programming to date.

II. Adequate Enrollment

A. Projected enrollment (include justification for estimate)

At present 2-3 students per year enroll in the SOC Career Area of Emphasis (CAE) in the final year, and it focuses solely on small animals. Historically this CAE has been subscribed by as many as 10 learners. To date, we have not offered programming in equine or farm animal SOC, except as a summer student experience. This occurred for year 1 students in summer 2023 and summer 2024 as a pilot with 12 students. We wish to expand the large animal experiences in SOC based on feedback from students and employers, and faculty have expressed an interest generally to expand the SOC concept for large animal species.

Projected enrollment for this certificate program will likely be approximately 15-20 students per academic year.

Only those students who take the entire sequence and adequate number of credits will be eligible to receive the embedded certificate.

1. Will there be problems if too many students enroll in the certificate program?

So long as enrollment in the certificate program does not cause individual courses to exceed their enrollment maximums, we do not anticipate problems arising from too many students enrolling in the certificate program.

2. Will there be problems if too few students enroll in the certificate program?

The only course in the certificate offering that may suffer if there is minimal enrollment are the skills courses – these require a lot of resources and planning which might be wasted if applied to very few students. However, these courses are very popular offerings, based on historical data.

B. Opportunities for graduates

1. For standalone certificates, include metrics to assess how the program will measure benefit to graduates

This is intended to be an embedded certificate such that the course work and experiences for the certificate are the same course work and experiences that might also count for the DVM degree. The SOC certificate is to be awarded concurrently with their DVM degree and transcribed.

C. Minimum requirements to undertake program of study; admissions policy

Requirements for admission to this certificate program will be:

Have good academic standing as a current DVM student.

Express interest in completing the SOC certificate by submitting a form to the Office of Professional Programs at the outset of course work.

III. Sufficient Resources

A. Adequacy and availability of facilities and staff, including off-campus field experience sites
There are adequate facilities including classroom space to support these courses. There is a need for faculty and staff to assist with instruction of the skills courses, and funding consideration for this has been projected in the FY 25 budget request. Furthermore, we have practices signed on as externship sites that already host our final year students in SOC off-site practicums.

B. Projected resource needs and plans to meet those needs
The SOC initiative is a strategic priority for the college so this program is supported. Worst case, if there is no additional funding for staffing (the most expensive portion of the program) then the skills-based courses of the certificate program can be dropped and the certificate can make up that applied skills portion using other opportunities (ie. based out in the community).

IV. Justifiable Expenses

A. Additional faculty

Additional faculty and staff FTE will be required for adequate delivery of the skills-based courses associated with this certificate. These resources have been funded via

philanthropic donation for FY 25. The certificate could still be offered without these credits included however their inclusion would provide a more well-rounded experience for students. After the initial start up phase, on going funding will need to be included in the curricular budget. Fortunately, the expenses involved in these courses (staffing, models etc.) are shared across several courses in the DVM program.

B. Course additions or deletions

Some courses offered are new to this certificate and have been created as part of our new curricular redesign. All of these courses are currently elective in the DVM program but will be core for the certificate program. Some courses may merge existing elective courses and current redesign is taking place in the year 3 curriculum where many of these courses will ultimately be delivered.

See table below for new courses that need to be made or where existing courses need to be modified to align with the certificate program:

Course #	Course Name	Credit Hours
Select <u>one</u> skills-based course, at minimum (2 credits):		
TBD	SOC Skills – Small Animal	2
VETCLIN 7622	Advanced Equine Medical and Surgical Procedures	2
VETPREV 7773	Bovine Palpation	3
All students taking the certificate must have business fundamentals (1.5 credits):		
VETCLIN 7726	Small Animal Veterinary Business Management	1
VETCLIN 7130	Open Door Veterinary Care Certificate	0.5
Select <u>one</u> case-based course at minimum (2 credits):		
TBD	SOC Case Experiences – Equine	2
TBD	SOC Case Experiences – Farm Animal	2
VETCLIN 7729	Small Animal Spectrum of Care Case Based Reasoning	2

Other courses already exist and will be used in the certificate offerings as they are:

Select <u>two</u> of the following externship rotations:		
VMCOLL 7190.01	SOC Practice Externship – Dr. Emma Read	4
Select at least <u>one</u> SOC clinical rotation:		
VMCOLL 7190.01	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Spectrum of Care	2
VMCOLL 7190.01	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Equine Community Practice	2

VMCOLL 7190.01	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Shelter Medicine and Surgery (Essential Care Clinic - Columbus Humane)	2
VMCOLL 7190.01	Applied Veterinary Medicine: Large Animal Field Services (Marysville)	2

C. Necessary budget adjustments

A request for financial support for clinical skills supplies and staffing to offer the SOC Skills Boot Camp after philanthropic donation expires. Most courses exist already or have minimal costs associated with them.

D. Available and anticipated funding

Operationally, we have the required funding to run these courses and certificate program without additional funding however it may adjust the course offerings if the budget were cut back for skills course delivery. Philanthropic funding from the Stanton Foundation has been provided for FY25 to help develop the certificate program.

V. Adequate Demand

A. Evidence of sufficient demand by students, faculty, general public, and/or business

- In the absence of a clear market demand for a standalone certificate, metrics to assess benefit to the graduates will be crucial for CAA approval

There is clear demand from professional veterinary students for further opportunities in SOC training. Approximately 70% of our students enter into private practice and do not seek additional specialty post-graduate training.

Further, there is demand from the broader industry for graduate veterinarians who focus on Spectrum of Care, and who are more confident and competent in practicing broadly across the spectrum. The Ohio State University is seen as a leader in SOC pedagogy and the College would like to broaden programming beyond the small animal area.

B. Duration of demand (long/short term)

In 2008 Clinical Skills was an area that became central to veterinary pedagogy. We had taught clinical skills for years but without organized structure, inclusion from the beginning of the program and proper assessment. SOC is similarly something that is not a new concept, but is new in the way we are teaching it. SOC is a quickly growing educational field that will only continue to become increasingly important as we respond to the demands of the veterinary workforce.

C. Ability of other programs to meet demand

There are no current programs able to meet the demand for SOC emphasis outside of Ohio State and no other program within Ohio that overlaps with this offering.

VI. Competitiveness with other Institutions: Limited Overlap within the University

A. Overlap with other programs or departments (include letters of concurrence with any programs that may be affected)

There is no overlap with existing certificate programs or courses at the University.

C. Duplication of effort by other areas in the University, another university, or another school

There is no overlap with existing certificate programs anywhere – Ohio State is the current leader in this area. The American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges has initiated an SOC movement nationally in response to employer demands and the American Veterinary Medical Association has recently called on colleges to step up to focusing on SOC in their programs. Ohio State may be the first to implement this but we anticipate others may follow suit once they see us lead the way, and are already doing so.

C. Similar programs at other universities in Ohio or in the United States and their levels of success

To our knowledge, there are no similarly SOC-focused programs at other universities in the United States.