VBMS 7850 - ADVANCED VETERINARY MEDICAL SPECIALTY TRAINING
FALL/SPRING/SUMMER SEMESTER

**Credit Hours:** 1 to 4 variable credit (3 contact hours per week per credit hour); each student may take up to a total of 4 hours of VBMS 7850 during their graduate training (either MS or PhD program).

**Justification:** The purpose of the course is to provide residents and board-eligible trainees with hands-on training in clinical activities commensurate with the board-certification expectation of various veterinary medical specialties.

**Prerequisites:** DVM or equivalent degree, eligibility for veterinary board certification.

**Description for Bulletin:** Advanced veterinary medical specialty training is provided to residents and board-eligible veterinary trainees with hands-on instruction in clinical activities commensurate with the board-certification expectation of various veterinary medical specialties.

**Texts or major resources:** The textbooks used will apply to the area of specialty of the student. In addition, pertinent articles from the veterinary and human medical fields will be read. Through on-line searches, students will be expected to identify appropriate articles and present them to the faculty.

**Faculty:** Members of the CVM faculty board-certified in the area of study and upon application to the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies may guide individual students during the training experience.

**Lectures:** Discussions will occur weekly. The purpose of the discussion will be to provide an overview of the particular subject matter encompassed. Case material and pertinent literature will be used to teach concepts of clinical research and practice. Cases the students are seeing as well as those in the clinic can be discussed. Issues of controversy in the diagnosis and/or treatment of the patient will be identified, and the student will be assigned topics to research. The student will be expected to present current state of knowledge in the field and to critically evaluate the published research defining the knowledge as well as determine possible areas of future research on how to settle the controversy.

**Laboratory:** Students are expected to attend every laboratory and every discussion. Attendance and behavior in the classroom/laboratory is dictated by professional standards of conduct, courtesy, cleanliness, and ethics.

**Grading:** Grades will be based on mastery of material. Students will also be required to give an oral presentation(s) (25% of grade).

- A = 100% - 90%
- B = 89% - 80%
- C = 79% - 70%
- D = 69% - 60%
- F = <60%

**Schedules:** Class schedules, topics and reading assignments will be identified by the 5th day of each semester. The time allotted for each portion of the class may be adjusted, depending on the number of students and areas of mastery identified each semester.

**Attendance:** Class attendance is required. More than 3 unexcused absences during the semester will result in a letter grade reduction for the final course grade. More than 5 unexcused absences during the semester will result in a two letter grade reduction for the final course grade. Absences will be excused in accordance with University Policy as stated in the *Auburn Tiger Cub*. Written documentation for excused absences will be presented to the instructor by the first class period following the absence; otherwise, the absence is not excused.